



Handloom Export *E-Newsletter*



India's Largest
Global Textile Event



May 2025

Calendar of Events

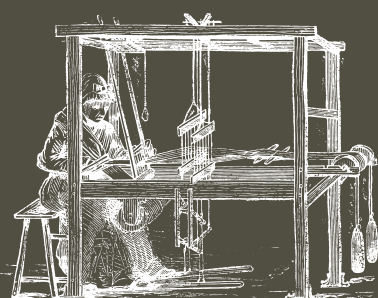
Sl No	Name of Event	Country	Date
1	Hong Kong Home in Style	Hong Kong	27-30 April 2025
2	INDEX	Dubai	27-29 May 2025
3	Indian Apparel and Textile Fair	Moscow	25-27 June 2025
4	HGH India	Mumbai	1-4 July 2025
5	Hometextiles Sourcing	New York	23-25 July 2025
6	Formex	Stockholm	13-16 August 2025
7	Source Fashion (Pure London)	London	8-10 July 2025
8	Indian Apparel and Textile Fair	Johannesburg & Cape Town	14-15 August 2025 (Johannesburg)
			18-19 August 2025 (Cape Town)
9	Tokyo International Gift Show	Tokyo	4-6 September 2025
10	WHO's NEXT (INTERFILIERE)	Paris	6-8 September 2025
11	Indian Apparel and Textile Fair	Sao Paulo	15-17 September 2025
12	3 rd International Amsterdam Hometextile & Living Show	Amsterdam	29 Sep - 1 Oct 2025
13	Hong Kong Mega Show - Part 1	Hong Kong	20-23 October 2025
14	International Apparel & Textile Show	Dubai	17-19 November 2025
15	Global Sourcing Expo	Melbourne	18-20 November 2025
16	AF L'Artigiano (B2C)	Milan	6-14 December 2025
17	HEIMTEXTIL	Frankfurt	13-16 January 2026
18	WHO's NEXT (INTERFILIERE)	Paris	17-19 January 2026
19	Domotex	Hannover	19-22 January 2026
20	Spring Fair (Source Home & Gift)	Birmingham	1-4 February 2026
21	Ambiente	Frankfurt	6-10 February 2026



The Handloom Export Promotion Council

HANDLOOM EXPORT

E-Newsletter of Handloom Export Promotion Council, May 2025



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Chairman's Column

As per DGCIS data the handloom export during April-January 2025 recorded INR 969.63 cr. (USD 115.28 mn.) as against the export of INR 962.07 cr. (USD 116.34 mn.) during April-January 2024 witnessing positive trend by 0.79% in Indian rupees when compared with downtrend by 1.35% during April-December 2024. It is a boosting factor to the handloom export segment.

Council has organised Spring Fair, Birmingham, UK with 19 member exporters and the participants had around 451 trade visitors and spot order worth Rs.6.75 crore and business enquiries worth Rs.8.09 crore was generated. Council also took part in Ambiente 2025, Frankfurt, Germany with 20 member exporters and as per the feedback received from the participants had about 474 visitors, spot order worth Rs.7.08 crore and business enquiries worth Rs.14.72 crore was generated.

HEPC organised participation of member exporters in Bharat Tex 2025, New Delhi, India. 83 exhibitors & State pavilion and 74 International buyers participated through HEPC. As per the feedback from participants, they had spot order worth Rs.10 crore and business enquiries worth Rs.50 crore were generated.

Also, HEPC successfully organized the Special Sourcing Show in Kochi, Kerala, on 3rd and 4th March 2025. This exclusive event aimed to promote the rich and diverse handloom products of Kerala, connecting weavers and artisans with national and international buyers. As per the feedback of the participants, business worth of Rs.3.30 crore was generated during the 2 days of event.

HEPC organised the Home Deco Fair, B2C of its kind under the aegis of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, from 15th to 23rd March 2025 at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi with 69 participants including sizable presence from North East Region which attracted 1,793 trade visitors and 7,840 end-user customers. The event generated business inquiries worth of Rs. 47 Lakhs and recorded spot sales of Rs. 63 Lakhs.

The US government has recently (w.e.f. 2nd April 2025) imposed a 26% ad valorem duty on Indian textile imports, raising significant concerns regarding our global competitiveness and product pricing as US remains our largest export destination for textile goods. However, the US government has now paused the imposition of additional 26% higher tariff for 90 days and the baseline tariff of 10% will continue to remain in effect. In light of this development, Council organised a virtual meeting with the member exporters to discuss and explore possible measures to sustain export momentum and sent the suggestions to the ministry for their consideration. I request the member exporters to share your comments /suggestions to navigate this challenging period and your valuable inputs are vital in formulating the strategy to overcome this hard phase.

With warm regards,

Lalit Kumar Goel
Chairman



Event Overview

Bharat Tex 2025, India's premier global textile event, was successfully held from February 14 to 17, 2025, at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. Spanning an impressive 2.2 million square feet, the event showcased the diverse capabilities of India's textile ecosystem, with over 5,000 exhibitors representing the broad spectrum of India's textile industry. This year, more than 120,000 trade visitors from over 120 countries, including global CEOs, policymakers, and industry leaders, attended, marking the event as a major international textile platform.

Bharat Tex 2025 was a key initiative to accelerate the Prime Minister of India's vision of "Farm to Fibre, Fabric, Fashion, and Foreign Markets". The event, organized by the Consortium of 11 major Textile Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), including the Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC), and supported by the Ministry of Textiles, highlighted India's position as a global textile hub. The event presented India's strengths across various textile segments and offered a glimpse into the future of the country's textile sector, with a clear focus on sustainability, innovation, and global collaboration.



Bharat Tex 2025 began with the visit of Hon'ble Minister of Textiles Shri Giriraj Singh, on 14 February - the inaugural day of the event at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The Minister inaugurated the event in the presence of buyers and government dignitaries hailing from more than 110 countries. Addressing the gathering, Hon'ble Minister said that "This show is inspired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 5F vision—from farm to fibre to factory to fashion to foreign players in the textile value chain and the Prime Minister's visionary leadership is helping the entire textiles sector."

Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal also visited the fair on 14 February 2025. During his visit he said that, given India's capabilities, the country's textile export will see a significant increase in the international market, adding that the future of India's textile sector is very bright. Anyone who sees Bharat Tex will understand that India is a global power," emphasizing the event's importance in showcasing India's growing prominence on the global textile stage.

HEPC Participation

The Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) participated in Bharat Tex 2025, with 83 member exhibitors plus state pavilion showcasing the exquisite variety of India's handloom sector. HEPC's exhibitors occupied a dedicated space of around 2,300 square meters, presenting both traditional and contemporary handloom textiles. Besides, the participation of various State trade pavilions were also organized by the Council as detailed below.

Assam Pavilion



The Assam Pavilion was set up covering a space of 108 sq. mtr. for showcasing the handloom legacy of Assam particularly Golden Silk Muga and non-violent Silk Eri. Honourable Union Minister for Textiles Shri Pabitra Margherita has graced the inaugural programme of the Assam Pavilion along with the Secretary to the Govt. of Assam Handloom Textiles and Sericulture department in the presence of other dignitaries.

Andhra Pradesh Pavilion

The Andhra Pradesh Pavilion was set up in 200sq.mtrs area and formally inaugurated by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Shri. Giriraj Singh, on 14 February 2025. The event was attended by several distinguished dignitaries, including Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri. Kallisetty Appala Naidu, Smt. Rekha Rani, I.A.S., Commissioner of Handlooms and Textiles, Andhra Pradesh, and other senior officials from the Handlooms and Textiles Department, Andhra Pradesh.



Mizoram Pavilion



The Commerce and Industries Department, Mizoram, participated in the 2nd edition of Bharat Tex 2025 by getting a space of 36 Sqm through the Handloom Export Promotion Council. This event served as a platform to showcase various handloom products such as stoles, shawls, garments, and accessories.

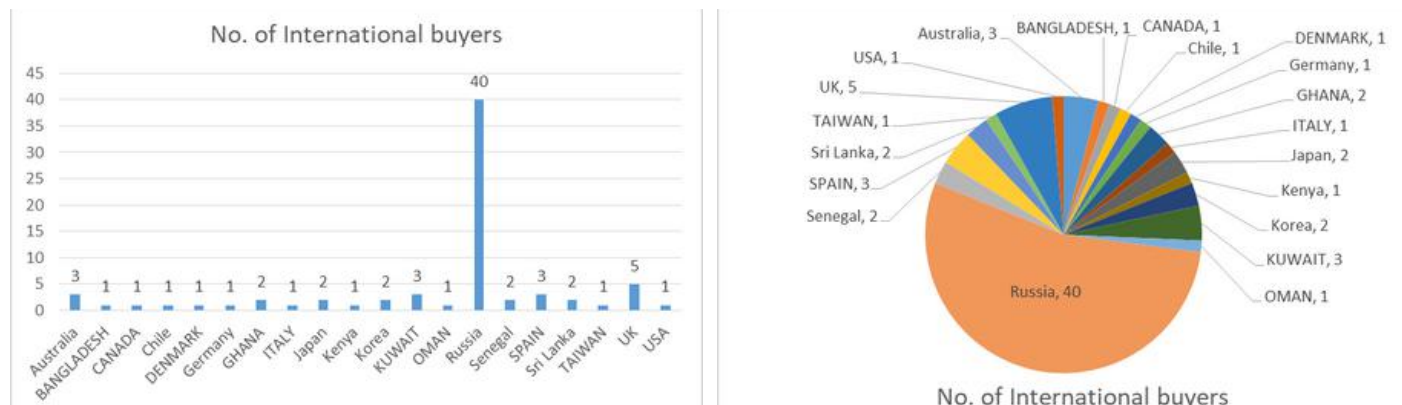
Telangana Pavilion

The Department of Handlooms & Textiles has been Participated in the Bharat Tex-2025 on behalf of Government of Telangana through Handloom Exports Promotion Council (HEPC) Chennai and we have allotted (24) Sq.Mtrs and displayed Telangana Prestigious GI Products and also sold the cloth items worth of Rs.7.00 Lakhs (Approx) in (04) days.



