

IBTEX No. 144 of 2025

December 01, 2025

Currency Watch			
USD	EUR	GBP	JPY
89.73	103.03	118.58	0.58

INTERNATIONAL NEWS	
No	Topics
1	Global goods trade slows as tariff frontrunning ends, WTO says
2	Growth in most of Europe to remain at similar pace in 2026: S&P Global
3	Germany's Consumer Climate steadies ahead of Christmas
4	Overcapacity headache to get worse for carriers in 2026: Xeneta
5	Poland industry up 3.2% in Oct, clothing output declines
6	EU textile, clothing industry sounds alarm as imports surge, production slumps
7	New EU import rules set to raise prices for Shein and Temu, boosting European retailers
8	Sri Lanka apparel exports sustain momentum amidst October headwinds
9	The New Core Competency: How sustainability and advanced fabrics are driving India's activewear future

DISCLAIMER: The information in this message be privileged. If you have received it by mistake please notify "the sender" by return e-mail and delete the message from "your system". Any unauthorized use or dissemination of this message in whole or in part is strictly prohibited. Any "information" in this message that does not relate to "official business" shall be understood to be neither given nor endorsed by TEXPROCIL - The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council.

10	How spinning sector strain is putting Bangladesh's RMG might at risk
11	Bangladesh: RMG exporters eye strong rebound next year

NATIONAL NEWS	
No	Topics
1	Government Approves 'Tex-RAMPS' Scheme to Strengthen Research, Innovation and Competitiveness in Textiles Sector
2	Crisil raises GDP growth forecast to 7% during current financial year
3	Government reforms, manufacturing push lift Q2 growth to 8.2%: Goyal
4	India-UAE Convene Third CEPA Joint Committee Meeting; Bilateral Trade Crosses USD 100 Billion
5	India's quiet rollback of trade barriers eases worry for global partners
6	India-Russia ties: Putin's visit sparks \$100bln trade ambitions amidst global tensions
7	Newly implemented Labour Codes to catalyse growth in India's exports
8	India, Canada to restart CEPA talks next week: Piyush Goyal
9	Global trade slowdown may expose India's export vulnerability: GTRI
10	Tariffs batter India's exports to US; GTRI suggests rolling out Export Promotion Mission

11	India's exports to the US down 28.5% in last 5 months as tariffs troubles kick in
12	India's exports in sectors facing global regulations exposed to higher risk due to climate inaction: BCG
13	India's logistics cost 7.97% of GDP in 2023-2024: DPIIT-NCAER study
14	India: Tiruppur's carbon-negative strategy drives 22% export surge

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Global goods trade slows as tariff frontrunning ends, WTO says

Global merchandise trade slowed last quarter as the boost seen earlier this year from front-loading of orders ahead of US tariffs faded, the World Trade Organisation said. The WTO's goods barometer dropped to 101.8 in September from 102.2 for June, the Geneva-based organisation said on Friday. The baseline of 100 indicates growth over the next quarter that's in line with medium-term trends.

The data for air freight and container shipping "continue to signal expansion," even as they weakened from June, "indicating a cooling-off in the transportation of goods worldwide," the report said. The barometer's automotive and electronics indexes stabilised and agriculture stayed in contraction, while new export orders showed improvement.

"On balance, the indices show signs of moderation in global trade growth," the WTO said.

US President Donald Trump's tariffs of 10 per cent or higher on imports from most major trading partners disrupted international commerce through much of the year, spurring many American importers to front-load orders to avoid paying the import taxes, as well as shifting demand away from markets where the duties are the highest.

US goods imports from China, for instance, sank 22 per cent through August this year, but year-to-date shipments from markets including Vietnam, India, Thailand, Malaysia and Taiwan all gained more than 20 per cent, according to data released in Washington this month.

According to the WTO's most recent forecast, made on October 7, world trade volume growth this year is expected to be 2.4 per cent, slower than the 2.8 per cent pace posted in 2024. The outlook for next year anticipates a sharp slowdown, to 0.5 per cent growth, the organisation said.

Source: thehindubusinessline.com– Nov 29, 2025

[HOME](#)

Growth in most of Europe to remain at similar pace in 2026: S&P Global

S&P Global Ratings expects gross domestic product (GDP) growth in most European economies to continue at a similar pace next year as this year. However, there will be some exceptions, and the geographical distribution of the growth will change.

The German economy will see a noticeable pickup in growth following stagnation over the past few years, while Spain, once a major contributor to Europe's economic growth, is set to see a slowdown.

The rating agency expects 1.2-per cent growth in the eurozone and 1.4-per cent growth in the United Kingdom in 2026 after growths of 1.3 per cent and 1.4 per cent this year respectively.

It anticipates growth in most other European countries to remain largely stable in 2026 due to moderation in monetary policy rates, robust private-sector balance sheets and the digital transformation of the economy. At the same time, fiscal policies other than Germany's will tend toward consolidation.

Consumer spending is expected to rise at a similar pace in 2026 as in 2025—1.4 per cent after 1.3 per cent in the Eurozone, and 1.1 per cent after 1.0 per cent in the United Kingdom.

The labour market will be less supportive, and real wage growth is likely to slow but remain positive, at around 1 per cent on average. However, we believe that savings rates could decrease as confidence normalises and interest rates ease.

It expects private investment to contribute positively to growth.

Source: fibre2fashion.com— Nov 29, 2025

[HOME](#)

Germany's Consumer Climate steadies ahead of Christmas

Germany's Consumer Climate showed mixed movements in November 2025, reflecting a stabilising yet cautious mood among households. According to the latest GfK Consumer Climate powered by Nuremberg Institute for Market Decisions (NIM), the indicator for December 2025 is forecast to rise slightly by 0.9 points to -23.2 points, supported by improved willingness to buy and reduced inclination to save.

The willingness to buy strengthened for the second consecutive month in November, gaining 3.3 points to -6.0 points, its second-highest level of the year. At the same time, the willingness to save fell by 2.1 points to 13.7 points, indicating a greater readiness among consumers to spend during the festive period. However, income expectations weakened again, preventing a stronger recovery in sentiment.

“With the stabilisation, the Consumer Climate is currently almost exactly at the previous year's level. This is also good news for the retail sector with regard to Christmas spending: the data indicate a stable business,” Rolf Burkl, head of Consumer Climate at NIM, said in a press release. He added that while sentiment appears steady, consumers still do not anticipate a significant near-term recovery.

Income expectations fell for the second month in a row in November 2025, though the drop of 2.4 points was milder than the almost 13-point decline seen in October 2025. The indicator now stands at -0.1 points, its lowest level since March 2025.

Conversely, buying sentiment improved, rising to the same level as in November 2024. Economic expectations softened slightly, dipping 1.9 points to -1.1 points, reflecting ongoing caution about the economic outlook. Still, the reading remains 2.5 points above last year's level.

The Consumer Climate, a leading indicator of private consumption, is calculated from the November values for income expectations, willingness to buy and willingness to save, and serves as a projection of consumer behaviour for December 2025.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Dec 01, 2025

[HOME](#)

Overcapacity headache to get worse for carriers in 2026: Xeneta

With a forecast for container demand growth of 3 per cent against fleet growth of 3.6 per cent, overcapacity headache will get worse for carriers in 2026, according to Xeneta. Carriers have demonstrated their ability to manage capacity effectively, but different tactics deployed on different trades makes life more difficult for shippers in understanding these market dynamics in 2026, the Norway-based ocean and air freight rate benchmarking and market analytics platform said.

Carriers from the Far East to the United States are taking an aggressive approach on the US-bound fronthauls, seemingly targeting market share rather than higher rates. Carriers have taken an aggressive approach on major trades into the US East and West Coasts, but there is an obvious difference between the two—the scale of the offered capacity increases, Xeneta said. Offered capacity into the US East Coast is up 35 per cent year on year (YoY), but into the US West Coast it is down slightly at 2 per cent. The US East Coast is less exposed than the US West Coast when it comes to US-China geopolitics. Carriers are taking a different strategy from Far East into Europe, seemingly prioritising keeping freight rates elevated over market share.

