



# AEPC VOICE

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

- Jan, 2026	: USD 1544.8 mn.
- Jan, 2025	: USD 1606.4 mn.
- Growth	: -3.8%
- Apr – Jan 2025-26	: USD 13129.8 mn.
- Apr – Jan 2024-25	: USD 12922.9 mn.
- Growth	: 1.6 %

## (Quantity)

- Dec, 2025	: 365172.6 Thousand Units
- Dec., 2024	: 369212.9 Thousand Units
- Growth	: -1.1 %
- Apr – Dec 2025-26	: 2921697.1 Thousand Units
- Apr - Dec 2024-25	: 2828182.2 Thousand Units
- Growth	: 3.3 %

## AEPC News

### AEPC Urges Extension of RoSCTL Scheme

Dr. A. Sakthivel, Chairman AEPC vide his letter dated March 7, 2026 has written to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry requesting an extension of the export promotion schemes RoSCTL beyond 31 March 2026. The letter highlighted that these schemes reimburse embedded taxes and duties and have played a key role in maintaining the global competitiveness of India's apparel and textile exports. AEPC emphasized that policy stability is critical at a time when global market sentiment is weak and uncertainty persists in major markets such as the United States. The Council has requested the Government to extend the scheme for a minimum period of five years, to enable exporters to plan future orders and pricing with confidence. An early announcement on the continuation of the scheme would help strengthen confidence among international buyers and brands.

### AEPC Urges Retrospective Relief for Apparel Exporters under IGCR Scheme

AEPC, vide its letter dated 09.03.2026 to the Member (Customs), CBIC, has requested relief for apparel exporters importing trimmings and embellishments under the IGCR Rules who are facing practical difficulties in meeting the six-

month export obligation due to longer production cycles and global logistics constraints. While the Union Budget 2026-27 has extended the export period to one year under IGCR, the benefit has not been granted retrospectively. AEPC has therefore requested that the extended one-year export period be allowed for all exporters whose bond closures under IGCR are currently pending.

### AEPC & Trichirappalli Customs Organise Trade Outreach Programme in Tiruppur

On 12 March 2026, AEPC, in association with the Trichirappalli Customs Commissionerate, organised a Trade Outreach Programme for exporters in Tiruppur at the Tiruppur Exporters' Association (TEA) Hall. The programme was presided over by Dr. A. Sakthivel, Chairman, AEPC, with Shri Bharat Prakash, IRS, Commissioner of Customs, Trichy Customs Preventive Zone, as the Chief Guest. Dr. Sakthivel highlighted that Tiruppur's garment sector, largely comprising MSMEs, benefits from proactive customs facilitation and appreciated the Thunaivan Portal for improving grievance redressal and communication between exporters and Customs. Shri Bharat Prakash noted that around 70% of India's knitwear exports originate from Tiruppur and encouraged exporters to make greater use of facilitation schemes such as AEO, MOOWR and SSP for smoother export operations. Senior officials including Shri Vijay Krishna Velavan, IRS, Additional Commissioner of Customs, and Shri Umesh Rathod, IRS, Joint Commissioner of Customs, interacted with exporters and addressed their queries. Around 100 exporters and industry representatives participated in the programme, which strengthened dialogue between Customs authorities and the apparel export community.

### AEPC attends 29th Service Improvement Group Meeting

On March 10, 2026, Mr. Mithileshwar Thakur, Secretary General, AEPC attended the 29th Service Improvement Group (SIG) Meeting held under the chairpersonship of the Additional Secretary, Logistics Division, DPIIT at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi. The meeting deliberated on logistics challenges arising from the ongoing West Asia crisis, including congestion, vessel scheduling disruptions, and

detention/ground rent charges. Stakeholders from government and industry discussed coordination among shipping lines, ports, rail operators, and logistics service providers to address supply chain disruptions. Possible mitigation measures and the way forward to support exporters and logistics operators were also discussed.

### [AEPC organizes a webinar on India-EFTA TEPA](#)

On March 10, 2026, AEPC organised a webinar on the India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), focusing on its benefits to India’s apparel export sector. In his opening remarks, Secretary General Mithileshwar Thakur highlighted India’s underutilization of FTAs and urged exporters to leverage TEPA’s opportunities, noting its \$100 billion investment commitment expected to create one million jobs over 15 years. Dr. Sulakshana Rao (ICRIER) presented an overview of global textile and apparel trends and India’s export performance, highlighting strong competition from China, Bangladesh, and Vietnam. Discussions emphasized strategies to boost exports to EFTA markets through premium cotton garments, cluster-based manufacturing, sustainability, and technical textiles. The agreement’s investment provisions were highlighted as drivers for modernization and integration into European value chains. The webinar was attended by around 90 participants.

### [Launch of Bharat Tex 2026](#)

Mr. Mithileshwar Thakur, Secretary General, AEPC attended the launch ceremony of Bharat Tex 2026, unveiled by Union Minister of Textiles Shri Giriraj Singh in New Delhi. The event, scheduled from 14–17 July 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, will bring together the entire textile value chain on a single global platform. Expected to host over 3,500 exhibitors, 7,000 international buyers from 140 countries, and more than 1,30,000 trade visitors, the event aims to showcase India’s strength in textiles, apparel, technical textiles, and sustainable innovations. Industry leaders, Export Promotion Councils, and government officials participated in the launch, highlighting Bharat Tex as a key initiative to promote India as a reliable and sustainable global sourcing hub.