To further enhance the global appeal, HEPC invited 80 international buyers from key markets such as the USA, Russia, and other countries. These buyers were carefully selected through a thorough and meticulous process, ensuring meaningful engagement and fostering high-quality business opportunities.

This strategic approach aimed to strengthen India's presence in global markets and create lasting connections for the handloom industry.



Visit of Shri Giriraj Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Textiles

The event was graced by the visit of Shri Giriraj Singh, the Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, who took the time to exclusively explore HEPC's participation at Bharat Tex 2025. On February 14, he visited Hall 1 & 2, where exhibitors showcased carpets, floor coverings, and apparel. The following day, February 15, he visited Hall 14, which was dedicated to home textiles, where he appreciated the intricate craftsmanship and innovative designs on display.



Visit of Development Commissioner for Handlooms

Dr. M Beena, IAS, Development Commissioner for Handlooms visited the stalls of various exhibitors, and interacted with artisans offering valuable insights into the growth and innovation within the handloom sector.

The DC Handloom also had an interactive with a delegation of international buyers from Russia invited by HEPC on February 15, 2025. HEPC facilitated this valuable interaction, providing a platform for open discussions.





During the meeting, the DC Handloom highlighted the importance of strengthening global trade ties and supporting the expansion of India's handloom industry into international markets. During the interaction, setting up of ware house facility, testing facility and other trade support activities were discussed. These conversations will act as an instrumental in fostering positive relationships and exploring potential opportunities for future collaborations.

Event Highlights

Breathing Threads

One of the standout moments of Bharat Tex 2025 was the fashion event titled "Breathing Threads", organized by HEPC with financial assistance from the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms. The show was held on February 15 at the amphitheater in Bharat Mandapam in association with Vaishali S Couture, Vaishali S Thread Stories Private Limited. This event celebrated India's timeless handloom craftsmanship by showcasing modern silhouettes created from traditional handloom fabrics. The fashion event not only impressed international buyers but also highlighted India's sustainability ethos and zero-waste strategies, making it a perfect blend of tradition and modernity.



Indie Haat

Additionally, the event featured the "Indie Haat", organized at the National Crafts Museum and Hastkala Academy, which ran from February 12 to 18, 2025. Over 80 types of handcrafted and handwoven products from 85 artisans and weavers were showcased, celebrating India's diverse handloom and handicraft traditions. Indie Haat also aligned with the government's vision of promoting rural artisans and their unique crafts, further cementing Bharat Tex's role as a catalyst for rural empowerment.

Knowledge Sessions

Furthermore, over 60 knowledge sessions were held during the event, providing visitors with valuable insights into textile trends, innovations, and the global textile ecosystem. These sessions featured experts from across the industry, offering enriching and technically-driven discussions that proved beneficial to both exhibitors and visitors.

Visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister to Bharat Tex 2025

A defining highlight of the event was the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on February 16, 2025. During his address, the Prime Minister commended the event for becoming a “mega global textile event,” emphasizing its importance in showcasing India's rich textile heritage and its future prospects. He acknowledged that Bharat Tex 2025 provided a platform for collaboration, engagement, and partnerships among global leaders, policymakers, and industry stakeholders.



In his speech, Prime Minister stressed the importance of skill development within the textile industry, noting that skilled labor is crucial for the sector's success. He highlighted government initiatives like the Samarth scheme and National Centres of Excellence for Skilling aimed at equipping the workforce with the necessary skills for growth.

The Prime Minister also acknowledged the critical role of handloom craftsmanship, stressing the need to preserve its authenticity amid the digital age. Hon'ble Prime Minister also underscored efforts to enhance opportunities for handloom artisans to reach global markets, mentioning the creation of the India-Handmade e-commerce platform to facilitate online marketing of handloom products. Additionally, he emphasized the significant benefits of GI tagging for handloom products, which ensures product authenticity and adds value in global markets.

Prime Minister further set an ambitious export target for the textile sector, aiming to triple the current textile exports to 9 lakh crore by 2030, positioning India as a global leader in the textile trade.

Feedback

Exhibitors

Exhibitors were highly satisfied with the show's concept and overall execution. During the four-day event, member exhibitors reported approximately 3,700 meetings with potential buyers, resulting in an impressive **Rs.10 crore** in on-the-spot orders and an expected **Rs.50 crore** in future business. The event not only provided valuable exposure but also paved the way for meaningful international business relationships, setting a positive tone for the future of India's textile exports.

International Buyer

International buyers who were invited to the event expressed satisfaction on the professionalism and quality of the event. Many buyers stated that they were impressed by the diverse range of products and the opportunity to interact directly with suppliers. They also conveyed their eagerness to attend future editions of Bharat Tex, noting the value of such a global platform for fostering business partnerships and exploring new opportunities.



International Event Report

SPRINGFAIR

2-5, Feb 2025, UK

Event Overview

Name of the fair	: Spring Fair 2025
Organizer	: Hyve Group Ltd, London
Venue	: NEC Birmingham, UK
Duration	: 2nd – 5th February 2025
HEPC Exhibitors	: 20 + 1 Council Booth
Total Exhibitors	: 1,500
Total Visitors	: 38000
Countries Represented	: 15
Product Categories:	: Home Textiles, Gifts, Apparel, Accessories, Houseware, Greetings, Pure jewellery & watches; Clothing & Footwear; Kids Toys & Play stations
Spot Orders Secured	: ₹6.75 crore
Business Enquiries Generated	: ₹8.09 crore
Overall Business Generated	: ₹14.85 crore
High-demand Products	: Home Textiles, Bags, Handloom-Based Decor
Diverse Buyer Interest	: USA, UK, Italy, France, etc.

About the event

Spring Fair (Source Home & Gift) is the only international sourcing platform of its kind in the UK, bringing together top manufacturers from key sourcing regions worldwide with leading retailers, brands, contractors, and interior designers. Spring Fair is the ultimate marketplace for wholesale Home, Gift, Fashion, and Sourcing. It is where bestsellers are discovered, strong business relationships are built, and industry trends take shape. The event was held at the NEC Birmingham, the event is strategically designed around three key buying destinations: Home, Gift, and Moda Fashion.

As the retail industry continues to evolve, Spring Fair remains at the forefront, driving growth by creating an unmatched retail experience that connects buyers, brands, and industry experts. The event is redefining the traditional trade show model by incorporating interactive and immersive elements, making it more than just a sourcing platform. Through trend-led content, experiential showcases, and engaging activations, Spring Fair provides invaluable learning and networking opportunities.

The 2025 edition introduces several new enhancements aimed at elevating the retail experience, including: Business Pavilions, The Licensing Lab Stage, Buyers' Lounge, and Gift of the Year Showcase & Pavilion. Spring Fair 2025's iconic 75th anniversary event was an unmissable event buzzing with energy, innovation, and meaningful connections. Over the four-day event, more than 38,000 retail buyers and industry professionals attended, exploring the latest trends, met suppliers, and played a role in shaping the future of retail.

The 2025 show has experienced: 14% increase in exhibitors at Spring Fair – 180 more exhibitors this year than last year 18% more. New exhibitors at Spring Fair – that's 400 NEW exhibitors. Reports indicate buyers in attendance had higher spend thresholds and bigger budgets

The show welcomed thousands of retailers including Marks & Spencer, John Lewis, The Very Group, Fenwick, Robert Dyas, Next, Moonpig, Matalan, B&Q, Tesco, Wayfair, ALDI, The Designer Rooms, TJ Hughes, QVC, The Walt Disney Company, TJX, Barkers, V&A Enterprises, Mackenzie's, Hoopers, Currys, Blue Diamond, Ryman, TK Maxx, Cardzone, Budgens, Waterstones, Peacocks, Pets at Home, Mackays, Elphicks, Voisins, Hush, The National Trust, Warner Bros, Freemans, Barnardo's, Paper Tiger, Dobbies Garden Centres, British Garden Centres, Blenheim Palace, Blue Cross, Anne Furbank, Jarrold Department Store, British Museum, N Brown, F Hinds, Specsavers, nkuku, London Transport Museum, The Perfume Shop, Science Museum, Hamleys, National Portrait Gallery, The Crown Estate, Westfield, Ulster Stores representing the breadth and diversity of the show's appeal.

“Spring Fair 2025 proved to be a hub of innovation and opportunity. Exhibitors and buyers alike experienced a show designed to foster business growth, creativity, and collaboration”

Export of Handloom products to the UK showed a mixed trend in recent years. However, during 2023- 24, there was a decline due to the global economic slowdown, impacting overall demand. The UK remains a key market for Indian handloom products, but inflationary pressures, reduced consumer spending, and economic uncertainties have affected exports.

HEPC's Participation in the Event

As part of various export promotion activities, the participation in Spring fair held at Birmingham, UK during 2-5 February 2025 was organised by the Handloom Export Promotion Council. The event was organized under National Handloom Development Programme of O/o. Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India. HEPC participated in Spring Fair with allotted total space of 120 sq. mtrs. (19 member participants + Council's booth). The participants displayed Bedsheet Towel, Outdoor Rugs, Home Textiles, Cushion, Throws, Bags, Table Runner, Handmade Paper Items, Garments, Bamboo Fabric Products, Cotton carry Bags, Shawls / Scarves.

Shri Dr. M. Venkatachalam, IFS, Consul General of India, Birmingham inaugurated the HEPC pavilion at Spring Fair, Birmingham, UK. Dr. M.Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC honoured Shri Dr. M. Venkatachalam, IFS, Consul General of India during their visit to HEPC central promotional stall and Shri Dr. M. Venkatachalam, IFS, Consul General of India released the exhibitor's catalogue brought out by the Council. Council had put up a central promotion booth, wherein promotional materials like Handloom Sourcing directory, Brochure of Bharat Tex 2025, fair catalogue, and posters featuring India Handloom Brand and Council's objectives were displayed. Also distributed Council's brochures and flyers of Bharat Tex to the international buyers. Shri Dr. M. Venkatachalam, IFS, Consul General of India visited stands of HEPC's member exhibitors and interacted with their representatives. He appreciated the efforts taken by HEPC by putting up a pavilion from India at the Spring Fair, and the wide-range of products showcased by them, and conveyed his best and wished them good business at the fair.



