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India's US\$ 100 Billion Textile Roadmap: The Blueprint For Global Leadership

At Bharat Tex 2026, Union Minister of Textiles Shri Giriraj Singh unveiled the 'India Textiles & Apparel CXO Blueprint 2030', a strategic roadmap prepared by the Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) and the Global Alliance for Textile Sustainability (GATS). The report lays out a clear ambition: helping India transform its textile and apparel sector into a future-ready global powerhouse and achieve USD 100 billion in textile and apparel exports by 2030.

Released at the Sustainability & Circularity Impact Pavilion, the Blueprint comes at a crucial time as global buyers increasingly demand transparency, traceability and responsible manufacturing.

Highlighting the importance of the report, Shri Giriraj Singh said its release during Bharat Tex, in the presence of global buyers, was timely. He noted that the findings would provide valuable direction to the textile ecosystem and help stakeholders unlock new growth opportunities while strengthening India's global competitiveness.

The reports summarises that India's next textile leap will not come from scale alone. It will come from building capabilities.

India is currently the world's sixth-largest textile and apparel exporter, contributing around 4.1% of global trade and supporting nearly 45 million jobs. However, exports have remained around US\$ 40 billion for nearly six years, even as global textile trade has expanded.

The Blueprint argues that India must move from being cost competitive to becoming capability competitive.

With the domestic textile and apparel market expected to reach USD 250 billion and exports targeted at US\$ 100 billion by 2030, the industry needs to accelerate innovation, diversify products and strengthen operational excellence across the value chain.

Santosh Katariya, President,



Union Textiles Minister Shri GIRIRAJ SINGH unveils CMAI study on 'Indian Textiles & Apparel CXO Blueprint 2030'

India's Export Competitiveness

- Exports have remained around US\$ 40 billion for the past six years, growing only 0.8% annually, compared with 3.5% global trade growth.
- India holds only around 3% of global apparel exports, compared with Bangladesh – 9.5% and Vietnam – 7.3%

Strengths and opportunities

- India has 83.2% domestic value addition in textile and clothing exports—among the deepest integrated value chains globally.
- India holds:
 - 12.3% share of global cotton exports
 - 10.5% share of global carpet exports

- More than 52% of India's textile exports come from just 134 product categories where India has over 10% global export share, indicating a need for diversification into higher-growth segments.

CMAI, said India has already earned global recognition as a manufacturing destination, but the next phase of growth will depend on creating greater value for customers and global brands.

"The next chapter of our growth will

depend on how successfully we build capabilities that create greater value," he said, adding that the Blueprint aims to help enterprises strengthen competitiveness through innovation, collaboration, sustainability and execution.

The report identifies five strategic pillars that will shape India's textile future:

Circularity, end-to-end traceability, resource-efficient manufacturing, product diversification, and

Continued on pg 2

WORDS THAT MATTER



“The textile industry possesses substantial potential for job creation. Furthermore, this sector accounts for a significant portion of international exports.”
- **SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH**, Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Government of India



“Serving as a cornerstone of our economy, the textile sector possesses the capacity to elevate the livelihoods of millions as it continues to expand.”
- **SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA**, MoS, Textiles, Government of India



“The objective of Bharat Tex 2026 is to highlight the competitive strength of India's complete textile value chain, positioning the nation at the vanguard of the global textile sector.”
- **SMT. NEELAM SHAMI RAO**, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, GOI



“India's textile sector maintains a prominent standing within the worldwide marketplace. Bharat Tex acts as a vital catalyst in restoring the industry's historical prestige by functioning as a centre for innovation, contemporary product creation, research, and cutting-edge manufacturing methodologies.”
- **SHRI NAREN GOENKA**, Chairman, Organising Committee, Bharat Tex



“Poised to become the largest global exhibition for textiles and apparel, Bharat Tex 2026 unites industry pioneers, innovators, and policymakers to highlight India's leadership in sustainability, creativity, and international manufacturing excellence.”
- **BHADRESH DODHIA**, Co-Chairman, Organising Committee, Bharat Tex