### [SG-AEPC attends Chhattisgarh Garment Sector Roundtable](#)

On March 12, 2026, Mr. Mithileshwar Thakur, Secretary General, AEPC attended the Chhattisgarh Garment Sector Roundtable held under the chairmanship of Shri Rajat Kumar, IAS, Secretary, Department of Commerce & Industries, Government of Chhattisgarh. The meeting focused on exploring investment potential, policy facilitation,

and growth opportunities in the garment sector in the state. Discussions highlighted the incentives available under the Chhattisgarh Industrial Development Policy 2024–30, which offers significant support for MSME and large textile and garment units. The roundtable served as a platform for industry representatives to engage with the state government on strengthening the textile and apparel ecosystem in Chhattisgarh.

### [Webinar on FX & Financial Solutions for Apparel Exporters](#)

On 12 March 2026, AEPC, in collaboration with SMC Global Securities Ltd., organised a webinar on foreign exchange (FX) and financial solutions for MSMEs in the apparel export sector. The session focused on addressing key challenges faced by exporters amid geopolitical tensions, currency volatility, and liquidity constraints.

In his opening remarks, Shri Mithileshwar Thakur, Secretary General, AEPC, highlighted the impact of recent geopolitical developments, including the US–Iran conflict, on currency fluctuations and stressed the need for exporters to strengthen financial literacy and risk management.

Shri Nikhil, Head, SVP & Business Head, SMC Global Securities Ltd., presented an overview of current market dynamics, highlighting the ongoing volatility in currency markets.

The webinar concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where participants sought clarifications on funding takeovers and operational aspects.

### [AEPC Invites Exporters to Enroll for Council Membership](#)

In a circular dated 12 March 2026, AEPC invited eligible garment exporters to enroll as members of the Council and obtain the Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC). As per the provisions of the Foreign Trade Policy 2023, the RCMC issued by the concerned Export Promotion Council is mandatory for availing benefits under various export promotion schemes of the Government of India. AEPC membership provides exporters access to international trade fairs, buyer–seller meets, market intelligence, policy updates, training programmes, and networking opportunities with global buyers and brands. The Council has encouraged eligible manufacturer and merchant exporters to apply for membership through the Directorate General of Foreign Trade portal.

## Relevant Government Notifications / PIB Releases

- [DGFT Public Notice 51/2025-26 - Extension in the Export Obligation period of specified advance & EPCG Authorisations till 31.08.2026](#)
- [Standard Operating Procedure \(SOP\) for Major Port to mitigate the impact of Geopolitical Disturbance in the Middle East - Issued by Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways](#)
- [Circular 09/2026-Customs dt.8.3.26 - Return of export cargo from international waters due to closure of the Strait of Hormuz – Section 143AA of the Customs Act, 1962](#)
- [DGS Circular 14 of 2026 - Advisory to Shipping Lines/Carriers/Agents regarding transparency in transaction costs and avoidance of predatory, non-transparent and opportunistic pricing in EXIM trade](#)
- [Union Minister of Textiles releases Report on Mapping of Textile Waste Value Chain in India](#)
- [Circular No. 10/2026-Customs - Levy of fee for amendment or cancellation of export documents in cases of withdrawal of export consignments due to force majeure circumstances - Section 143AA of the Customs Act, 1962](#)
- [Union Minister of Textiles launches Bharat Tex 2026](#)
- [NITI Aayog launches second annual edition of “Fiscal Health Index”](#)

## Top National News

- [Karnataka Budget: PM-MITRA textile park in Kalaburagi gets ₹75-crore allocation](#)
- [Government Grants Export Scheme Relaxations Amid West Asia Shipping Disruptions](#)
- [MSMEs & FTAs: Quality Focus for Global Access](#)
- [Tariffs can't stop Tiruppur: India's knitwear capital keeps US buyers hooked with nonstop negotiations](#)
- [Trade facilitation centre to be opened in Trichy to assist exporters](#)

## Top Global News

- [WTO, EIB sign agreement to boost trade, investment](#)
- [US Ambassador visits BGMEA, discusses trade, investment](#)
- [Chinese firm to invest \\$15.34 million in garment factory at BEPZA](#)
- [Bangladesh's Garment Export Lead Faces Pressure as Vietnam Gains Ground](#)
- [Nextil and Varsity form an alliance to advance sustainable textile manufacturing in Central America](#)
- [Reindustrialising Fashion: Can Africa Become the Next Textile Powerhouse?](#)
- [Cambodia's GFT exports rise over 6% in first two months](#)

- [Philippines plans to conclude FTA talks with EU, Chile, Canada in 2026](#)
- [BGMEA Calls for Stronger Global Partnerships to Address Industry Challenges](#)

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

## Currency Trend

<b>INR versus USD FY 2025-26</b>	
<b>Months</b>	<b>INR</b>
April	85.60
May	85.20
June	85.93
July	86.07
August	87.52
September	88.27
October	88.37
November	88.88
December	90.00
January	90.73
February	90.77
13 <sup>th</sup> March	92.37

Source: x-rates.com

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

<b>Quick Estimates FY 2025-26</b>		
<b>Months</b>	<b>Textiles</b>	<b>Apparel</b>
April	105.7	114.2
May	103.8	126.5
June	107.8	127.5
July	107.3	112.7
August	107.7	107.2
Sept.	110.7	100.6
Oct.	106.6	89.6
Nov.	110.0	105.3
Dec.	111.4	109.5

Source: CSO

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