Meetings

Shri Dr. M. Venkatachalam, IFS, Consul General of India in Birmingham, hosted a dinner meeting at his residence on 4th February 2025 for HEPC officials and Indian participants attending the Spring Fair. Dr. M. Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC, along with member participants, attended the gathering. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the UK's textile import trends, market potential, and avenues for enhancing Indian textile exports to the region.

Dr.M.Sundar,Joint Director, HEPC had a meeting with the fair authorities of Spring Fair, Birmingham, UK and discussed about the HEPCs participation in the future event. It was also discussed about the allocation of prominent location for HEPC member exporters.



Visitors' attendance

The footfall of the buyers was slow on the first day and next three days registering average visitor footfall. It was also observed that few Member Exporters had considerable Buyer visits to their stands. However, most of the participants are happy with the overall outcome of the event.

HEPC had put up a central promotional stall publicising India Handloom brand, Bharat Tex 2025 through wall posters, flyers, and also distributed exhibitor catalogue exclusively brought out by the Council. Many of the participants informed that the arrangements made by HEPC was good and able to find few new buyers with the support of the Council Official presented during the entire fair days including the preparing days. As per the feedback from the exhibitors, they had a total of 451 trade visitors and spot order worth Rs.6.75 crore and business enquiries worth Rs.8.09 crore was generated, with overall business turnover of Rs.14.85 crore.

As per Members Exporters feedback, participation in the current edition of Spring Fair has enabled them to enter into new markets viz. USA, UK, Italy, France ,etc. Most participants expressed their desire to participate again through the Council in the next edition of Spring Fair. The event participation was coordinated by Dr. M. Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC



ambiente

7-11, Feb 2025, Frankfurt, Germany

Overview

Name of the fair	Ambiente
Organizer	: Messe Frankfurt Exhibition GmbH
Venue	Messe Frankfurt Exhibition GmbH, Ludwig-Erhard-Anlage 1, 60327, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Duration	: 5 days (7-11 February 2025)
No. of exhibitors through HEPC	: 20+ council's central promotional stall
Total Exhibitors	: 4660
Total exhibiting nations and top 3 Exhibiting countries	: 170 countries and India, China, Germany are top
Total Visitors	: 148000
Indian Exhibitors	: Around 650
Top countries, who have visited the fair	: USA, UK, Italy, Turkey, Brazil, France, Germany, Israel, Portugal, Norway, Spain, Poland, UAE, etc.
Products of interest shown by buyers	: Carpets, Floor coverings, Table linen, Cushion covers, Table linen, Kitchen linen, Throw, Placemats, Handbags, Bed linen, Bath linen, Wall hangings
No. of visitors	: 474
Spot orders	: INR 7,08,29,410/-
Enquiries generated	: INR 14,71,68,920/-

Preface

Ambiente is one of the leading and most sought-after international consumer goods trade fairs, Ambiente tracks every change on the market. The Dining, Living, Giving and Working areas meet the needs of retailers as well as commercial end users. Ambiente offers a unique breadth of supplies, equipment, concepts, and solutions. The fair showcases a great diversity of products for different living spaces and style directions. Ambiente opens many possibilities by defining and homing in on tomorrow's major themes: Sustainability, Lifestyle and Design, New Work, Future Retail and Digital Extension of Trade.

Through its extensive experience, the private firm will support upcoming startups by providing access to marketinsights. The firm will facilitate them to create a holistic understanding of the workings of foreign markets, alongwith guidance on operational knowledge throughout the startup lifecycle.

Ambiente – With the introduction of the premium brand area Interior Looks, Ambiente successfully attracted interior designers, architects, and contract furnishers from around the world, strengthening its connection to the furniture industry.

"Frankfurt is the perfect hub for furniture trends because innovations across all consumer goods sectors come together there. Another new feature was the expanded offering for the hospitality industry, grouped under the special interest with the same heading. By focusing on the hospitality industry, Ambiente is tapping into a global market with strong demand. Ambiente has established a successful concept that continued to gain traction this year: More decision-makers from hospitality and contract business sectors recognised Ambiente as a key networking and ordering event."

About German Economy & Exports of Handloom Products to Germany

The economy of Germany is a highly developed social market economy. It has the largest national economy in Europe, the third-largest by nominal GDP in the world, and the sixth-largest by PPP-adjusted GDP. Hometextile and made-ups constitute around 90% of the total handwoven products being exported from India. Germany is one of the main trade partners of Indian handwoven products in EU region and it is positioned at 8th place in the list of top export destinations. The total handloom export to Germany was USD 4.32 mn. during 2023-24 with 3.12% share of total exports of handloom products from India. The major items of export to Germany are Carpet and Floor coverings including mats & mattings, other furnishing articles, fabrics, cushion covers.

HEPC's Participation in Ambiente Fair

In this edition, Council hired a total space of 241.5 Sq.mtr. directly from the fair organisers M/s. Messe Frankfurt Exhibition GmbH, Ludwig-Erhard-Anlage 1, 60327 Frankfurt am Main, Germany for participation of 20 Member Exporters in Hall 10.1, 10.2 & 10.4 and a central promotion stall in Hall No.10.2 was set-up to disburse promotional materials for Bharat Tex 2025. Event was organized under National Handloom Development Programme of Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. Council's participants were allotted in the Hall 10.1, 10.2 and 10.4. Other than HEPC's member participants, few Indian exhibitors also participated directly, and exhibited in the same hall and also in other halls.

Visit of Consul General, Consulate General of India, Frankfurt

Shri Nipun Pande, Additional Development Commissioner for Handlooms Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, welcomed Shri B. S. Mubarak, Consul General, Consulate General of India, Frankfurt, Germany on behalf of HEPC along with EPCH officials. Shri B. S. Mubarak, Consul General, Consulate General of India, Frankfurt, Germany along with Shri Nipun Pande, Additional Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India inaugurated HEPC's Handloom Pavilion by cutting the ribbon, and also released HEPC's exhibitors' catalogue of Ambiente 2025 participants, in the presence of Shri Bhupinder Singh, Vice Consul, CGI, Frankfurt and officials from EPCH. Consul General visited stands of HEPC's member exhibitors and interacted with their representatives and conveyed his best wishes for a successful participation in the event. He appreciated the efforts taken by HEPC by putting up the handloom pavilion from India, and for the wide-range of products showcased at the event. Visit of Consul General, Consulate General of India, Frankfurt - Inauguration of Indian Pavilion, Release of Exhibitor brochure & Interaction with participants.



Visit of Additional Development Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India

Shri Nipun Pande, Additional Development Commissioner for Handlooms Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India visited Ambiente 2025 to analyze the outcome of the event. He interacted with exporters during his visit.



Visitors' attendance

The footfall of the buyers was found to be good for first 3 days of the event and it was observed that all Member Exporters had considerable Buyer visits to their stands, and were satisfied with the outcome of this event. Exhibitors were happy about the location of HEPC booths, and suggested that a more prominent location will have more visibility of their stalls to visitors, and requested HEPC to explore the possibility of the same.

It was informed that the buyers who visited participants booth were looking for the products with good quality, trendy design, low price and timely delivery. Council had put up a central promotion booth, wherein we placed posters and publicity brochures. Also distributed Council's brochures and flyers of Bharat Tex fair to the visitors. The Bharat Tex promotion video was displayed in LCD. As per their feedback, the participants had about 474 visitors, spot order worth Rs.7.08 crore and business enquiries worth Rs.14.72 crore were generated. Most of them expressed their desire to participate next edition of Ambiente fair through Council. The fair authority has indicated that the next edition will be held from 6-10 February 2026. The event participation was coordinated by Mr.Ratheesh V, Senior Executive, HEPC.



SPECIAL SOURCING SHOW COCHIN '25

03 & 04 March 2025, Cochin

The Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) successfully organized the Special Sourcing Show in Kochi, Kerala, on 3rd and 4th March 2025. This exclusive event aimed to promote the rich and diverse handloom and coir traditions of Kerala, connecting weavers and artisans with national and international buyers. The event was financially supported under the National Handloom Development Programme of the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India.

Inauguration

The exhibition was inaugurated by Shri. Lalit Kumar Goel, Chairman, HEPC, by lighting of lamp, Ribbon cutting & releasing fair catalogue in the presence, Shri. Lakshmi Narasimhan, Vice Chairman HEPC, P. Gopalakrishnan, Past Chairman HEPC, Shri. N Sreedhar, Executive Director HEPC, Other EC-Member of HEPC, Shri. S T Subramanian, Deputy Director, Weavers Service Centre-Kannur and Participants. The dignitaries interacted with exhibitors, appreciating the unique craftsmanship of Kerala handlooms and coir products, discussing opportunities for global expansion.



The event exclusively highlighted the time-honoured handloom traditions of Showcasing Kerala's Rich Handloom Heritage, featuring:

- ☐ Kannur Handloom: High-quality furnishing fabrics, bedspreads, and upholstery materials, catering to both domestic and export markets.
- ☐ Balaramapuram Handloom: Known for its intricate weaving techniques, softness, and durability, these fabrics are widely recognized for their superior craftsmanship.
- ☐ Kasavu Sarees: Kerala's iconic white and gold sarees, woven with fine cotton and traditional zari borders, symbolizing grace and purity.
- ☐ Traditional Mundu and Veshti: The staple attire for men in Kerala, woven with fine cotton and minimalistic golden or coloured borders.
- ☐ Handwoven Cotton Towels (Thorthu): Lightweight, absorbent, and an essential household fabric, known for its durability and comfort.

- ❑ Coir Mats and Rugs: Handcrafted floor mats made from eco-friendly, biodegradable coir fibers, popular in global markets.
- ❑ Coir Baskets & Handicrafts: Artistic and functional coir-based decor items.