If carriers want to manage capacity effectively on trade, they either need to demolish, idle or deploy those vessels elsewhere, remarked Xeneta. Idle fleet remains below 1 per cent now and only 5,000 TEU of capacity has been demolished so far this year. Instead, ships are being re-deployed onto new trades, and one of the trades often chosen is the Transatlantic from North Europe to US East Coast.

Carriers will change their tactics as the game evolves, and the more cynical observer may suspect the capacity management on European trades is timed to keep rates elevated as shippers are entering tender season, Xeneta noted. Next year may see the tables turn more in the favour of shippers given the overcapacity, but carriers will do all they can to maximise volumes and rates; shippers need to be ready or they risk leaving money on the table in their 2026 freight agreements, it added.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Nov 29, 2025

[**HOME**](#)

Poland industry up 3.2% in Oct, clothing output declines

Poland's sold production of industry grew 3.2 per cent in October 2025 compared with October 2024, when a 4.6 per cent increase had been recorded. Output also rose 5.4 per cent month on month from September 2025. For January–October 2025, sold production was 2.8 per cent higher than in the same period of 2024, which had posted a modest 0.7 per cent rise.

Clothing and apparel output weakened in October, with the manufacture of wearing apparel registering a slight year-on-year (YoY) decline, as indicated by a sub-100 index in the official data, Statistics Poland said in a release.

After seasonal adjustment, industrial output was 1.1 per cent above October 2024 levels but declined 1 per cent from September 2025. By main industrial groupings, production of capital goods surged 9.2 per cent YoY, followed by non-durable consumer goods at 4.2 per cent and intermediate goods at 1.4 per cent. However, energy production contracted 5.9 per cent and durable consumer goods slipped 0.6 per cent.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Nov 30, 2025

[HOME](#)

EU textile, clothing industry sounds alarm as imports surge, production slumps

Europe's textile and clothing industry, a vital ecosystem comprising roughly 200,000 companies and 1.3 million workers with an annual turnover of €170 billion, is facing a severe structural threat driven by uneven global competition.

Data for the first half of 2025 reveals a crisis: textile production fell by 1.9% and clothing production dropped by 5%, while employment decreased by up to 5% across the sector. This contraction is fueled by a massive surge in non-compliant foreign imports, which rose by 7.7% for textiles and 12.3% for clothing during the same period.

Closing the customs "De Minimis" loophole

The industry's representative body, EURATEX, warns that this competitive imbalance stems largely from the de minimis exemption. This loophole allows millions of low-value parcels (under €150) to enter the EU daily without standard customs, VAT, or safety checks.

The problem is exacerbated by certain national postal operators in countries like Poland and Italy, who are reportedly accelerating deliveries for ultra-fast fashion platforms such as Temu, actively widening the regulatory gap.

EURATEX President Mario Jorge Machado affirmed that while the recent European Parliament resolution for stronger market surveillance is welcomed, "the real test starts today."

The industry is demanding decisive legislative action, specifically the abolition of the de minimis exemption, to restore a level playing field and prevent the further erosion of European industrial standards. The forthcoming ECOFIN meeting on December 12 is viewed as a critical milestone for enacting these overdue reforms.

Source: fashionatingworld.com– Nov 28, 2025

[**HOME**](#)

New EU import rules set to raise prices for Shein and Temu, boosting European retailers

Europe's fashion and textile scenario is on the verge of its most consequential structural shift in over a decade. The European Union's plan to abolish the €150 de minimis customs exemption for non-EU e-commerce imports, now fast-tracked for implementation by early 2026 is ready to reset competitive dynamics across the region. For years, this loophole allowed billions of small parcels to enter the bloc duty-free, enabling platforms like Shein and Temu to weaponize ultra-low pricing and scale to capture massive market share.

That asymmetric advantage is now being systematically dismantled. Once the exemption disappears, every cross-border parcel entering the EU will attract customs duties, VAT, and potentially additional handling charges. The impact will be immediate and deeply disruptive, particularly for Chinese fast-fashion exporters whose model depends on high-volume, low-value shipments.

Meanwhile European retail giants such as Inditex (Zara) and H&M, historically disadvantaged by this uneven tax regime are emerging as the biggest beneficiaries. With compliance discipline, proximity production, and established import infrastructure already embedded in their cost structures, the reform acts as a strategic tailwind precisely at a time when they face intense competition from Asian e-commerce titans.

The scale of the loophole

The volume of duty-free parcels entering the EU has rose to levels that few policymakers anticipated. More than 4.6 billion small parcels entered the bloc under the de minimis threshold last year, and over 90 per cent originated from China. These shipments bypassed standard import duty of roughly 12 per cent on apparel, allowing overseas platforms to undercut European price tags by margins traditional retailers could never match.

[Click here for more details](#)

Source: fashionatingworld.com– Nov 28, 2025

[**HOME**](#)

Sri Lanka apparel exports sustain momentum amidst October headwinds

Sri Lanka's apparel and made-up articles sector demonstrated resilience, recording a robust 6.12 percent year-on-year increase in total exports for the cumulative period of January to October 2025. The Joint Apparel Association Forum (JAAF) noted that the sector "continues to hold steady despite challenging global conditions," highlighting the industry's ongoing investments in competitiveness. This strong performance saw total apparel exports sustain momentum over the first ten months of the year.

Market Divergence: EU powers ahead

While the overall January-to-October performance was strong, October 2025 saw a marginal decline of 0.05 percent compared with the previous year. This slight dip was driven by major market slowdowns, as shipments to the USA fell by 1.92 percent, and exports to the UK dropped by 11.99 percent during the month. Conversely, the European Union (EU) remained a powerhouse, recording strong growth of 12.53 percent in October. For the cumulative period, exports to the EU showed a substantial 14.05 percent increase, while the USA recorded more modest growth of 1.37 percent.

Industry Outlook: Diversification and policy support

JAAF emphasized that the positive cumulative figures "reflect the industry's resilience" and its commitment to meeting international buyer needs. Exports to the UK and other markets also reported modest cumulative growth of 0.98 percent and 8.31 percent, respectively, over the same period in 2024. Looking ahead, the industry views sustained market diversification and consistent policy support as essential to build on this momentum.

Source: fashionatingworld.com– Nov 28, 2025

[HOME](#)

The New Core Competency: How sustainability and advanced fabrics are driving India's activewear future

The SportTech Pavilion at Techtextil India, hosted by Concepts N Strategies, concluded with a unanimous declaration: for India to successfully execute its "Premium Mandate" and move "Beyond CMT," technical textile innovation and radical sustainability are non-negotiable. The future of Indian activewear relies on turning the factory floor into a science lab that prioritizes green operations and next-generation materials.

Sustainability as a "Given Thing"

For the new generation of brands, the idea of offering sustainable products is no longer a unique selling proposition; it is the entry ticket to the premium market.

- **Mindset Shift:** Praveen Dhake, founder of the high-performance brand Athlos Activewear, emphasized this critical shift in perception: "Sustainability, I think, at least going ahead for most of the brands, should be a very big component. It should be not just a market." He stressed that his brand doesn't sell a running short because "it's sustainable," but because it's a "damn good running short" that happens to align with eco-conscious principles.
- **Ethical Storyline:** The demand for performance must be matched by a transparent, ethical "storyline" that explains how genuinely the product is made, satisfying a global consumer base increasingly aware of the environmental footprint of apparel.

Clean Manufacturing: The green infrastructure mandate

To meet global compliance standards and secure buyer trust, Indian mills are heavily investing in state-of-the-art green infrastructure, moving away from polluting legacy processes.

- **Zero impact facilities:** Puneet Singla, General Manager Kusumgar Limited detailed his company's commitment, noting that "compliance is also one thing that we live with." This is demonstrated through tangible, massive investments: running a "zero-coil boiler," maintaining a "zero

liquid discharge facility," and generating up to "65 to 70 percent of electricity coming from the solar rooftop" panels.