“Bharat Tex serves as a dedicated stage for craftsmen, weavers, manufacturers, fashion designers, and brands to exhibit their entire value chain across two global-standard venues.”
- **SHRI RAKESH KUMAR**, Chairman, India Expo Mart Limited (IEM), Greater Noida



“As one of the premiere global exhibitions for textiles and garments, Bharat Tex 2026 unites all 11 trade promotion councils in a single venue, representing both home-grown and international markets.”
- **SHRI SUDHIR SEKHRI**, Member, Core Committee, Bharat Tex



“Bharat Tex 2026 serves as the intersection where India's artisanal heritage meets international demand, a venue where heritage inspires contemporary innovation, and a stage where the global community recognizes India as the epicenter of textile distinction.”
- **SHRI VIJAY AGGARWAL**, Chairman, TEXPROCIL

India's US\$ 100 Billion Textile Roadmap: The Blueprint For Global Leadership

From Pg 1

technology adoption through AI, automation and digital systems.

Among these, circularity presents a significant opportunity. According to the Blueprint, an optimised circular textile ecosystem could unlock nearly USD 9.4 billion in value by recovering textile waste and creating new economic opportunities.

Sustainability is also becoming a business necessity, especially as nearly 50% of India's textile and apparel exports are shipped to the US and European Union, where stricter environmental regulations are reshaping global sourcing decisions.

The report highlights that India's growing network of trade agreements with markets such as the EU, UK, UAE, Oman, Australia and New Zealand can provide a major boost—but only if companies are prepared with the right products, compliance systems, documentation and traceability mechanisms.

Naveen Sainani, Chairman – ESG Committee and Hon. General Secretary, CMAI, said sustainability is no longer just an aspiration but a key driver of competitiveness.

“The Blueprint reflects the industry's transition from discussion to implementation,” he said, adding that the focus is on helping enterprises, particularly MSMEs, combine sustainability, technology and operational excellence to create long-term value.

Parvinder Singh, Director, GATS, emphasised that India's strength lies in its vast textile ecosystem, but the next opportunity will come from connecting these capabilities through collaboration, knowledge sharing and implementation.

The Blueprint is designed not just for large manufacturers but also for MSMEs, brands, policymakers and ecosystem partners. Its objective is to create a more integrated textile ecosystem where sustainability and competitiveness move together.

With global sourcing undergoing a major transformation, Bharat Tex 2026 provided the perfect stage for this roadmap. The message from the Blueprint is simple: India has the scale, skills and ambition. The next challenge is converting that strength into global leadership.





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Team Himson

Next-Gen Texturing Starts Here: How Himson Engineering's Individual Godet Technology Is Shaping The Future Of DTY

In the highly competitive world of synthetic yarn processing, manufacturers face a continuous challenge: maximizing throughput while maintaining perfect thread consistency. Himson Engineering's individual motorized godet feeding technology, integrated into high-performance models like the HSS-DSR-4G and HSS-DSR-4G-TS, represents a major technical paradigm shift, permanently replacing older, friction-prone systems.

For decades, traditional Draw Texturing Yarn (DTY) machines relied heavily on Apron or Nip roller feeding mechanisms. While functional, these conventional setups introduce significant limitations: uneven contact pressure, slippage, constant mechanical wear, and high structural stress. These variables frequently result in microscopic filament damage, unstable tension profiles, and high maintenance overheads. Himson's advanced, motorized, hard-chrome-plated godet system completely bypasses these physical boundaries, ensuring total, positive-feed control over yarn delivery.

- Advanced Technological Specifications:**
- **Motorized Godet Feeds (FG1, FG2, FG2X):** Engineered for excellence, the individual motorized godet system delivers a sophisticated positive-feed mechanism. By ensuring perfectly consistent tension and zero slippage, it provides the delicate handling essential for premium micro and super-micro-filament yarns.
 - **Stress-Free Positive Drawing:** Unlike classic Apron/Nip rollers that apply uneven squeezing forces, this system provides uniform draw-force application. It minimizes cross-sectional filament damage, ensuring uniform thread molecular alignment and consistent dye-uptake.
 - **Individual Motor Drives:** Each individual godet is synchronized and driven by its own high-precision motor. This exceptional rotational accuracy ensures an exact, linear feeding speed matching the texturing program parameters perfectly.
 - **Robust, Low-Maintenance Design:** Eliminating consumable parts like rubber aprons and mechanical nip rollers

vastly reduces downtimes and operations costs. The durable, hard-chrome-plated surfaces deliver exceptionally long lifespans under rigorous industrial conditions.