Exhibitor Participation

HEPC facilitated the participation of 40 handloom weavers and artisan groups from across Kerala, including cooperative societies and handloom/coir manufacturing companies. The exhibitors showcased a wide array of handwoven Kerala textiles, such as:

- ❑ Home Furnishings like Bedspreads, Cushion Covers, Curtains, and Table Linen
- ❑ Eco-friendly and Naturally Dyed Handloom Textiles
- ❑ Sarees, Set Mundu, and Dress Materials
- ❑ Handwoven Dhotis, kerchiefs, etc
- ❑ Coir Mats, Rugs, Carpets, and Home Decor Products
- ❑ Sustainable Coir-based Utility and Handicraft Items



Trade Visitor Engagement



The event attracted domestic and international trade visitors from Australia, Belgium, Ghana, UK, Japan, Taiwan and Sri Lanka. Out of 24 Overseas Trade Visitors registered for visiting Sourcing Expo, 10 key buyers were invited with a complimentary package. Additionally, One Overseas Trade Visitor from UK also visited without grant. For domestic participation, out of 77 trade visitors from across India registered, 30 leading buyers best match with product profile were invited from the various part of the Country with the complimentary packages. A total of about 90 Trade visitors visited the fair which included foreign buyers, trade visitors & General visitors. The Trade Visitors appreciated the products displayed and expressed their desire to work with Kerala manufacturers.

The most of the Trade visitors informed feedback that they were able to find new products which are exclusive to this region. On 5th march 2025 a field visit was organised for the visitors to a nearest coir manufacturing Unit.

Business Outcomes & Feedback

The participants expressed satisfaction on visitor turnout and also business generated in sizeable quantities from Trade Visitors. Exhibitors reported high interest in Kerala's Home textiles, and sustainable coir-based products. International buyers were particularly drawn to handwoven organic cotton textiles and naturally dyed fabrics. Several trade visitors expressed the potential for Kerala handloom and coir products in luxury fashion, home décor for global eco-friendly markets.

As per the feedback of the participants, a spot order/sale of their handloom products worth Rs.21,39,731/- & enquiry worth Rs.3,08,84,000/- were reported. A total business Rs.3.30 crore was generated during the 2 days of event. The participants expressed their interest to participate again in such event in future and also requested to provide opportunity to participate in Domestic Exhibition & Overseas Exhibition.



HOME DECO FAIR

15 to 23 March 2025, Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi

Introduction

The Home Deco Fair 2025, organized by the Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) under the aegis of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, took place from 13 to 23 March 2025 at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi. The Exhibition was organized under the National Handloom Development Program (NHDP) Scheme. The Council organized the event for the first time as a B2C (Business to Consumer) exhibition in the Country aimed at showcasing a diverse collection of high-quality handloom home furnishing products. It offered an exceptional platform for domestic consumers to explore export-quality handloom items and discover the artistry and craftsmanship embedded in India's handloom industry.



Event Overview

The Home Deco Fair featured an array of products such as table linen, kitchen linen, bed linen, decorative cushions, towels, carpets, upholstery fabrics, placemats, table runners, bread baskets, wall hangings, and various other home décor items. The event's primary objective was to educate the domestic market about the beauty and quality of handloom products and provide consumers access to export-class items.

The fair provided an excellent platform for exhibitors to showcase their products to a wide consumer base and build direct connections with potential buyers. The fair was not just a commercial endeavor, but also a celebration of India's rich handloom heritage.



Participation

The Home Deco Fair 2025 saw enthusiastic participation from a variety of regions, with 69 exhibitors showcasing their diverse range of products. These exhibitors were selected after a careful screening process to ensure a high standard of quality. The event witnessed participation from exhibitors across India, including states like Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.

A total of 69 exhibitors participated, despite one participant not being able to attend due to unforeseen circumstances. The exhibition spanned up to second floors of the Handloom Haat. Exhibitors displayed their products in booths measuring 9 sqm or 12 sqm, highlighting the products and craftsmanship from the pan India.

Visit of Development Commissioner for Handlooms

They were particularly pleased with the B2C (Business to Consumer) setup, which facilitated direct interaction between consumers and exhibitors. This exhibition model was a new approach, allowing end consumers to experience, touch, and purchase handwoven home textile products on spot. The direct interaction with manufacturers of the products enabled consumers to connect with the artisans behind them. They lauded the fair as a unique opportunity for buyers to purchase export-quality products directly from them.



Ms. Swayamprava Pani, Additional Development Commissioner, and Shri Nipun Pande, Additional Development Commissioner, Handlooms, visited the Home Deco Fair on 17 March 2025. They were particularly pleased with the B2C (Business to Consumer) setup, which facilitated direct interaction between consumers and exhibitors. This exhibition model was a new approach, allowing end consumers to experience, touch, and purchase handwoven home textile products on the spot. The direct interaction with manufacturers of the products enabled consumers to connect with the artisans behind them. They lauded the fair as a unique opportunity for buyers to purchase export-quality products directly from them.



An official from the Weavers' Service Centre, Delhi visited the Home Deco Fair and conducted an inspection of the exhibition and provided a detailed feedback report on the quality of the products displayed. During his visit, the officer assessed the product displays, the organization of the exhibition, and the overall effectiveness of the fair in showcasing handloom products.

Promotion and Marketing

HEPC executed an effective promotional strategy for the event, ensuring wide visibility and engagement through various channels:

1. **Radio Advertisements:** A targeted radio campaign was launched through 92.7 before the event, reaching a wide audience.
2. **Print Media:** Periodic advertisements were placed in both English and Hindi daily newspapers, ensuring a wide reach in the national and regional markets.
3. **Social Media Campaign:** The event was actively promoted through Instagram and Facebook advertisements, leveraging digital platforms to reach a broad and engaged audience.
4. **Banners and Standees:** Proper placement of banners and standees in prominent locations across Delhi further boosted the event's visibility.
5. **Emails and Invitations:** Prominent home textile showrooms, exporters, and buying agents were invited via email to ensure participation from key industry players.

Other Highlights of the Event

In addition to the product displays, the HEPC organized cultural activities that added a unique touch to the event. A Rajasthani folk dance troupe performed at the fair, captivating the crowd with their vibrant and lively performances. The traditional dance, with its colorful costumes and energetic movements, attracted a lot of attention from both exhibitors and visitors. The cultural performances created a festive atmosphere. These activities were widely appreciated by the Exhibitors and Visitors.

Live Handloom Demonstrations

HEPC also set up two live handloom demonstrations at the event: one showcasing the process of making table runner and the other demonstrating the creation of durries (rugs). These demonstrations gave visitors a chance to witness the intricate and skilled process of handloom weaving. Attendees were able to see firsthand the artistry and craftsmanship involved in creating these handloom products. The demonstrations provided a great opportunity to connect consumers with the tradition and effort behind each handloom piece.

Event Success

The event was a success, as reflected in several key metrics. There were a total of 69 booths at the fair, attracting 1,793 trade visitors and 7,840 end-user customers. The event generated business inquiries worth of Rs. 47 Lakhs and recorded spot sales of Rs. 63 Lakhs. These figures highlight the potential for future growth in the handloom home furnishings sector and demonstrate the demand for high-quality handloom products in the domestic market.

F E E D B A C K



"I am an exhibitor at the Home Deco Fair, and we specialize in handwoven cushion covers, table runners, and other handloom products. Our participation here has been very successful, as we've received positive responses, including inquiries from retailers, corporate buyers, and even questions about the potential for scaling up for export"

M/s Sheikh Moidun Nilufar, Exhibitor Home Deco Fair 2025"

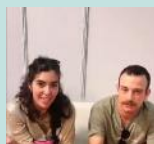
EXHIBITOR



"I am an exhibitor specializing in handloom home furnishing products. While we usually participate in B2B exhibitions through HEPC, this is our first time in a B2C event. We've received a great response, especially considering this is the first edition. The promotion of the event by HEPC was excellent, and we look forward to participating in the next season."

M/s Craftex International, Exhibitor Home Deco Fair 2025

EXHIBITOR



"We are Azad and Yuval from Israel, currently visiting Delhi. Upon seeing this beautiful exhibition, we decided to stop by. We are impressed with the handwoven products on display – they are truly remarkable. The quality of the items is excellent, and we've even purchased a few pieces."

Ms. Azad and Mr. Yuval, Israel, Visitor Home Deco Fair 2025

OVERSEAS BUYER



Seminar

EXPORT AWARENESS & FACILITATION

13 March 2025, Bhubaneswar

Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) has organized a Seminar on 13.03.2025 at Conference Hall, 5th Floor, Annex Building, IDCO Towers, Janpath, Bhubaneswar on “Export Awareness and Facilitation” to create awareness among the Master weavers, Exporters, aspirant exporters & Co-operative Societies about export facilities, and assistance available from various departments of Government of India for benefit of all the concerned in Bhubaneswar and nearby areas. The seminar has been organized with financial assistance under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) of Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles.



The Seminar was Co-chaired by chief guest Smt. Poonam T Guha, IAS Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt. of Odisha, Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts Department and Guest of Honour Shri Bibhuti Bhushana Dash, IOFS, Special Secretary, MSME, Govt. of Odisha, Shri T. Ramalingam, Assistant Director, WSC, Bhubaneswar, Shri Pradip Dash, Junior Investigator, Textile Committee, Bhubaneswar, Shri A.K. Saha, Branch head, National Handloom Development Corporation,

Prof. Dr. Binaya Bhusan Jena, Department of Fashion Management Studies (FMS) and Dr. M.Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC. Dr. M. Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC felicitated the dignitaries and other guests with planters, shawls & mementoes and delivered the welcome speech to the gathering about the objectives of the seminar.



Smt. Poonam T Guha, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to the Government, HT&H Department, delivered the keynote address at Seminar on Export Awareness and Facilitation. The event, designed for exporters and aspiring exporters from Odisha, highlighted the challenges faced by the handloom sector and explored the vast opportunities available in the global market.

Shri Bibhuti Bhushan Dash, IOFS, Special Secretary, MSME, Government of Odisha, encouraged all participants to utilize this opportunity to enhance their understanding of export awareness and leverage it for expanding their global market reach.