- **Eliminating water use:** The industry is even tackling one of the most water-intensive processes in textiles. Panelists noted the introduction of technologies like "waterless dyeing," which not only conserves resources but also allows for smaller production runs (e.g., dyeing to the level of 15-20 pieces of fabric), essential for the faster cycles required by international buyers.

The Material Science Frontier: From recycled to bio-tech

The most intense focus is on the raw materials themselves, pushing manufacturers to master synthetic and natural performance fibers.

- **Innovation in eco-materials:** Brands are expanding beyond conventional cotton, leveraging advanced fibers for high-performance gear. Athlos Activewear exclusively works with fibers like merino wool, recycled nylon, recycled polyester, bamboo, and Tencel. There is also future exploration into bio-tech to pursue non-recycling-focused sustainability.
- **Technical fabric breakthroughs:** Indian mills are demonstrating advanced capability, achieving production that rivals international leaders. Puneet Singla highlighted the successful manufacturing of fabrics "as fine as 15 denier," resulting in weights as low as 35 gsm—a level of finesse previously difficult to source domestically.
- **The Nylon challenge:** Despite progress, a critical supply chain gap remains: high-quality nylon yarn. The industry confirmed that the problem of sourcing good polyester is "solved," but brands still need to look overseas for premium nylon. This need has triggered a new mandate for local manufacturers to collaborate and invest in MMF (Man-Made Fiber) processing and spinning plants to close this gap and ensure reliable, consistent domestic sourcing.

The convergence of radical technical innovation and rigorous environmental compliance is rapidly becoming the defining characteristic of India's competitive edge, ensuring that the country is ready to deliver not just products, but solutions built on a clean and capable foundation.

These panel discussions were held at the SportTech Pavilion during Techtextil India (November 19-21, 2025, in Mumbai). The sessions were titled "The Premium Mandate" and "Beyond CMT" and were moderated by Concepts N Strategies.

Source: fashionatingworld.com– Nov 29, 2025

[HOME](#)

How spinning sector strain is putting Bangladesh's RMG might at risk

Bangladesh's spinning sector sits at the heart of the country's textile value chain, powering an apparel engine that ranks second only to China on the global stage. Industry insiders often describe it as the backbone of the nation's garment industry, and they mean it literally: without a strong spinning base, the famed value addition that fuels Bangladesh's export story simply collapses.

"The spinning sector is the backbone of our garment industry, and without it, the value addition that drives the entire apparel sector simply wouldn't be possible," a concerned stakeholder told Fibre2Fashion.

Yet despite its centrality, the sector is now under huge strain. Recent reports paint a picture of a sector squeezed from all directions. Volatile global cotton prices have made raw material planning a gamble while utility expenses continue their relentless climb, eroding whatever operational cushion mills once had. And then comes the flood of imported yarn, often cheaper and more aggressively priced than local products, pushing many spinners perilously close to the brink. What once was a robust upstream segment now stands at a crossroads, trying not just to stay competitive but to stay alive.

The urgency of the moment was evident at a recent high-level meeting, where the presidents of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA), and the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) sat down with senior industry leaders to assess the spiralling challenges.

Their warning was stark: without swift, meaningful intervention, Bangladesh's spinning sector could grind to a halt, and such a shutdown wouldn't just dent export numbers; it would ripple through the economy, jeopardising millions of jobs and unsettling banks and financial institutions heavily exposed to textile-linked lending.

Even more alarming is the prospect of Bangladesh becoming significantly import-dependent for one of its most crucial raw materials, turning a strategic national advantage into a vulnerability that competitors could exploit.

In a related, parallel discussion, industry players pressed for a 30 per cent reduction in industrial gas prices—a relief they argue is essential to keep the mills running. They also pushed for the retention of the existing 5 per cent export cash incentive as well, citing how vital it is for liquidity and for keeping Bangladesh aligned with the cost structures of regional rivals like India, Vietnam, and Pakistan.

The contrast with India came up repeatedly: while India has rolled out a suite of incentives to make its textile sector globally competitive, Bangladesh is reportedly trimming its support at precisely the moment the industry needs reinforcement, even as stakeholders cautioned that without targeted assistance, the country risks ceding ground in a market where every cent matters.

"India has rolled out multiple incentives to strengthen its textile sector globally, while ours have only been reduced. We urge the government to extend immediate special support, or Bangladesh's key export raw materials will remain import-dependent," insisted a stakeholder interacting with the media.

Another urgent demand from industry players is the introduction of anti-dumping duties on yarn imports, which are hitting local mills where it hurts most—pricing. When imported yarn enters the market at rates domestic producers simply cannot match, mills lose volume, cash flow dries up, and the entire upstream ecosystem weakens even as industry leaders argued anti-dumping measures are not about protectionism but about ensuring fair competition so that local manufacturers, who have invested billions in capacity, technology and compliance, are not penalised for playing by the rules.

Bangladesh has built its global apparel reputation on a combination of cost efficiency, scale, and a deep, increasingly sophisticated supply chain. But as the value chain is only as strong as its spinning sector, if this foundational link falters, the consequences will echo from factory floors to export docks.

The message from industry leaders is thus clear: act fast, or risk watching a strategic pillar of Bangladesh's economy unravel.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Nov 29, 2025

[HOME](#)

Bangladesh: RMG exporters eye strong rebound next year

Local garment exporters are expecting a strong rebound in shipments next year, despite a slowdown in exports to the US before the Christmas peak due to higher reciprocal tariffs.

The outgoing year has been marked by uncertainty caused by tariff changes and volatility in the global supply chain. Market conditions began stabilising after the US finalised tariff rates for individual countries in August.

The Trump administration imposed a 20 percent reciprocal tariff on Bangladeshi goods in August. Combined with the existing 16.15 percent Most Favoured Nation (MFN) duty, Bangladesh's exports to the US now face a total tariff of 36.15 percent.

Earlier in April, the US had proposed reciprocal tariffs for several countries and introduced a 10 percent baseline tariff for all imports.

During the negotiation period, US-based clothing retailers and brands stocked up on Bangladeshi garments between April and August to benefit from the lower 10 percent tariff.

Because of this early stocking, Bangladesh's garment exports declined in August, September, October, and November, particularly to the US market.

"When store inventories start to shrink after the Christmas sales in December, imports will begin to rise again from January through March," said Faruque Hassan, managing director of Giant Group, a garment exporter.

He added that exports may not rebound immediately but are expected to grow gradually from March. "Clothing sales in the US have also fallen short of earlier forecasts because prices went up following the higher reciprocal tariff," Hassan said.

Hassan also noted that export prices to the European Union (EU) are declining as major exporters — Bangladesh, India, China, Pakistan, and Vietnam — compete in the same market.

"Due to the higher tariff in the US market, most garment-exporting countries have shifted more of their focus to the EU," he said.

MARKET REVIVING AFTER TARIFF IMPACTS

Sharif Zahir, managing director of Ananta Group, echoed Hassan's views. "Our factories are full of work orders from retailers and brands up to June 2026, even though the outgoing year was only stable after the impacts of the reciprocal tariffs," he said. Tapan Chowdhury, former president of the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA), who also exports garment items, said, "Our company experienced a slowdown in exports because of the reciprocal tariffs. Retailers and brands delayed placing work orders, but now the market is reviving, and they are coming back."

He added that international buyers are closely monitoring Bangladesh's political situation. "The government should hold more interactions with businessmen so that business challenges can be resolved through discussions and by creating a business-friendly environment," Chowdhury, also managing director of Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd, said.

"It was not that healthy," said MA Jabbar, managing director of DBL Group, another garment exporter. "We were suffering from lower work orders. But good days are coming, and business is picking up after the US settled tariff rates with different countries."

Anwar-Ul-Alam Chowdhury (Parvez), former president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), said, "Christmas shipments were not that strong in August, September, October, and November.