Precision, Reproduction, and Efficiency

Textile manufacturers today require unmatched operational flexibility. Himson's integrated platform allows for step-less parameter settings utilizing an advanced PC-based control system accompanied by an intuitive HMI touchscreen. This guarantees seamless, instant reproducibility of specialized yarn recipes. Whether handling coarser industrial deniers or delicate micro-yarns, operators can confidently load stored configurations.

Additionally, the smart synergy between motorized individual godets, specialized twist-unit feeding systems, and Himson's newly redesigned energy-saving vapor-phase heaters delivers an impressive reduction in overall energy consumption, optimizing operational margins.

The structural capacity of Himson machinery ensures scale along with precision. The HSS-

DSR-4G-TS series features up to 240 positions, while the flagship HSS-DSR-4G series operates with up to 384 positions. Designed for the 24/7 smart factory of tomorrow, both series offer full compatibility with optional Auto-Doffing mechanisms and advanced Online Tension Monitoring (OLT) software for continuous, automated quality control.

Experience Innovation Live

Witness these technological advancements in action. Himson Engineering is proud to invite customers, technical partners, and industry leaders to see live demonstrations of our advanced textile innovations at these upcoming global exhibitions:

- ITME 2026
- Dates: December 4 to 9, 2026
- Venue: Noida, India
- ITMA 2027
- Dates: September 16 to 22, 2027
- Venue: Hannover, Germany



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BHARAT TEX GOES GREEN: Day 3 Puts Sustainability In The Spotlight

Bharat Tex 2026 turned the spotlight firmly towards the future of textiles on Day 3, with industry leaders, policymakers and global experts coming together to discuss the big ideas shaping tomorrow's textile industry — circularity, sustainable sourcing, green finance and responsible manufacturing.

From turning agricultural waste into fibres to building transparent supply chains, the conversations moved beyond promises and focused on practical solutions.

A key highlight of the day was the focus on circular textiles. The session "Wheat Straw to Wardrobes" explored how agricultural residue can become the raw material for next-generation fibres, while the roundtable "Circular Textile: From Dialogue to Deployment" examined how circularity can move from discussion rooms to factories.

Sustainability benchmarks also took centre stage with the UNDP-led India Sustainable Textile Mark

session, which explored the creation of credible social and environmental standards for Indian textiles and apparel.

The discussions also highlighted the importance of farmers and raw material producers. The session on fair commodity pricing in organic cotton stressed the need for transparent

Spotlight on Sustainability

increasingly demand traceability and responsible production, industry leaders discussed how India can strengthen its position as a trusted sourcing destination.

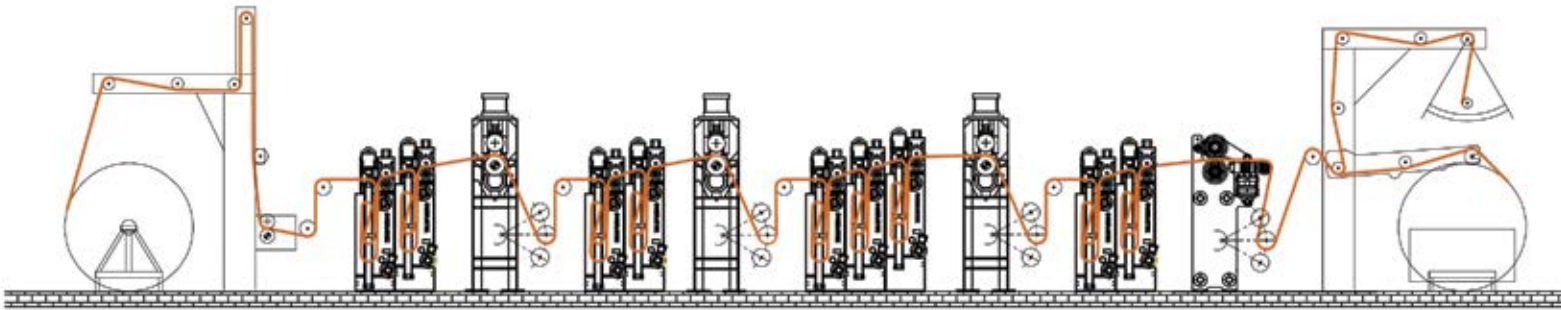
The Better Cotton Initiative roundtable brought together brands, manufacturers and sustainability experts to discuss responsible sourcing solutions for global textile trade. Representatives from IKEA, Marks & Spencer, Shahi Exports, PDS Limited and Better Cotton Initiative highlighted the need for stronger collaboration across the entire supply chain.