The technical session started with presentation by Dr. M. Sundar, Joint Director, HEPC has made power point presentation on export benefits. He has also briefed about the Export Trends, Council's activities, Sustainability, Product diversification and Procedure to obtain membership of the Council, and its benefits to members. He also requested the entrepreneurs to come forward to participate in events organized by HEPC to explore the export market and avail the benefits with HEPC registration and explained the importance of taking HEPC membership to the prospective exporters, master weavers and cooperative societies present. Further he has also briefed about the upcoming events of HEPC.

Shri A.K.Saha, Branch head, National Handloom Development Corporation. He highlighted various yarn schemes available for Handloom Cooperative Societies and weavers. He stated the NHDC is always available for entrepreneurs & briefed about the eligibility criteria, yarn passbook, quantity of the raw materials, transport subsidies etc to the gathering.



Shri T.Ramalingam, Assistant Director, WSC, Bhubaneswar gave the presentation on Schemes implemented for MoT for the promotion of handlooms in the state. AD has cover various scheme of WSC such as Design, Weaving & Processing training, Samarth Scheme, Mudra loan scheme, Handloom Excellence awards, Melas, Expos and also Registration of Handloom Mark, Mobile App, India Handloom Brand, Gem portal.

Shri Pradip Dash, Junior Investigator, Textile Committee, Bhubaneswar gave the presentation on IHB and Handloom Mark also other schemes including welfare schemes available for Weavers/Artisan. He also interacted with the gathering on their issues for obtaining the IHB and handloom mark and assured every possible help to the stakeholders for the same.



Prof. Dr. Binaya Bhusan Jena, Department of Fashion Management Studies (FMS), NIFT, Bhubaneswar gave the presentation on Importance of Colour & Trends in the export market also briefed about the trends, colour forecasts, Importance of color in Fashion.

Shri Ashok Behra, Director of Export Promotion, MSME, highlighted various initiatives undertaken by the MSME Ministry to enhance market access. Also, efforts made to facilitate financial assistance, simplify export procedures, and strengthen infrastructure to boost the competitiveness of Indian MSMEs in the global market.

Finally, Officials interacted with attendees and answered all the questions raised by them. The seminar concluded with vote of thanks by Shri Lakshmi Narayan, Assistant Director, HEPC to the dignitaries/guest and attendees for their participation in the seminar. Nearly 85 attendees, comprising of Master weavers, Aspirant exporters, and cluster executives'/Designers and officials from various state government of Odisha attended the seminar. All the participants were satisfied and requested HEPC to organize such events in future.



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DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER FOR HANDLOOMS DR. M. BEENA, I.A.S - VISIT TO ERODE & KARUR

Place: Erode

Date:19.02.2025



Bhavani, Erode, witnessed a significant visit from Dr. M. Beena, IAS, Development Commissioner for Handlooms, on 19th February 2025. The visit aimed to assess the growth of the handloom sector, interact with industry stakeholders, and explore further opportunities for development.

The Development Commissioner for Handlooms commenced her field visit by visiting a Handloom export unit and then industrial and Primary Cooperatives at Chennimalai, Erode District, Tamil Nadu. Further, the Development Commissioner for Handlooms also visited a start up handloom export unit at Bhavani, Tamil Nadu and interacted with them in assessing their capacities and requirements to enhance export.

Place: Karur

Date:20.02.2025



Dr. M. Beena, IAS, Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, embarked on an official visit to Karur on 20th February 2025. The purpose of the visit was to evaluate the progress of the handloom sector, engage with key industry representatives, and identify opportunities for further development.

The Commissioner began the visit by inspecting the Handloom Cluster Dyeing Units with Effluent Treatment Plants (ETP).

Then Dr. M. Beena, IAS, Development Commissioner for Handlooms proceeded to tour the Karur Handloom Weaving Unit, gaining firsthand knowledge of production techniques and challenges faced by artisans.



Followed by a tour of Karur Textile Park, a key hub for textile manufacturing and exports. The field visit provided valuable insights into the latest developments and challenges faced by the handloom sector in the region.

INTERACTIVE MEETING WITH DR. BEENA I.A.S. DCHL

Place: Karur

Date:20.02.2025



The session began with a warm welcome address by Mr. V. Ramesh @ Lakshmi Narasimhan, Vice Chairman, Handloom Export Promotion Council, who also felicitated the esteemed dignitaries.

The meeting featured special addresses by industry leaders. Mr. P. Gopalakrishnan, President of The Karur Textile Manufacturer Exporters Association, delivered an insightful speech on the current state and future prospects of the Karur textile industry. This was followed by Mr. M. Nachimuthu, Chairman of Karur Textile Park Ltd. and Honorary President of The Karur Textile Manufacturer Exporters Association, who shared valuable perspectives on the role of Karur Textile Park in driving the industry forward. A key highlight of the event was the interactive session, where exporters had the opportunity to engage with the Development Commissioner, discuss industry challenges, and propose solutions for sectoral growth.

Dr. M. Beena, IAS, delivered the keynote address, emphasizing the government's commitment to strengthening the handloom industry and addressing the concerns raised by stakeholders. She also highlighted ongoing initiatives and potential policies to support handloom exporters and manufacturers.

The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. N. Sreedhar, Executive Director of the Handloom Export Promotion Council, who expressed gratitude to all participants for their active engagement and commitment to the growth of the handloom industry. The visit and the interactive meeting marked a significant step towards fostering collaboration between government bodies and industry stakeholders, ensuring sustained growth and innovation in Karur's textile sector.



Entering the European market for sustainable materials

“Continued from Previous Edition (to view [click here](#))”

Preferred man-made regenerated cellulose fibres

Man-made cellulose fibres are primarily made from wood pulp or other sources of cellulose, such as bamboo. The chemical process for creating fibres like rayon, modal and viscose can be very toxic, even though it is more sustainable than for petroleum-based fibres such as polyester. Preferred man-made cellulose fibres are ones that are derived from sustainably managed forests and/or have a production process that is efficient and not chemically intensive. Austrian company Lenzing is the industry leader in preferred man-made cellulose fibres.

- Lyocell is a man-made cellulose fibre derived from wood pulp, most commonly from eucalyptus trees. Unlike modal or rayon, it is obtained by using an organic solvent spinning process in a closed-loop system that recovers 99% of the required solvent. Lyocell is already widely used across the fashion industry. Lyocell brand TENCEL™ (by Lenzing) uses sustainably sourced wood certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).
- ECOVERO™ is a viscose fibre produced by Lenzing that uses eco-responsible production practices that have lower water impact and carbon dioxide emissions than conventional viscose. ECOVERO™ fibres are certified with the EU Ecolabel.
- SeaCell™ (by SmartFiber AG) is a fibre made from renewable resources – wood and seaweed – using energy and resource-saving methods.

Bio-based fibres and materials

An increasing number of bio-based substitutes for leather, fossil fuel-based synthetics and other less sustainable fabrics are entering the market. Many are marketed as ‘vegan’ and use by-products from other industries, including the agricultural and food industries. Several are bio-degradable, but some use synthetic binding materials or coatings. Note that the biggest portion of the current ‘vegan leather’ market is made up of bonded materials made entirely from oil-based synthetics like polyurethane (PU) or polyvinylchloride (PVC).

Always investigate the material composition of new innovative materials. Many patented bio-based materials are only known by their brand names, including the following:

- Piñatex® (by Ananas Anam) is a natural textile made from the leaves of the pineapple plant, which are usually discarded or burned. In addition to being circular, it creates new income streams for subsistence farmers.
- Orange Fiber is a silky fibre made from citrus juice by-products. It was first included in the H&M Conscious exclusive collection in 2019. Recently, Orange Fiber started a collaboration with Lenzing to produce a TENCEL™ branded lyocell fibre made from orange pulp and wood sources.
- Woocoa is an animal-free wool made using excess coconut fibre from the food industry and hemp fibres.
- Brewed Protein™ (by Spiber Inc.) fibres are made from structural proteins produced by microbial fermentation in a process that uses plant-based materials, such as sugars.
- QMILK is a milk protein fibre made from non-food milk and renewable raw materials. It is silky, soft and has anti-bacterial properties.
- S.Café® is a bio-based textile fibre made from leftover coffee grounds.
- FLOCUS™ is the brand name for kapok textile fibres and materials. Kapok fibre is picked directly from the kapok tree, which needs no irrigation, pesticides or fertilisers, can grow on difficult terrain including mountains and absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. FLOCUS™ materials also offer other properties, including moisture management, temperature regulation and insect repellence.
- Mycotex by Neffa is a mycelium-based material that allows for seamless, custom-made 3D-manufacturing items for the textile and apparel industry.

Recycled fibres and recycling technologies

Brands and retailers in Europe are increasingly demanding recycled content in their products, in line with new EU regulations that aim to promote a 'circular economy'. Fibres can be recycled from pre-consumer waste (e.g. fabric scraps from the cutting room) and post-consumer waste (garments used and discarded by consumers). Fibres can also be produced by recycling other materials (e.g. plastic bottles) to make new fabrics.

- Cotton fabric can be mechanically recycled into cotton fibres for use in new textile products in a process that saves water and energy and diverts waste from landfills. The quality of recycled cotton fibres may be inferior due to shorter fibre lengths. This is why they are usually blended with virgin cotton. Branded recycled cotton fibres include Recover™.
- ECONYL® is the industry's leading branded product that uses nylon waste from old carpets, fishing nets and pre-consumer waste to create regenerated nylon that has the same properties, performance and quality as new nylon. A large number of lingerie and hosiery brands have adopted it, as have high-performance swimwear, sportswear and outdoor apparel brands.
- REPREVE® (by Unifi, Inc.) is the world's leading recycled fibre. It is a durable performance polyester fibre with wicking, thermoregulation and water repellent properties made from recycled post-industrial plastic waste. It is used extensively in the sports and activewear segments, but it has also been widely adopted in the fashion segment.
- The production of REFIBRA™ (by Lenzing) involves upcycling cotton scraps from garment production. These cotton scraps are turned into cotton pulp, which is added to wood pulp. The combined raw material is used to produce virgin TENCEL™ Lyocell fibres.
- Infinited Fiber's patented technology takes cellulose-rich waste that would otherwise be landfilled or burned – old textiles, used cardboard, crop residues like rice or wheat straw, and more – and transforms it into premium-quality fibres for the textile industry.