"However, sales in the US market are expected to pick up during the Christmas season, and demand for Bangladeshi garments in the US should rise afterwards. Buyers are now closely monitoring the Bangladeshi market." According to Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) data compiled by BGMEA, garment exports to the US grew only 5.14 percent to \$2.58 billion during July-October. Apparel exports to the EU increased by 0.46 percent to \$6.25 billion in the same period.

Source: thedailystar.net– Dec 01, 2025

[HOME](#)

NATIONAL NEWS

Government Approves 'Tex-RAMPS' Scheme to Strengthen Research, Innovation and Competitiveness in Textiles Sector

The Government of India has approved the Textiles Focused Research, Assessment, Monitoring, Planning and Start-up (Tex-RAMPS) Scheme, to Strengthen Research, Innovation and Competitiveness in Textiles Sector.

The scheme, with a total outlay of ₹305 crore for the period FY 2025-26 to FY 2030-31, is co-terminus with the upcoming Finance Commission cycle and will be implemented as a Central Sector Scheme, fully funded by the Ministry of Textiles.

Announcing the scheme, the Union Minister of Textiles Shri Giriraj Singh said that the Tex-RAMPS scheme brings together research, data, and innovation to empower India's textile sector and position the nation as a global leader in sustainability, technology, and competitiveness

Aimed at future-proofing India's textiles and apparel (T&A) ecosystem, Tex-RAMPS is designed to address critical gaps in research, data systems, innovation support and capacity development.

Key Components of Tex-RAMPS

1. Research & Innovation

Promotion of advanced research in smart textiles, sustainability, process efficiency, and emerging technologies to boost India's innovation capacity.

2. Data, Analytics & Diagnostics

Creation of robust data systems including employment assessments, supply chain mapping, and the India-Size study to facilitate evidence-based policymaking.

3. Integrated Textiles Statistical System (ITSS)

A real-time, integrated data and analytics platform to support structured monitoring and strategic decision-making.

4. Capacity Development & Knowledge Ecosystem

Strengthening of State-level planning, dissemination of best practices, capacity building workshops, and organisation of sectoral events.

5. Start-up & Innovation Support

Support for incubators, hackathons, and academia-industry collaborations to nurture high-value textile start-ups and entrepreneurship.

Expected Outcomes

The Tex-RAMPS Scheme is expected to:

- Enhance India's competitiveness in global markets
- Strengthen research and innovation ecosystems
- Improve data-driven policymaking
- Generate employment opportunities
- Foster deeper collaboration between States, industry, academia, and government institutions

The Tex-RAMPS Scheme marks a significant step toward building a resilient, future-ready, and globally competitive textile ecosystem for India.

Source: pib.gov.in– Nov 27, 2025

[HOME](#)

Crisil raises GDP growth forecast to 7% during current financial year

Crisil has raised its forecast for the country's GDP growth to 7 per cent from 6.5 per cent for the current financial year, following the first-half growth of 8 per cent that exceeded expectations.

Chief economist of Crisil, Dharmakriti Joshi, said that India's real GDP growth stood at 8.2 per cent in the second quarter, exceeding expectations.

However, due to easing inflation, the nominal GDP growth was modest at 8.7 per cent.

The first half growth of eight per cent and an expected slowdown to 6.1 per cent in the second half owing to the impact of higher US tariffs, Joshi said.

According to Crisil, private consumption was the main driver of higher real GDP growth. From the supply side, growth in manufacturing and services saw a significant rise. Joshi said lower food inflation stoked discretionary spending in the country.

Joshi said that the third quarter is expected to continue benefiting from these tailwinds. While government investment will stabilise likely, there could be a belated uptick in private investments, according to Joshi.

The rationalisation of GST rates is boosting private consumption, complementing reduced income tax and interest rate cuts induced by repo rate cuts by the Monetary Policy Committee of the RBI.

Source: thehindubusinessline.com– Nov 29, 2025

[HOME](#)

Government reforms, manufacturing push lift Q2 growth to 8.2%: Goyal

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Saturday that a host of steps and reforms undertaken by the government to improve ease of doing business have helped the economy post an 8.2 per cent growth in the July-September quarter of the current fiscal.

He said the country's exports too are registering healthy growth despite global uncertainties at the trade front.

"The 8.2 per cent growth reflects the host of reform measures taken by the government. Number of measures have been taken to boost domestic manufacturing and promote ease of doing business," he said here while participating in a national padyatra here, organised as part of the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

The Gujarat government is organising this 'padyatra' (foot march) from Karamsad to the Statue of Unity in the Narmada district of the state to commemorate the birth anniversary.

He added that the growth numbers have refuted claims made by certain quarters, and it showed that India is the world's fastest-growing major economy.

"We will continue to see relentless growth," Goyal said, adding India's merchandise and services exports too have recorded high growth during April-October this fiscal.

During April-October this fiscal, merchandise exports increased marginally by 0.63 per cent to \$254.25 billion, and imports rose 6.37 per cent to \$451.08 billion.

During the first nine months of this financial year, services exports stood at \$237.55 billion, compared to \$216.45 billion in April-October 2024.

The 8.2 per cent gross domestic product (GDP) growth, which follows a 7.8 per cent expansion in the preceding April-June quarter, helped India retain the title of the world's fastest growing major economy, according to official data.

The GDP growth came ahead of the festive season consumption boost on the back of the implementation of a significant reduction in the goods and services tax (GST).

The expansion, which was more than China's 4.8 per cent, was driven by higher public investments, services demand, industrial output and firm consumption, besides statistical effects of a low base (the economy grew at a below-average 5.6 per cent in the same quarter last fiscal).

Manufacturing output rose 9.1 per cent against a growth of 7.7 per cent in the preceding quarter and 7.6 per cent in the year-ago period, while construction expanded 7.2 per cent from 7.6 per cent in the previous quarter.

Source: thehindubusinessline.com– Nov 29, 2025

[HOME](#)

India–UAE Convene Third CEPA Joint Committee Meeting; Bilateral Trade Crosses USD 100 Billion

India and the UAE successfully convened the third meeting of the Joint Committee under the India–UAE CEPA in New Delhi. The meeting was co-chaired by Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, Shri Ajay Bhadoo and Assistant Undersecretary for International Trade Affairs, UAE, H.E Juma Al Kait.

Both sides welcomed the strong growth in bilateral trade, which crossed USD 100.06 billion in FY 2024–25, reflecting a robust increase of 19.6% and reaffirming the UAE's position as one of India's key trading partners. The India-UAE Joint Commission serves as the primary institutional mechanism to review progress, address challenges, and implement the CEPA.

The two sides conducted a comprehensive review of progress under CEPA and detailed discussions were held on market access issues, data sharing, allocation of Gold TRQ, anti-dumping matters, services, Rules of Origin, BIS licensing etc. The India side also briefed the UAE on its recent decision to allocate Gold TRQ through a transparent competitive bidding process.

Both sides reviewed recent high-level engagements, including meetings between Hon'ble Commerce & Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal and H.E. Dr. Thani in Mumbai and Dubai. They reaffirmed their shared commitment to expanding non-oil/ non precious metal trade towards the USD 100 billion target by 2030.

Discussions also covered regulatory cooperation in pharmaceuticals, resolution of issues related to Certificates of Origin, BIS coordination, and early signing of the MoU on Food Safety and Technical Requirements between Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), India and Ministry of Climate Change & Environment (MoCCA), UAE.

The meeting concluded with both sides agreeing to strengthen trade facilitation, regulatory collaboration, data sharing and convening of Services Subcommittee meeting.

The UAE delegation also had a meeting with Commerce Secretary, Shri Rajesh Agrawal where issues related to optimum CEPA utilisation by both sides were discussed.

The visit of the UAE delegation underscores the commitment of both countries to deepen the balance of trade, expand market opportunities, and further reinforce the strategic partnership under CEPA.