Finance also emerged as a key driver of sustainable transformation. Investors and sustainability experts discussed how clean technologies, circular business models and inclusive enterprises need stronger funding support to scale.

The message from Day 3 was clear—sustainability is no longer a side project. It is becoming the foundation of global textile competitiveness.

pricing models, stronger farmer partnerships and a more resilient cotton value chain. As global buyers

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Australia Strengthens Textile Ties With India

Australian Merino wool took centre stage at Bharat Tex 2026 as The Woolmark Company, along with Austrade and the Australian High Commission, showcased a partnership that has been warming up for more than five decades.

From premium fashion to performance wear, natural fibres to technical innovation, the message was clear, wool is no longer just a winter favourite. It is evolving into a smart, sustainable and high-performance fibre for the future.

At one of the world's largest textile and apparel platforms, The Woolmark Company highlighted Australia's continued commitment to India's textile industry through industry engagement, strategic collaborations, research partnerships and knowledge exchange.

For over 50 years, the Australian wool industry, through Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) and its global brand The Woolmark Company, has worked closely with Indian manufacturers, brands, educational institutions, research bodies and government stakeholders to expand the use of Australian Merino wool.

The journey has been built around a simple idea—bringing the best of Australian wool together with India's manufacturing strength.

At Bharat Tex 2026, The Woolmark Company connected with textile manufacturers, apparel brands, research organisations and students to showcase the versatility of Merino wool across multiple applications. A key focus was the growing opportunity in performance sportswear, where wool's natural breathability, moisture management and comfort properties are creating new possibilities.

A recent study on dynamic breathability further showcased how Merino wool can compete in advanced performance categories,



India and Australia are strengthening their ties to promote Australian wool as Indian market for wool gains momentum

challenging the perception that wool belongs only to traditional winter clothing.

The event also became a buzzing hub for collaboration. Together with Austrade and the Australian High Commission, The Woolmark Company hosted an industry networking evening that brought together leaders from across the textile ecosystem to discuss innovation, sustainability, natural fibres and future opportunities between Australia and India.

The highlight of the engagement was the signing of two strategic Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with The South India Textile Research Association (SITRA) and **The Technological Institute of Textile & Sciences (TITS), Bhiwani).

These partnerships aim to strengthen research, technical capability, education and market development across the wool value chain. The collaborations reflect Woolmark's long-term vision of supporting India's textile sector as it moves towards higher-value, sustainable and globally competitive

products.

Ajay Pradhan, Country Manager, The Woolmark Company, said India remains one of the organisation's most important markets.

"Bharat Tex provides an exceptional platform to deepen industry partnerships, foster innovation and demonstrate how collaboration can unlock new opportunities for Australian Merino wool across India's textile and apparel value chain," he said.

He added that as India's textile industry moves towards premium products and advanced manufacturing, The Woolmark Company remains committed to working with manufacturers, brands, research institutions and government partners to drive innovation and product development.

Todd Miller, Trade & Investment Commissioner, Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade), Mumbai, highlighted the growing importance of Australia-India textile collaboration.

"India is a key market for Australian wool, and the strong partnership

between Australian wool exporters and India's textile industry continues to create mutual opportunities," he said.

The participation of The Woolmark Company at Bharat Tex 2026 reflects a broader shift in the textile industry—where sustainability, innovation and premium materials are becoming key drivers of growth.