The following standards are the most common in the European market for recycled base materials:

- The Recycled Claim Standard (RCS) tracks recycled raw materials throughout supply chains using the Content Claim Standard's chain of custody requirements.
- The Global Recycled Standard (GRS) is a product standard that incorporates recycled material verification, social and environmental responsibility criteria, and chemical management.

More sustainable natural fibres and materials

On the one hand, natural fibres can be considered sustainable as they are renewable, biodegradable and often durable. On the other hand, depending on how they are extracted, cultivated and processed, they may be considered unsustainable. For example, the growing of conventional cotton requires large amounts of water, fertilisers, pesticides and chemicals.

- The use of organic cotton is increasingly becoming a requirement, particularly for mid to high-end fashion segments. This is cotton grown without the use of GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms) and synthetic chemicals. The industry certification is GOTS (Global Organic Textile Standard). Read more about organic cotton in the CBI study on sustainable cotton.
- The Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) is a non-profit that promotes better standards in cotton farming and practices across 25 countries. Better Cotton is sourced from licensed BCI farmers who have proven their commitment to continuous improvements in sustainability. Better Cotton currently accounts for 23% of global cotton production.
- Hemp is a strong, natural, sustainable fibre produced from the stems of the cannabis plant. It requires little water and almost no pesticides or fertilisers. For an example of a producer, study Marmara hemp. Grown in France, it is the first hemp manufacturer to receive C2C certification.

- Linen is a strong, natural, sustainable fibre made from the fibres of the flax plant. Compared to cotton, linen requires less water to produce and can be grown without pesticides and fertilisers. Similar to hemp, linen also absorbs a large amount of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Every part of the plant is useful in manufacturing various products, so there is very little waste.
- Producing wool is resource-intensive. It requires large amounts of land for grazing sheep, water and chemicals. Furthermore, in many instances, animals are not treated humanely. Responsible wool is wool that meets certain animal welfare and land management standards. Recycled wool is another very responsible option. The industry certifications are RWS (Responsible Wool Standard) and GRS (Global Recycled Standard).
- Responsible down is down obtained from animals that have not suffered unnecessary harm (e.g. forcefeeding or live plucking). The industry certification is RDS (Responsible Down Standard)
- By melting colour pigments and the recycled polyester mass together, solid-coloured yarns are created without the use of water. The method reduces the amount of water used throughout the textile production chain by 75%. We aRe SpinDye® only uses recycled polyester made from post-consumer water bottles or used clothing. This allows the company to have a truly circular production method.
- ColorZen's revolutionary technology applies a patented treatment to raw cotton, making the cotton dyeing process faster, more efficient and less chemical, energy and water-intensive.

Natural colouring

To be naturally coloured, fabrics can be dyed using only natural raw materials. Examples of companies that innovate in this area include IndiDye®, Fibre Bio and Greendyes.

Sustainable textile dyeing techniques and non-synthetic dyes

Wet processing (sizing, de-sizing, pre-treatment, dyeing, printing and finishing of textiles) is the most chemical and water-intensive stage of textile manufacturing. Textile dyeing is also the second-largest polluter of clean water after agriculture. Some sustainable innovations in this area:

- Living Colour is a bio-design research project that explores the possibilities of natural textile dyeing with bacteria that produce pigments. Living Colour and PUMA have joined forces to present the first bacterialdyed sportswear collection.
- DyeCoo uses carbon dioxide to dye textiles in a process that does not require any water. Carbon dioxide dyeing does not need extra chemicals to dissolve dyes. The technology uses 100% pure dyes and, with an uptake of more than 98%, produces very little waste. The carbon dioxide used is reclaimed from existing industrial processes, and 95% of it is recycled in a closed-loop system. The company has been able to scale the technology, and it is now being adopted by a range of mills and brands.
- The We aRe SpinDye® colouring method focuses on the colouration of recycled polyester materials before they are extruded into fibres and spun into yarn.
- Recycrom creates a full range of pigment powders that use textile fibres from used clothing and manufacturing waste. Through a sophisticated production process, fabric textile waste fibres are transformed into a fine powder that can be used as a pigment dye for fabrics and garments made of cotton, wool, nylon or any natural fibre and blend.
- Colorifix is the first company to use an entirely biological process to produce, deposit and fix pigments into textiles, eliminating the use of harsh chemicals.

What are the most important market segments for products made of sustainable materials?

Premium consumers across lifestyle segments are generally willing to pay more for sustainable products. At the same time, many more price-conscious consumers expect brands to improve their materials' sustainability without any impact on price, colour variation, performance or ease of care.

Luxury segment

Paying a higher price for luxury goods does not necessarily mean that they are ethical or eco-friendly. The European luxury segment has made a certain amount of progress in this regard. Stella McCartney is a leader in the sustainable luxury apparel segment, which produces sustainable and cruelty-free designs and introduces innovative new sustainable materials.



Upper-middle and premium lifestyle segments

Premium consumers are generally willing to pay more for products made with sustainable materials. Several emerging brands have created brand identities around environmental and social awareness. Sustainable fashion brands in this segment include Organic Basics, ASKET, Mud Jeans, Ecoalf, Kings of Indigo, People Tree, Armedangels, Pangaia and Everlane.

Budget and lower-middle price/value segment

Large mainstream fashion players in the budget and lower-middle segments use readily available sustainable materials in their collections, such as organic cotton, recycled cotton and recycled polyester, at prices that do not differ significantly from the core collection. Examples include Zara's 'Join Life collection', C&A's 'More Sustainable Collection', Primark's 'Sustainable cotton programme' and the 'Primark Cares' label.

Active, sports and outdoor segments

The promotion of sustainable and healthy lifestyles is an intrinsic part of the brand identity of sportswear, activewear and outdoor wear brands like Helly Hansen, Houdini, Haglöfs and Fjällräven. Petroleum-based synthetic materials and performance finishes are widely used in these segments, and there is a lot of motivation for the development of sustainably-produced high-tech performance fabrics.

Workwear segment

Already heavily regulated in terms of performance and safety standards, the workwear segment is a pioneer in sustainability, in circular apparel in particular. It includes brands such as Blåkläder, Helly Hansen Workwear, Schoeller Textile AG and Schijvens. The biggest challenge is to source materials that are sustainable without compromising durability, protection or functionality. For more information about workwear, read CBI's study on Exporting workwear to Europe.

4. What are the prices for sustainable materials on the European market?

The price of sustainable materials is determined by the cost of inputs, farm practices, production processes, recycling after use, the need for certification and scale. Even though the industry invests heavily in research and development to bring new technologies and sustainable materials to the market, implementation and the scaling of new innovations is still limited.

The market for preferred fibres

According to the Textile Exchange's Materials Market Report 2023, global fibre production grew from 112 million tonnes in 2021 to 116 million tonnes in 2022, and it is expected to grow to 147 million tonnes in 2030. Still, only a small portion is produced 'sustainably'.

Polyester production volumes increased from 61 million tonnes in 2021 to 63 million tonnes in 2022. Polyester still makes up 54% of the total global fibre market (2022). Cotton from the programmes recognised by the 2025 Sustainable Cotton Challenge made up 27% of total cotton production in 2021/22. Wool produced in accordance with the Responsible Wool Standard (RWS), SustainaWOOL (GREEN and GOLD) and Climate Beneficial™ increased from around 3% in 2021 to 4.3% in 2022.

Manmade cellulosic fibres certified by FSC and/or PEFC had a market share of 60–65% in 2022.

Even though the production of recycled fibres has increased in recent years, its total market share is lagging. The number of RCS-certified sites worldwide increased from 8,004 in 2021 to 10,139 in 2022. Comparatively, the number of GRS-certified sites increased from 25,763 in 2021 to 34,178 in 2022. In Europe's five largest markets, including the UK, the number of clothing items available on the market that were made from recycled materials grew by an average of 147% per year between 2018 and 2021.

Still, according to Textile Exchange's Materials Market Report 2023, recycled textiles' market share decreased slightly from around 8.5% in 2021 to 7.9% in 2022. Pre and post-consumer recycled textiles accounted for less than 1% of the total global fibre market in 2022.

Material prices

One of the most-used preferred fibres is organic cotton. The price for certified organic cotton differs per country of origin, but organic cotton is more expensive than conventional cotton in all cases. The price gap also differs per country. For example, organic cotton is approximately 10% more expensive than conventional cotton in India and Turkey. In China it is 15-35% more expensive according to the Textile Exchange (2022). Worldwide, the price of organic cotton is reaching all-time highs due to demand outstripping supply.

The price of recycled PET flakes that are used to make recycled polyester was around €200 per tonne cheaper than virgin PET, until 2019. Since then, demand and price have grown substantially, due to growing interest from brands and retailers in more sustainable materials. Currently rPET is more expensive than virgin PET, and recycled polyester is more expensive than virgin polyester.

The price point for sustainable materials like ECOVERO™ and REFIBRA™ is higher than their conventional virgin counterparts. Innovative and still relatively small-scale materials like Orange Fiber, Brewed Protein™ and Piñatex® can be substantially more expensive than the conventional materials they are considered to be alternatives to. Piñatex®, for instance, is currently sold for €50 per 1.55 m². The same amount of conventional leather can be purchased in several production regions, for prices starting at €15.

Retail pricing

Preferred fibres and materials have broken into the mainstream European apparel market. Demand primarily comes from large European retail chains, such as C&A, H&M and Tchibo, and many smaller brand retailers, some with distinct sustainable profiles. Large retail chains can limit retail price increases by handling large volume orders (for instance, C&A manages to sell organic cotton T-shirts for €6), while smaller brands compensate for their relatively expensive input material with marketing.