Source: pib.gov.in– Nov 27, 2025

[HOME](#)

India's quiet rollback of trade barriers eases worry for global partners

About a decade ago, the Indian government quietly turned protectionist. But now, there are some signs of a rethink — particularly on insidious non-tariff barriers that had hurt not just foreign companies, but consumers and exporters.

After Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office, the finance ministers he appointed tended to raise tariff rates marginally every year, reversing a decades-long trend toward greater openness. That became increasingly difficult to do under the radar, given protests from various trading partners. And so new regulations that targeted imports were introduced: Quality Control Orders, or QCOs. Over the last month, however, some of these rules have unexpectedly been withdrawn.

The idea behind them was deceptively simple. The government argued that, since it was facing a flood of imports from China, it needed to ensure that these were of sufficient quality to meet Indian standards. Importers should thus demonstrate that every shipment they brought in qualified under domestic rules.

In effect, this led to a free-for-all. In barely more than a year, 800 or so new rules were issued, and the minister in charge suggested he wanted to take the number up to 2,500. Bureaucrats in multiple ministries were encouraged to come up with arbitrary definitions for products, and apply unpredictable and novel standards to each of these.

This caused chaos in the real world. Shippers sometimes didn't know which particular set of rules applied to a particular batch of imports — and neither did port officials. Compliance costs went through the roof, especially for smaller companies.

Every now and then, politicians have to relearn a basic lesson: The state can't be trusted to regulate with a light touch. If officials are given an interventionist inch, they will take a dirigiste mile. That's what happened with QCOs: Outsiders struggled to see whether there was a coherent pattern to how these barriers were being put up and why. And if the bureaucrats in charge knew, they weren't telling.

For India's trade partners — including the US and the European Union, both of which are trying to close a deal with New Delhi — regulations like these are exhausting. They raise the bar for what any agreement would require, and they make it seem like Indian official-dom is unreliable and uncommitted to giving foreign companies a level playing field. Multinational executives struggle to justify an India strategy to their boards and shareholders when unexpected policy shifts make the entire market look riskier than it is.

The government, which fears nothing more than appearing weak, tends not to reverse course on policies — even when there's ample evidence they're going wrong. That's why its both a surprise and a relief that some of these protectionist regulations are now being rolled back.

That's partly thanks to a committee under Rajiv Gauba, who until recently was India's top bureaucrat. Charged with identifying how domestic producers could continue to thrive in an age defined by President Donald Trump's tariffs, Gauba appears to have zeroed in on the new quality norms as a big part of the problem. Several ministries have now started rolling back their directives; the steel ministry, for example, has already withdrawn more than one-third of its 151 QCOs.

The focus is, for now, on intermediate inputs like minerals and polymers. An inability to import these raised costs for small producers in sectors such as textiles — precisely those that are also likely to suffer if the 50 per cent tariffs that Trump imposed in India stay in place.

But it shouldn't stop there. The rollbacks should be extended to the things normal people buy as well. India's citizens also need advocates in New Delhi. Gauba may have fought back against protectionist companies and officials on behalf of thousands of smaller businesses, but someone should do the same for consumers. That's a politician's job: Keeping an eye on what their voters are buying, and ensuring that those stay affordable.

Some officials still defend their over-reach, arguing that people need to be protected against sub-standard products. Let's take them at their word. If the government is really concerned about China's lax regulatory environment, it can instead impose specific conditions — for example, that goods that had cleared the far more stringent quality checks in the EU or Japan would be exempt from any future QCOs.

It certainly needs to be more transparent about which particular goods are being regulated, and why — and allow time for public consultation and for importers to prepare. The arbitrariness, unfairness, and unpredictability of this regulatory regime is even more disturbing than its existence.

Politicians should remember that nobody in the country was blaming them for the availability of the occasional sub-standard product. But they will certainly blame New Delhi if ham-fisted trade barriers raise prices. Nobody in the world is as cost-sensitive as an Indian e-commerce addict, and there are hundreds of millions of us.

Source: business-standard.com– Dec 01, 2025

[HOME](#)

India-Russia ties: Putin's visit sparks \$100bln trade ambitions amidst global tensions

The forum will focus on expanding the presence of Indian engineering products in the Russian market; increasing Russia's purchase of Indian food products including marine products; exploring the growth potential for mutual provision of digital services; and increasing the volume of Russian purchases of Indian pharmaceutical products, officials said.

It will also focus on expanding the presence of Indian suppliers in the Russian market, intensifying industrial cooperation, implementing joint projects, increasing cooperation in high technologies and attracting human resources from India, they said.

The agenda for strengthening India-Russia cooperation in pharmaceuticals and healthcare is inherently strategic, reflecting a shared commitment to advancing resilient, innovation-driven healthcare ecosystems.

Key priorities for mutually beneficial cooperation include expanding supplies of Indian medicines and medical devices to the Russian market, localising production of Indian companies in Russia and joint establishment of state-of-the-art pharmaceutical and MedTech manufacturing complexes.

The forum will discuss policy, investment and regulatory mechanisms that are required to foster joint innovation, scale manufacturing and broaden the scope of cooperation across MedTech and innovative healthcare services. As India and Russia expand their engagement in emerging technologies, both countries bring complementary experience and long-standing strengths that support the development of sovereign digital capabilities.

India has developed notable competencies in digital public infrastructure, scalable software systems and applied AI solutions, while Russia has deep experience in scientific research, secure communication technologies and advanced computing. Together, these foundations offer meaningful opportunities for co-development, an official explained.

In this context, the forum will focus on identifying mutually relevant areas for cooperation in AI and digital technologies and outlining themes that can guide future collaboration. The conversation will aim to map shared priorities, understand complementary strengths and explore avenues for joint exploration.

The key deliverables will be a prioritised set of actionable, high-impact collaboration pathways and a high-level framework to guide and sustain robust engagement across government, industry and academia, translating the shared vision into concrete, technology-driven outcomes, another official said.

It will also have a dedicated session on growing the Indian labour force in Russia as the two sides are ready to sign a mobility pact. The Russian labour market is showing a growing interest in attracting qualified personnel from India. There is currently a significant increase in the flow of Indian specialists to various cities and regions of Russia.

There is potential for increasing exports of Indian foods to Russia. Various types of Indian goods already have a presence in the Russian market, including vegetable curries, ready-made meals, legumes, snacks and confectionery.

The product range further expanded in 2024-25 when India started supplying butter and milk fat to Russia, and the export of Indian grapes increased. There are also additional opportunities for supplies from India of nutritious cereals, traditional sweets and seafood. Talks are ongoing to start exporting shrimps to Russia after Indian exporters faced the heat in the US following imposition of tariffs.

Source: economictimes.com– Dec 01, 2025

[HOME](#)

Newly implemented Labour Codes to catalyse growth in India's exports

The Export-Oriented Industries (EOIs)- including textiles, garments, leather, electronics, gems & jewellery, pharmaceuticals, auto components and IT-enabled services- are critical contributors to India's employment and foreign exchange earnings.

Their competitiveness depends heavily on the ability to maintain a flexible, compliant, and skilled workforce while adhering to international labour standards.

The labour reform brings about a series of benefits for India's export sector, especially simplifying compliance for employers and enabling improved workforce management, according to a statement from PIB Headquarters on Sunday.

One of the most impactful reforms is the introduction of a uniform definition of "wages" across all labour codes. This provision eliminates the ambiguity created by multiple, inconsistent definitions in earlier laws.

For EOIs operating in multiple states, it simplifies payroll administration and compliance, ensuring uniformity in wage calculations for social security contributions, bonus, and gratuity, the PIB Headquarters statement has asserted.

The provision for fixing a National Floor Wage by the government establishes a benchmark below which no state can fix its minimum wage. For EOIs functioning across states, this offers predictability in labour cost structures and eliminates regional disparities. The legal recognition of digital wage payments encourages the adoption of transparent and traceable payment systems.

According to the government, EOIs will benefit from the ability to maintain verifiable payment records, which are often required by global buyers and compliance audits.

The prohibition of gender-based discrimination in recruitment and wages also ensures equal remuneration for equal work.