With global brands increasingly looking for traceable, responsible and high-performance fibres, Australian Merino wool is finding fresh relevance. Its natural properties, combined with India's manufacturing expertise, open exciting possibilities across fashion, activewear, outdoor clothing and technical textile applications.

The collaboration between Australia and India is not just about fibre trade—it is about building knowledge, creating innovation and developing the next generation of textile solutions.

At Bharat Tex 2026, Woolmark delivered a strong message: the future of wool is not just about tradition. It is about technology, performance and new possibilities.



The Hills Of Nagaland Where Nettle Becomes A Winter Treasure

Some of the most remarkable fibres at Bharat Tex 2026 are not produced in giant mills or sprawling factories. They grow quietly on the hills of Nagaland, waiting for winter before revealing their true worth.

For the weavers of Nagaland, nettle is not harvested throughout the year. They patiently wait for winter, when the plant yields its finest and strongest fibre. Harvesting it at any other time compromises the quality, making the winter crop especially prized.

Collecting nettle is no easy task. The plant stings, and only experienced harvesters know how to handle it safely. It is a skill passed down through generations, combining patience, knowledge and tradition.

Representing Chair Weaves, a Farmer Producer Company (FPC) from Phek district with around 100 weavers, the team is introducing handcrafted nettle products to the Indian market. Their current strategy relies on exhibitions like Bharat Tex and direct outreach to buyers. E-commerce is on the roadmap once production scales up, while Europe is the next destination they hope to enter.



WEMEYIE MERO, Business Development Manager, EANFER

Their vision is not to compete with mass manufacturers but to serve niche markets that value authenticity, sustainability and craftsmanship.

"We cannot produce in huge quantities," the representative explained. "Instead, we are focusing on unique products and the organic segment. People today are looking for something natural and different."

That philosophy reflects the character of Nagaland itself. The state remains largely untouched by large-scale industrialisation, allowing traditional crafts to retain their originality. Rather than chasing volume, artisans are creating value through rarity and quality.

Beyond business, the message was also about opportunity.

Agriculture and entrepreneurship, they believe, offer the greatest promise for the region's future, while preserving its cultural identity.

And with a smile came the final invitation: come to Nagaland, experience its landscapes, meet its artisans, and discover the quiet magic hidden in every winter-harvested fibre.

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Still Weaving Strong At 87: How Maharaja Shree Umaid Mills Keeps Reinventing Itself

In an industry where textile mills are born, merged, modernised or quietly disappear, very few can claim an uninterrupted journey spanning nearly nine decades. Maharaja Shree Umaid Mills, established in 1939, is one of those rare survivors. Through economic cycles, changing technologies, shifting consumer preferences and rising competition, the company has continued to evolve while holding firmly to the values that built its reputation.

Commissioned in 1941, the Rajasthan-based mill remains a fully integrated composite unit with spinning, weaving and processing under one roof. Over the years, the business has adapted to changing market realities without losing sight of its strengths. Earlier, the company spun polyester-viscose and other man-made fibres. Today, it has sharpened its focus on cotton while reintroducing viscose in selected products, manufacturing yarns from coarse 6s counts to 40s. Its weaving division operates around 170 looms, while its processing unit completes the value chain by producing finished fabrics.

If there is one product that truly defines the company, it is its Lily brand poplin fabric.

In an era where the industry is racing towards technical textiles, performance fabrics and specialised applications, Maharaja Shree Umaid Mills proudly continues to champion a product that many would describe as basic. The management sees things differently.

Says Yogesh Bagur, Director LNB Group, the parent company of Maharaja Shree Umaid Mill: "A lot of people get even basic products wrong. A fabric may look attractive when it's bought, but after a few washes it loses colour, tears easily or



(R) YOGESH BANGUR, Director LNB Group, the parent company of Maharaja Shree Umaid Mill, and (L) SUDIP NANDY, Chief Operating Officer, Maharaja Shree Umaid Mill

doesn't perform as expected. That's where quality makes the difference."

For the company, consistency has always been the winning formula. Fabric strength, colour fastness, finish and reliability have helped Lily poplin remain relevant across generations. Customers continue to return not because the fabric is fashionable, but because they know exactly what they will get every single time.