Source:



CBI
Ministry of Foreign Affairs



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Pashmsutra

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Can you provide an overview of your Handloom / Textile export business and its journey so far?

We are exporters of Hand made shawls, stoles, scarves and mufflers made with the Finest quality of Ladakhi Pashmina and cashmere.

What inspired you to start your journey in the Handloom/Textile export industry?

A trip to Kashmir where I got the opportunity to interact with the pashmina weavers and artisans at the very ground level, I visited their looms and had the chance to understand their working in detail. It was a great experience and I started this business not just to make profits but also to revive the fading hand craft of my country.

What sets your Handloom/Textile products apart from others in the market?

My products are different because they are made from the finest quality of pashmina obtained from the changthangi goats found in the higher altitude regions of Ladakh and cashmere that is as fine and cozy as pashmina. The designs are aesthetic. Each piece tells a story of its own.



Could you share a significant milestone or achievement that you're particularly proud of?

The least I could do for the weavers and artisans of my country by providing them business is some thing that is so satisfying and fills me with pride.

What were some of the biggest challenges you faced during your journey, and how did you overcome them?

Catering to the design requirements of different countries according to their culture was a challenge. To overcome this we associated with some of the designers who had ample knowledge about different cultures of the world.

How do you maintain the quality of your Handloom/Textile products to meet international standards?

Our each and every piece is handmade, it goes through several levels of quality checks. We also get them certified from reputed labs.

Can you share a success story or memorable experience related to building relationships with clients or entering new markets?

To this I am reminded of an incident, once at an exhibition an international client was very impressed with the designs, colour combination and quality of our products, but he thought our prices were a bit on the higher end compared to other vendors, so he did not give any order. But after around a week he called us back and felt no hesitation in admitting that though our prices were a bit more compared to our Competitors but our quality was much better and authentic. Since then he has become a consistent buyer and our bond became very strong.



How do you ensure sustainability and ethical practices in your Handloom/Textile export business?

Ensuring that the animals are reared properly without causing them any harm is our first and foremost priority. All our products are hand-made thus they cause zero pollution. We pay our weavers and artisans well and try to ensure a good lifestyle for them. We maintain transparency in the entire supply chain.

What advice would you give to aspiring Handloom/Textile exporters or those looking to enter the industry?

Handloom is an ever-growing industry, it gives us an opportunity to keep the fading art of our country alive. Through this business we can provide livelihood to our artisans and carry the art of our country try on international platform.

What are your future plans or goals for your Handloom/Textile export business?

At Pashmsutra, our vision is to become a globally recognized leader in the Pashmina industry, renowned for our commitment to quality, sustainability and ethical practices. We aspire to preserve the rich heritage of pashmina craftsmanship while innovating to meet the evolving needs of our customers and the world.



Circular

Dear Members,

Sub: Using Handloom HS codes in Shipping Bills

This is to inform that the export performance of the handloom products (as per 32 HS codes allotted to the Council) witnessed degrowth over the past five years. The enclosed data provides a comprehensive view of the handloom export statistics for the last decade. This concerning development requires urgent attention and coordinated action from all HEPC member exporters. In view of the above, it is requested to use the 32 HS codes allotted to the Council for the appropriate products in the shipping bills as it is crucial to address the declining trend.

List of 32 Handloom HS Codes

Chapter – 50 - Silk			Chapter – 58 - Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics; lace; tapestries; trimmings; embroidery		
Sl.no	Tariff Item	Description	16	5802 10 60	Terry toweling and similar woven terry fabrics of cotton: Of handloom
1	5007 90 10	Woven fabrics of silk or of silk waste; Of Handloom	Chapter – 62 - Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted		
Chapter – 51 - Wool, finer coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn and woven fabric			17	6214 10 30	Shawls, scarves, mufflers, mantillas, veils and the like; of silk and silk waste: Of handloom
2	5112 90 50	Woven fabrics of combed wool or of combed fine animal hair; Of Handloom	18	6216 00 20	Gloves, mittens, and mitts; Of handloom
Chapter – 52 - Cotton			Chapter – 63 - Other made-up textile articles: sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags		
3	5208 31 21	Sarees, of Handloom	19	6302 21 10	Other bed linen, printed: of cotton: Handloom
4	5208 41 21	Sarees, of Handloom	20	6302 51 10	Other table linen Of cotton Handloom
5	5208 49 21	Real Madras Handkerchiefs, of Handloom	21	6302 60 10	Toilet linen and kitchen linen, of terry toweling or similar terry fabrics, of cotton Handloom
6	5208 59 20	Zari bordered Sarees, handloom	22	6302 91 10	Other: Of cotton : Handloom
7	5209 11 11	Dhoti of handloom	23	6304 19 40	Bed sheets and bed covers, of cotton, Handloom
8	5209 11 12	Saree of handloom	24	6304 92 11	Counterpanes, of Handloom
9	5209 11 13	Casement of handloom	25	6304 92 21	Napkins, of Handloom
10	5209 11 14	Sheeting (Takia,leapord cloth and other than furnishing) of handloom	26	6304 92 31	Pillow cases and pillow slips, of handloom
11	5209 11 19	Other fabrics,Handloom	27	6304 92 41	Table cloth and table covers, of handloom
12	5209 51 11	Lungi, of Handloom	28	6304 92 81	Cushion covers, of handloom
Chapter – 57 - Carpets and other Textile floor coverings			29	6304 92 91	Other furnishing articles, of handloom
13	5702 42 30	Carpets, rugs and mats of handloom	30	6304 99 91	Furnishing articles of silk, Handloom
14	5705 00 24	Cotton durries of handloom (including chindi durries, cotton chenille durries, Rag Rug durries, printed durries, druggets);	31	6304 99 92	Furnishing articles of wool, Handloom
15	5705 00 42	Mats and matting including bath mats, where cotton predominates by weight, of handloom, cotton rugs of handloom	32	6307 10 30	Floor-cloths, dish cloths, dusters and similar cleaning cloths: Of cotton, Handloom

If in case of member exporters producing handloom products but could not use the above listed HS codes may kindly intimate the same to the Council. Any suggestions on improving/scaling up the exports and reason for drop in exports may be suggested to take up appropriately with the ministry. For any further clarification, you may write to jd@hepcindia.com / policy@hepcindia.com or contact the following officials of the Council.

Dr. M. Sundar, Joint Director (+91-9444810066/044-28276043/28278879)

Policy Section - 044-28276043/28278879

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

(N. Sreedhar)
Executive Director

India is the sixth-largest exporter of textiles and apparels: Economic Survey

01 February, 2025

In its assessment of the textile sector, the Economic Survey highlights that India is the sixth largest exporter of textiles and apparel globally, contributing significantly to the Gross Domestic Product of the country, industrial production and exports. The sector is also one of the largest employment generators, with over 45 million people employed directly, including many women and the rural population. As further evidence of the inclusive nature of this sector, nearly 80 % of its capacity is spread across Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) clusters in the country.

The Survey stated that India exported textile items worth USD 34 billion in 2023, with apparel constituting 42% of the export basket, followed by raw materials/semi-finished materials at 34% and finished non apparel goods at 30%. Europe and the US consumed nearly 66% of India's apparel exports, 58% of finished non-apparel goods and 12% of raw materials/semi-finished materials. Other prominent destinations include the UK (8%) and the UAE (7%). The Survey points out that textile exports remained resilient throughout the COVID-19 period (2020 to 2022).

The Survey concludes that Government programs like PM MITRA through creating textile parks with world-class plug-and-play infrastructure would support integrated supply chains, and also attract foreign direct investments into the textile sector. It adds that as MMF products require heavy research and development suited to different use cases, the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) has been approved with an outlay of ₹1,480 crore with research as a key component. During 2024, 168 research projects have been approved under the NTTM mission. It adds that Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies has also been extended up to 31 March 2026 to encourage exports. The Economic Survey concludes that India's textile sector has several tailwinds working in its favour that augur well for the sector.

Budget announces Rs. 5272 crores for the Ministry of Textiles for the FY 2025-26

04 February, 2025

The Union Budget 2025-26 was presented by the Union Finance Minister on February 1, 2025. The Budget announced an outlay of Rs. 5272 crores (Budget Estimates) for the Ministry of Textiles for 2025-26. This is an increase of 19 percent over budget estimates of 2024-25 (Rs. 4417.03 crore).

To address the challenges of stagnant cotton productivity, Union Budget 2025-26 has announced a five year Cotton Mission to increase cotton productivity especially extra-long staple varieties. Science & Technology support will be provided to farmers under this Mission. The Mission is in keeping with the 5F principle and will increase income of the farmers and augment a steady supply of quality cotton. By boosting domestic productivity, this initiative will stabilise raw material availability, reduce import dependence and enhance the global competitiveness of India's textile sector, where 80% of capacity is driven by MSMEs.

To promote domestic production of technical textile products such as agro-textiles, medical textiles and geo textiles at competitive prices, two more types of shuttle-less looms added to the list of fully exempted textile machinery. Duty on Shuttle less loom Rapier Looms (below 650 meters per minute) and Shuttle less loom Air jet Looms (below 1000 meters per minute) for use in textile industry has been made nil from the existing 7.5%. This provision will reduce the cost of high-quality imported looms thus facilitating modernisation and capacity enhancement initiatives in the weaving sector. This will also will boost Make in India in technical textile sector viz. agro textiles, medical textiles, and geo-textiles.

Basic Custom Duty rate on knitted fabrics covered by nine tariff lines increased from “10% or 20%” to “20% or Rs.115 per kg, whichever is higher” This will improve competitiveness of Indian knitted fabric manufacturers and curb cheap imports.

To facilitate exports of handicrafts, time period for export extended from six months to one year, further extendable by another three months, if required Handicraft exports will benefit from this provision extending the list of items and the time period for conversion of duty-free raw material imports meant for export production.

Nine items including wool polish materials, Sea shell, Mother of Pearl (MOP), Cattle horn etc. added to the list of duty-free inputs.