For EOIs, this aligns domestic practices with international labour and human rights standards, particularly those demanded by global retail and sourcing partners.

The provision for Fixed-Term Employment (FTE) allows employers to hire workers directly for a specific duration or project, with all statutory benefits equivalent to those of permanent workers.

The government asserts that this is particularly beneficial to EOIs that experience fluctuating or seasonal demand linked to global order cycles. Industries gain flexibility to scale their workforce up or down without resorting to informal or contractual hiring, thereby remaining compliant with law and maintaining a positive image among international clients.

Raising the threshold for prior government approval for lay-off, retrenchment, or closure from 100 to 300 workers offers industries operational flexibility to adjust to changing export orders and global market conditions.

"This provision gives exporters the confidence to expand employment during peak demand periods without the fear of excessive rigidity during downturns," the government said. The governments (State/Central, as applicable) have been given full flexibility for fixing the limit of working hours.

Earlier this limit was 75 overtime hours in a quarter which now can be fixed by the (State/Central, as applicable) Government. This flexibility in hours of work will enable industry to fix the hours of work as per the business needs including when they get peak orders.

"It will also generate growth and employment," the PIB Headquarters' statement noted. The introduction of single registration and unified returns provisions reduces the multiplicity of licenses and inspections under different labour laws.

EOIs, which often operate multiple production units or engage numerous contractors, benefit from simplified compliance and reduced administrative costs, including when they get peak orders. The codes promote digital maintenance of employment records, registers, and returns. EOIs, which are frequently audited by overseas clients and certification agencies, gain credibility through transparent and traceable digital documentation.

The provision of Inspector-cum-Facilitator and Randomised Digital Inspections aims to reduce the traditional "inspector raj," where inspections were often seen as intrusive and burdensome. "Inspectors will function more as facilitators- helping employers comply with law, creating awareness among workers. This shift promotes harmonious environment and facilitates ease of doing business," the government said.

The Third-Party Audit and Certification provision has been made for third-party audit and certification of start-up establishments or class of establishments. It will help EOIs to assess and improve health and safety without intervention of Inspector-cum-Facilitator.

First-time offences that carry only a fine can now be settled by paying 50 per cent of the maximum penalty. Offences that earlier involved a fine, imprisonment, or both can be settled by paying 75 per cent of the maximum penalty, making the law less punitive and more focused on encouraging compliance. Further, employers can avoid prolonged litigation by paying a prescribed penalty that enables quicker resolution, minimizes litigation, and lowers compliance risk for small EOIs.

Improvement Notice and Decriminalisation of Offences provision aims to replace criminal penalties (like imprisonment) with civil penalties (like monetary fines). The employer will be given mandatory 30 days' notice for compliance before taking any legal action.

Several offences have been decriminalized replacing criminal penalties with fines making the law less punitive and more compliance-oriented which will promote voluntary compliance, reduce fear of prosecution and make enforcement facilitative for export sector.

The universalisation of social security through provisions covering all employees (including fixed-term, contract, gig workers), strengthens the protection net for workers in export industries.

Employers in export sectors benefit from clarity and consolidation of earlier fragmented schemes such as provident fund, ESI, and gratuity under one framework. The mandatory establishment of Grievance Redressal Committees in workplaces employing 20 or more workers ensures that issues are resolved internally and promptly. Export industries, which must maintain uninterrupted production schedules, benefit from the reduction in industrial unrest and legal disputes.

Uniform and comprehensive provisions on occupational safety, health, and welfare are expected to benefit export industries by providing a single, harmonised set of standards applicable across states and sectors. "Compliance with these standards enhances workplace safety and supports certification under international social compliance regimes, which are increasingly demanded by global buyers," the government said.

The provision permitting employment of women during night shifts, subject to their consent and adequate safety measures, greatly benefits EOIs that function on a 24-hour production cycle to meet international orders. "Industries in sectors like apparel, electronics, and IT-enabled services can now legally employ women during late hours with proper transportation, security, and welfare arrangements. This supports continuous production and order fulfilment," the government noted.

The provision for free annual health check-ups ensures that every employee, irrespective of their employment category, has access to preventive healthcare. In export sectors like textiles, leather, electronics, and garment manufacturing, workers are frequently exposed to dust, chemicals, noise, and ergonomic strain. Regular health assessments help in early detection of occupational illnesses, enabling timely treatment and preventing chronic conditions. For women workers, periodic check-ups provide crucial preventive care and contribute to overall well-being.

The provision of annual leave with wages- made available to every employee completing 180 days of work in a calendar year (reduced from the earlier 240-day requirement) will be beneficial for workers in EOIs, who often face intense production pressures and tight export deadlines, this ensures adequate rest, recovery, and work-life balance without any loss of income. Paid annual leave will enable them to spend time with their families, attend to personal or health needs, and return to work rejuvenated, leading to better morale and efficiency.

The rationalisation of working hours, weekly rest, and leave entitlements creates a uniform and predictable framework for export units. Workers will benefit from regulated work schedules, rest periods, and welfare amenities such as canteens, creches, and medical facilities. The combination of structured work time and welfare will improve job satisfaction for the workers.

Each provision under the Labour Codes, according to the government, strengthens India's export ecosystem in a distinct yet interconnected way.

For EOIs, the Codes offer the flexibility, simplification, and predictability needed to compete in dynamic global markets while meeting rising international compliance standards. For workers, these same reforms guarantee fair wages, social security, safety, equality, and opportunities for upskilling- enhancing both their welfare and dignity at work.

"Together, the Codes advance India toward a modern labour regime that balances ease of doing business with ease of living for workers, driving both economic growth and inclusive development across the export sector," the PIB Headquarters' statement concluded.

In a historic decision, the government of India announced that the four Labour Codes - the Code on Wages, 2019, the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, the Code on Social Security, 2020 and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 and are being made effective immediately from November 21, 2025. The four Codes rationalised 29 existing labour laws.

While drafting the four Codes, the government argued that many of India's labour laws were framed in the pre-Independence and early post-Independence era (1930s-1950s), when the economy and the world of work were fundamentally different.

While most major economies have updated and consolidated their labour regulations in recent decades, India continued to operate under fragmented, complex and in several parts outdated provisions spread across 29 Central labour laws.

Source: economictimes.com– Nov 30, 2025

[HOME](#)

India, Canada to restart CEPA talks next week: Piyush Goyal

India and Canada will kickstart discussions on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) next week, said Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, at FICCI's 98th annual general meeting and annual convention.

Addressing the AGM, Goyal said that India has already concluded a very balanced, robust, fair and equitable agreement with Australia, UAE, Mauritius, UK, the 4 nation EFTA group. "At this point of time we are in talks with 14 groups of countries collectively representing around 50 countries of the world.

Our focus is on countries of significance where we complement each other. We are talking to Oman while Bahrain and Qatar want to enter into negotiations with India along with the GCC countries. We are also talking to New Zealand, simultaneously with Australia on second stage agreement," he added.

Goyal further stated that India is reviewing ASEAN and Korea FTA to bring more balance. "We have recently started negotiations with Eurasia and are working to start negotiations very quickly with Israel with whom terms of reference was finalised last week," he added.

He stated that in India's growth story, self-reliance will be at the core. Prime Minister Modi has proved that the betterment of the economy can also be the basis of politics, and this is evident from the recent Free Trade Agreements which India has signed or currently working on with other developed nations, FICCI said in a press release.

During the event, Goyal also unveiled the FICCI's 100-year logo and said that over the last 98 years, FICCI is an organisation with a proud lineage, founded at the behest of Mahatma Gandhi. And the theme of 'India: Self-Reliant Economic Powerhouse', resonates perfectly with Mahatma Gandhi's vision of a self-reliant economic powerhouse.

Harsha Vardhan Agarwal, president, FICCI, said that world-scale manufacturing, bold innovation, empowered youth, and the full participation of women—together, they form the very architecture of India's self-reliance.