80% of India's textile sector is in MSME. Budget thrust on export, enhanced credit and coverage will uplift textile MSMEs. Other announcements like creation of National Manufacturing Mission, Export Promotion Mission, creating the Bharat Trade Net, Fund of Funds, Measures for Labour-Intensive Sectors to promote employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, revision in classification criteria for MSMEs and others will create conducive environment for the textile sector.

Center has approved 04 Start-Ups in the field of Technical Textiles

04 February, 2025

Secretary, Ministry of Textiles chaired the 10 Empowered Programme Committee (EPC) meeting under the National Technical Textiles Mission at Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.

The committee has approved 04 Start-Ups with a grant of approx. INR 50 Lakhs, each, under the ‘Grant for Research & Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles (GREAT)’ scheme. The approved Start-Up projects are focused on key strategic areas of Medical Textiles, Industrial Textiles and Protective Textiles.

The committee has also approved a grant of approx. INR 6.5 Cr. to 03 Education Institutes to introduce courses in Technical Textiles under the ‘General Guidelines for Enabling of Academic Institutes in Technical Textiles’. IIT Indore and NIT Patna are amongst the list of approved institutes. The new institutes will introduce courses in Geotextiles, Geosynthetics, Protective Textiles, Sports Textiles etc. in their course curriculum.

Further, 12 Skill Development Courses across Medical textiles, Protective Textiles, Mobile Textiles and Agriculture Textiles have also been approved by the committee. The courses were developed by 03 Textile Research Associations (SITRA, NITRA and SASMIRA) and intend to providing training to all focus groups of the technical textiles value chain.

India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement completes 3 years of signing

18 February, 2025

The India-United Arab Emirates (UAE) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) is completing three years of its signing on 18 February 2025. CEPA is a full and deep Agreement which was signed on 18 February 2022, during a virtual summit between the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi and His Excellency the President of the UAE and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed AlNahyan. It entered into force from 01 May 2022.

Since the signing of CEPA, bilateral merchandise trade has nearly doubled from USD 43.3 billion in FY 2020-21 to USD 83.7 billion in 2023-24. During the current FY till January ’25, it reached USD 80.5 billion. CEPA has been successful in realising its potential of diversification of trade basket as non-oil trade touched USD 57.8 billion in FY 2023-24 accounting for more than half of the total trade.

This is attuned to the target of taking bilateral non-oil trade to USD 100 billion level by 2030. In terms of utilization of CEPA preferential duties are concerned, since coming into force, nearly 2,40,000 Certificates of Origin have been issued against which totalexport of USD 19.87 billion have been made to the UAE. In terms of India's exports, non-oil exports reached USD 27.4 billion in FY 2023-24 recording an average growth of 25.6% since entering into force of CEPA. At the sectoral level, besides refined crude oil products and gems & jewellery products, electrical machinery and equipment, light & medium high technology goods like boilers, generators and reactors and organic & in-organic chemicals have been major achievers. Besides, at the product level, smartphones have emerged as a major item of export with shipments valued USD 2.57 billion bound for the UAE during FY 2023-24.

Since signing of the Agreement, both the governments have strived to address challenges faced by each others' exporters through regular high-level meetings and technical discussions between the officials. The Joint Committee, established as an institutional mechanism to take stock of the implementation of CEPA, has already met twice at the level of Joint/Additional Secretary - the last one being in October, 2024. The Trade in Goods Committee has also met several times to address issues related to bilateral trade. In the spirit of mutual cooperation and trust, both sides have taken concrete steps to operationalize various other Sub-Committees as well to deliberate on issues related to trade in services, rules of origin, customs procedure and trade facilitation. The inauguration of Bharat Mart initiative by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in Dubai will act as a One Stop Shop for Indian manufacturers to offer their products to the global markets and will foster our exports.

The India-UAE CEPA has resulted into new era of economic partnership and diplomacy for both the nations by empowering MSMEs, generating employment and creating new business opportunities. India and UAE are committed to enhance their economic partnership to foster robust trade and opportunities and reach new heights leveraging CEPA.



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Trade Notification

Seeking details of manually issued Certificates of Origin in contravention of DGFT guidelines

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued a Trade Notice Seeking details of manually issued Certificates of Origin in contravention of DGFT guidelines and exporters are advised not to accept manually issued certificate of origin after the specified deadlines, as they will be deemed invalid. ([Click here](#))

Mandatory online submission and online payments against Show Cause Notices and other proceedings under provisions of the FTD&R Act

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued a Trade Notice regarding the process of Enforcement-cum Adjudication and other associated actions under the FTD&R Act 1992 as amended has been digitised and its details. ([Click here](#))

Difficulty in closure of Advance Authorisation due to space constraints in the description column of the shipping bills

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued a Trade Notice regarding difficulty in closure of Advance Authorisation due to space constraints in the description column of the shipping bills. ([Click here](#))

Extension of the last date for filing Annual RoDTEP Return (ARR) for Financial Year 2023-24

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued a public notice regarding the last date for filing ARR is extended by three (3) months for RODTEP availed for exports of Financial Year 2023-24 is extended from 30.06. 2025 to 30.09. 2025 ([Click here](#)).

Seeking comments on proposal to make GST E-Invoices received through GSTN to DGFT BO portal mandatory for claiming Deemed Export Benefits under FTP pursuant to the provisions of Para 1.07A and B of FTP 2023

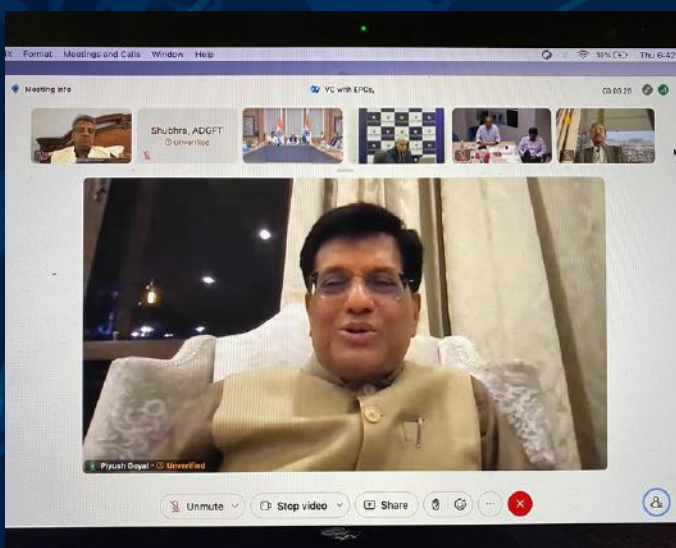
The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issued a Trade Notice seeking comments on proposal to make GST E-Invoices received through GSTN to DGFT BO portal mandatory for claiming Deemed Export Benefits under FTP pursuant to the provisions of Para 1.07A and B of FTP 2023 ([Click here](#))

Home Textiles Market Survey by Indian Mission in Santiago, Chile

The Indian Mission in Santiago, Chile, has conducted the Home Textiles Market Survey 2025 in Chile. This survey provides valuable insights into the Chilean home textiles market, helping Indian exporters gain a comprehensive understanding and develop effective market entry strategies. For your reference, we have enclosed the full survey report. ([Click here](#))



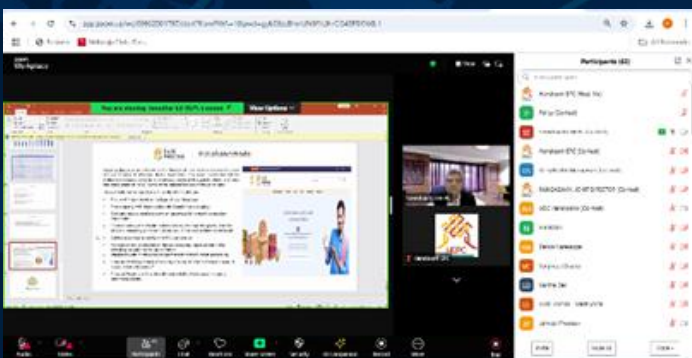
Meetings



Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India had a virtual meeting with the Export Promotion Councils on 13 March, 2025. Shri N. Sreedhar, Executive Director, HEPC attended the meeting virtually.



Shri N. Sreedhar, Executive Director and Dr. M. Sundar, Joint Director had virtual meeting with Ms. Garima Paul, First Secretary (Economic & Commerce), Embassy of India, Tehran to discuss on handloom promotion in Iran on 26th Feb 2025.



HEPC organised stakeholders meeting with Shri Nipun Pande, Additional Development Commissioner (Handlooms) to discuss on challenges faced by the handloom exporters and the possible way forward including e-commerce trade promotion on 27th Feb 2025.



Shri N. Sreedhar, Executive Director and Dr. M. Sundar, Joint Director have visited Virudhunagar Mega Cluster to explore potential opportunities for enhancing exports from 25th to 28th March 2025.

Dear Member,

Stay updated with the latest industry trends, export opportunities, trade fairs, and Council initiatives by following the Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) on social media!



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With regards,

N.Sreedhar
Executive Director

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IndiaHandmade is an initiative of the Ministry of Textiles to showcase the work of rural Artisans & Weavers. The main motive behind this online e-commerce portal is to showcase some of the worlds oldest and most traditional crafts of India. We aim to provide a platform for Handloom Weavers in India and Handicraft Artisans to sell their handloom and handicraft items online in India, paving the way for their financial and social empowerment. This helps in promoting the Artisans & Weavers skills while eliminating the intermediaries.

Objectives of IndiaHandmade include taking tangible steps in order to improve the dwindling of our artisans. To develop an Indian handloom store virtually over the internet where Indian handloom and handicrafts items can be sold & bought. To envisage to provide artisans and weavers with the required impetus by providing them a digital platform, so that they can interact with buyers Directly eliminate middlemen entirely. Make sure the artists get remunerated fairly with no middlemen to manipulate prices. To ensure City Dwelling urban Indians get access to 100% authentic & best handicrafts products emerging straight from the heart of India.

Visit the website here to know more [India Handmade](https://indiahandmade.com)



HANDLOOM EXPORT
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Handloom Export Promotion Council

(Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India)

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