“When these pillars stand strong, India does not merely grow; it leads with confidence and purpose. This is India’s moment. Our moment to accelerate. Our moment to transform. Our moment to build a truly Viksit Bharat,” Agarwal added.

Anant Goenka, president – elect, FICCI said that they at FICCI reaffirm their commitment to supporting the government’s reform agenda, and they stand ready to work to prioritise innovation, skilling, ease of doing business, and the effective utilisation of various FTAs.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Nov 28, 2025

[HOME](#)

Global trade slowdown may expose India's export vulnerability: GTRI

Global trade policy shocks coupled with domestic cost pressures are likely to expose the Indian economy's vulnerability to slowing world demand, according to trade-focused think-tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI), which cited data from the latest World Trade Organization's Goods Trade Barometer. The WTO report, released earlier this week, according to GTRI, pointed to a marked cooling in global merchandise trade after the tariff-driven surge earlier in the year. According to the WTO, GTRI noted, global trade held up in early 2025 on the back of strong demand for AI-related goods, but momentum is now easing as front-loading fades and protectionist pressures re-emerge.

While most components, be it electronics, air freight, container shipping and autos, continue to signal expansion, the rate of growth is slowing, and agricultural raw materials have already fallen below trend, GTRI noted. "The warning is blunt: growth remains intact for now, but rising tariffs and policy uncertainty threaten to erode global trade volumes in 2026," the Indian think tank has asserted. India's export performance in October mirrors this global deceleration, but with sharper downside risks.

Merchandise exports fell 11.8 per cent year-on-year, with declines across 15 of 20 major markets, underlining the fragility of demand facing Indian exporters. Shipments to key partners such as the United States (-8.6 per cent), the UAE (-10.2 per cent), the UK (-27.2 per cent), Italy (-27.7 per cent) and the Netherlands (-22.8 per cent) all weakened, while steep collapses in Singapore and Australia point to a sudden loss of momentum in Asia-Pacific supply chains, GTRI noted.

India export sector growth, as per GTRI, was limited to a handful of destinations -- most notably Spain and China, driven largely by energy and commodity-linked exports rather than manufacturing strength. "As with the WTO's global picture, India's data suggest not a collapse but a clear loss of traction, with trade policy shocks abroad now colliding with domestic cost pressures to expose the economy's vulnerability to slowing world demand," GTRI concluded.

Source: economictimes.com– Nov 30, 2025

[HOME](#)

Tariffs batter India's exports to US; GTRI suggests rolling out Export Promotion Mission

India's exports to its largest export market, the United States, have suffered a sharp reversal under the impact of aggressive tariff hikes. Between May and October 2025, shipments fell 28.5 per cent, plunging from \$8.83 billion to \$6.31 billion, according to trade-focused think-tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI).

The decline in exports followed a rapid escalation in US duties that began at 10 per cent on April 2, rose to 25 per cent on August 7, and reached 50 per cent by late August. The spike in tariffs made Indian goods among the most heavily taxed of any US trading partner, according to a GTRI report Saturday.

For comparison, China faced tariffs of about 30 per cent, while Japan at 15 per cent. India's exports to the US during the period has been divided into three tariff regimes in the GTRI report -- Tariff-exempt items such as smartphones, pharmaceuticals and petroleum products accounted for 40.3 per cent of October exports but still fell 25.8 per cent, from \$3.42 billion in May to \$2.54 billion in October--a contraction of \$881 million.

Products facing uniform global tariffs--mainly iron, steel, aluminum, copper and auto parts--formed just 7.6 per cent of shipments in October. Exports in this category fell 23.8 per cent, sliding from \$629 million in May to \$480 million in October, or about \$149 million, data maintained by GTRI showed. The steepest decline in exports occurred in labour intensive products where India alone faced 50 per cent tariffs.

Gems and jewellery, solar panel, textiles and garment, chemicals, seafoods--these goods, which represented 52.1 per cent of October exports, collapsed 31.2 per cent, falling from \$4.78 billion to \$3.29 billion--nearly \$1.5 billion erased in just five months, GTRI has asserted.

Even tariff-free products felt the shock. Smartphones, India's single biggest product line to the US, suffered a 36 per cent decline, sliding from \$2.29 billion in May to \$1.50 billion in October--a loss of almost \$790 million.

Monthly exports fell consistently from \$2.0 billion in June to \$1.52 billion in July, crashed to \$964.8 million in August, eased further to \$884.6 million in September, and finally recovered to \$1.5 billion in October, GTRI said, without giving any rationale. Pharmaceutical exports dipped only 1.6 per cent, while petroleum product shipments declined 15.5 per cent.

In the metals (US Tariffs of 50 per cent) and auto parts (US Tariffs of 25 per cent) category, the export drop reflects weakening US industrial demand rather than loss of competitiveness, as tariff treatment was equal across suppliers, GTRI opined. Against that stark backdrop, GTRI urges the government to roll out the Export Promotion Mission and press Washington to drop the Russia-related additional tariff of 25 per cent imposed on Indian goods.

"First, the Export Promotion Mission--announced in March and approved by the Cabinet on Nov. 12--still exists only on paper. Nearly eight months into the fiscal year, no schemes are operational, while long running programs such as the Market Access Initiative and the Interest Equalisation Scheme have made no payments this year," GTRI noted.

With annual funding capped below ₹4,200 crore, GTRI believes that the Mission will miss its goals unless the government quickly issues guidelines, restores regular disbursements and gives exporters clear eligibility rules and timelines. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi earlier this month has approved the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) -- a flagship initiative announced in the Union Budget 2025-26 to strengthen India's export competitiveness, particularly for MSMEs, first-time exporters, and labour-intensive sectors.

The Mission will provide a comprehensive, flexible, and digitally driven framework for export promotion, with a total outlay of ₹25,060 crore for 2025-26 to 2030-31. Besides, GTRI argued that removing 25 per cent additional tariffs would halve the effective US tariff burden on Indian goods to 25 per cent, offering relief to labour-intensive sectors. GTRI urged the Government to make these two steps central to restoring part export competitiveness and resetting talks with the US on a "more even footing".

Source: thehindubusinessline.com– Nov 29, 2025

[HOME](#)

India's exports to the US down 28.5% in last 5 months as tariffs troubles kick in

India's exports to its largest export market, the United States, have suffered a sharp reversal under the impact of aggressive tariff hikes. Between May and October 2025, shipments fell 28.5 per cent, plunging from USD 8.83 billion to USD 6.31 billion, according to trade-focused think-tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI).

The decline in exports followed a rapid escalation in US duties that began at 10 per cent on April 2, rose to 25 per cent on August 7, and reached 50 per cent by late August.

The spike in tariffs made Indian goods among the most heavily taxed of any US trading partner, according to a GTRI report Saturday.

For comparison, China faced tariffs of about 30 per cent, while Japan at 15 per cent.

India's exports to the US during the period has been divided into three tariff regimes in the GTRI report -- Tariff-exempt items such as smartphones, pharmaceuticals and petroleum products accounted for 40.3 per cent of October exports but still fell 25.8 per cent, from USD 3.42 billion in May to USD 2.54 billion in October--a contraction of USD 881 million.

Products facing uniform global tariffs--mainly iron, steel, aluminum, copper and auto parts--formed just 7.6 per cent of shipments in October. Exports in this category fell 23.8 per cent, sliding from USD 629 million in May to USD 480 million in October, or about USD 149 million, data maintained by GTRI showed.

The steepest decline in exports occurred in labour intensive products where India alone faced 50 per cent tariffs. Gems and jewellery, solar panel, textiles and garment, chemicals, seafoods,

These goods, which represented 52.1 per cent of October exports, collapsed 31.2 per cent, falling from USD 4.78 billion to USD 3.29 billion--nearly USD 1.5 billion erased in just five months, GTRI has asserted.

Even tariff-free products felt the shock.

Smartphones, India's single biggest product line to the US, suffered a 36 per cent decline, sliding from USD 2.29 billion in May to USD 1.50 billion in October--a loss of almost USD 790 million.

Monthly exports fell consistently from USD 2.0 billion in June to USD 1.52 billion in July, crashed to USD 964.8 million in August, eased further to USD 884.6 million in September, and finally recovered to USD 1.5 billion in October, GTRI said, without giving any rationale.

Pharmaceutical exports dipped only 1.6 per cent, while petroleum product shipments declined 15.5 per cent.

In the metals (US Tariffs of 50 per cent) and auto parts (US Tariffs of 25 per cent) category, the export drop reflects weakening US industrial demand rather than loss of competitiveness, as tariff treatment was equal across suppliers, GTRI opined.

Against that stark backdrop, GTRI urges the government to roll out the Export Promotion Mission and press Washington to drop the Russia-related additional tariff of 25 per cent imposed on Indian goods.

"First, the Export Promotion Mission--announced in March and approved by the Cabinet on Nov. 12--still exists only on paper. Nearly eight months into the fiscal year, no schemes are operational, while long running programs such as the Market Access Initiative and the Interest Equalisation Scheme have made no payments this year," GTRI noted.

With annual funding capped below Rs 4,200 crore, GTRI believes that the Mission will miss its goals unless the government quickly issues guidelines, restores regular disbursements and gives exporters clear eligibility rules and timelines.

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi earlier this month has approved the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) -- a flagship initiative announced in the Union Budget 2025-26 to strengthen India's export competitiveness, particularly for MSMEs, first-time exporters, and labour-intensive sectors.

The Mission will provide a comprehensive, flexible, and digitally driven framework for export promotion, with a total outlay of Rs.25,060 crore for 2025-26 to 2030-31.

Besides, GTRI argued that removing 25 per cent additional tariffs would halve the effective US tariff burden on Indian goods to 25 per cent, offering relief to labour-intensive sectors.

GTRI urged the Government to make these two steps central to restoring part export competitiveness and resetting talks with the US on a "more even footing".

Source: economictimes.com– Nov 29, 2025

[HOME](#)

India's exports in sectors facing global regulations exposed to higher risk due to climate inaction: BCG

India's export-driven businesses in sectors such as aluminium, iron and steel that face international regulatory shocks are increasingly exposed to risk due to climate inaction threatening their profits, operations, and long-term viability, according to global consulting firm BCG.

India is among the top 10 countries most affected by extreme weather events, as the 'Climate Risk Index 2026' launched at COP30 reveals, and the cost of inaction for India is too big to ignore, BCG Managing Director and Senior Partner, Asia Pacific Leader, Climate & Sustainability, Sumit Gupta, told PTI in an emailed interview.

Citing data from RBI and WEF 2024, he said 4.5 per cent of India's GDP by 2030 is at massive risk of erosion due to climate-induced extreme events, and by the end of the century, climate-related challenges could cost India between 6.4 per cent and over 10 per cent of its national income.

"Businesses face the direct brunt of these risks," he said, adding that due to climate-induced extreme events, physical infrastructure assets are wiped off, labour hours are lost, and productivity impacted, while there can also be indefinite delay in project completion and declining investment efficiency in high climate risk regions.

When asked about the financial implications of climate change on Indian companies and businesses, BCG Managing Director and Partner, India Lead, Climate & Sustainability, Anirban Mukherjee, said, "The impact is more pronounced today for export-driven businesses in India, especially hard-to-abate ones such as aluminium, iron and steel, that face international regulatory shocks." EU's carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) is expected to impact USD 7.7 billion or 10-11 per cent of India's export to the EU, he noted.

Mukherjee further said, "Climate inaction is increasingly exposing businesses to escalating risks that threaten profits, operations, and long-term viability." BCG's estimates suggest that direct climate risks alone will put 5 per cent to 25 per cent of 2050 EBITDA at risk for global businesses, he added.

Both Gupta and Mukherjee, however, noted that companies in India are increasingly recognising the magnitude of the climate challenge -- one that not only threatens profitability but also puts long-term sustainability of the business at tremendous risk.

For instance, one-third of large Indian companies rate climate strategy as one of their top three material issues based on Corporate Sustainability Assessment for 187 India headquartered companies representing 85 per cent of market cap, Gupta said.

Yet, he said, while about 40 per cent of India-headquartered firms conduct physical risk assessments, much of corporate India still lags behind.

On the impact of climate shocks on supply chain, especially MSME suppliers, Mukherjee said the failure of MSMEs to cope with such climate risks has a direct impact on the supply chain of Indian corporates.

Most large corporates in manufacturing, automotive, consumer goods, textiles, and construction source almost 60-70 per cent of their components or services from MSMEs, he said, citing the example of the automotive sector, where about 70 per cent of parts and sub-assemblies come from tier-2 and tier-3 MSME suppliers.

Noting that MSMEs are also a driving force in India's export economy, accounting for around 45 per cent of India's total export value basket, Mukherjee said, "Almost 20-30 per cent of India's MSME exports could eventually face direct or indirect CBAM-related compliance or cost exposure."

Source: thehindubusinessline.com– Nov 30, 2025

[HOME](#)

India's logistics cost 7.97% of GDP in 2023-2024: DPIIT-NCAER study

A new study by India's Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) places the country's logistics cost at 7.97 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) and 9.09 per cent of non-services output for 2023 and 2024. In absolute terms, the total cost is estimated at ₹24.01 trillion (~\$268.31 billion).

The study was conducted in collaboration with the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) combining primary data from over 3,500 industry stakeholders and secondary data from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the Reserve Bank of India and the Goods and Services Tax Network, an official release said.

Until recently, India's logistics costs were often overestimated. Commonly cited figures of 13 to 14 per cent of GDP were based on partial or external data. This led to confusion in policymaking and misperceptions globally, the release observed. India's logistics sector is entering a new phase and converting itself into a faster, smarter and globally competitive sector, it noted.

The National Logistics Policy and the PM GatiShakti project have injected new momentum into this transformation, laying the foundation for a more integrated and data-driven logistics ecosystem. But strategy needs precision, and that starts with knowing the true cost of logistics, the release remarked.

The study highlights a critical insight: smaller firms face significantly higher logistics costs, which affect their ability to scale and compete. It also introduces benchmark freight costs per tonne-kilometre across various transport modes and distances. This data is essential for better supply chain planning and pricing.

All findings are available through a new interactive dashboard designed to support real-time analysis and informed decision-making. With this data-backed clarity, both the government and industry can make smarter investments, design sharper policies and upgrade infrastructure faster.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– Nov 30, 2025

[HOME](#)

India: Tiruppur's carbon-negative strategy drives 22% export surge

The net-zero industrial design championed by individual units is now transforming the broader Indian textile landscape, providing a powerful financial model for growth.

The Tiruppur knitwear cluster, which accounts for 55% of India's knitwear exports, has seen exports rebound sharply, logging a 22% year-on-year increase in August 2024. This recovery, following an 11% dip in the previous fiscal year, is directly attributed to the "Green Tiruppur" sustainable strategy. New research shows that manufacturers are prioritizing sustainability to target a significant 2-3x rise in profits over the next few years.

Net-Zero model becomes capacity edge

The cluster's historical investment in sustainability now functions as a major competitive edge (Growth Plan). The region is generating approximately 1,900 MW of wind and solar power—nearly five times its operational energy requirement—positioning the cluster as a carbon-negative zone.

Furthermore, the widespread adoption of Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) systems, which recycle processed water, has made the hub water-neutral. This radical overhaul provides the required capacity and compliance for large-scale production.

Global mandate attracts major buyers

The move is cemented by global compliance challenges, such as the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), which penalizes high-carbon imports. This context has made compliance non-negotiable, and Tiruppur's verifiable ESG performance is now attracting major global buyers, including Gap and Tommy Hilfiger, who are re-routing substantial orders to the region. The industry is demonstrating that the path to resilient export performance is intrinsically linked to pioneering environmental stewardship.

Source: fashionatingworld.com— Nov 28, 2025

HOME