"That unwavering focus on quality has been one of the company's biggest strengths through changing market conditions," believes Yogesh.

Like much of the textile industry, however, the past year tested even the most resilient businesses. "For Maharaja Shree Umaid Mills, the challenge was greater because it operates with a blend of legacy machinery and modern equipment. Unlike newer automated plants, the company continues to depend significantly on skilled manpower,

increasing operating costs in a difficult market," said Yogesh.

The mood, however, has changed considerably in recent months.

The first quarter of the current financial year has brought encouraging signs. Yarn prices have strengthened sharply, creating healthier margins for spinning operations. Cotton prices have also moved up, but not at the same pace, creating an unusual market dynamic. Fabric prices, meanwhile, have remained relatively subdued, making it a mixed picture for integrated mills.

"Overall, the first three months have been quite decent," he says, reflecting the cautious optimism now visible across sections of the industry.

A journey of transformation

The company's journey also mirrors the transformation of India's textile sector itself. Two decades ago, organised composite mills faced far less competition. Today, new-age mills equipped with the latest technology compete aggressively on cost, efficiency and scale. The business environment has changed dramatically, demanding faster decisions and greater involvement from promoters.

That shift has also changed the way the company is managed.

The current generation admits that while earlier family members successfully relied on delegation, today's market leaves little room for distance. "Running a textile business

now requires constant involvement, close monitoring of operations and a deep understanding of rapidly changing market conditions."

The company has also adopted a cautious approach towards expansion. While it sees significant opportunities in value-added textiles and new product segments, every investment is evaluated carefully. "As part of a diversified business group with interests across sectors, capital allocation remains disciplined and returns-driven rather than emotion-driven."

Even so, the search for new opportunities continues. The company has recently entered the ready-made garments segment with petticoats, a young venture that is still finding its feet. It is also evaluating future textile opportunities while recognising that the industry offers thousands of specialised products beyond conventional yarn and fabric.

Exports are another area gradually gathering momentum. "Around 15% of the company's yarn production currently reaches international markets, and enquiries for finished fabrics have started arriving, opening another avenue for future growth," informed Yogesh.

Alongside business expansion, sustainability has become an equally important priority. "Solar power installations, investments in energy-efficient machinery, upgraded effluent treatment and reverse osmosis systems, and continuous efforts to reduce energy consumption reflect the company's long-term commitment to responsible manufacturing," explained Yogesh.

The philosophy extends beyond compliance. For the family behind the business, growth is increasingly measured not only by financial returns but also by the positive impact created for future generations through cleaner operations and environmentally responsible investments.

After 87 years, Maharaja Shree Umaid Mills has learnt that longevity is not achieved by chasing every trend. It comes from mastering the fundamentals, embracing change when necessary and never compromising on quality. In a textile industry constantly reinventing itself, that quiet confidence has been the company's greatest competitive advantage.





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Vidarbha Cotton Association Explores Opportunities At Bharat Tex 2026; Reaffirms Support For Kasturi Cotton

A delegation of around 50 ginner, spinners, and exporters from the Vidarbha Cotton Association (VCA) visited Bharat Tex 2026 to explore the latest developments in the textile and apparel sector. The delegation's visit to the Kasturi Cotton Bharat pavilion was a key highlight, where they

learned how premium-quality, traceable Indian cotton is being developed to meet global standards. TEXPROCIL briefed the members on the benefits of adopting Kasturi Cotton to enhance quality, traceability, and the international competitiveness of Indian cotton. Led by Bhavesh Shah, President,

Vidarbha Cotton Association, the delegation also visited various exhibition stalls to gain insights into advanced textile technologies, value addition, and emerging global business opportunities. The association reaffirmed its commitment to promoting the adoption of Kasturi Cotton across the Vidarbha region.

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TEXPROCIL Chairman Hosted Networking Lunch At Bharat Tex 2026

TEXPROCIL Chairman Shri Vijay Agarwal hosted an exclusive networking lunch on the 3rd day of Bharat Tex 2026 in honour of leading international buyers, members of the council's Committee of Administration (COA), and representatives of prominent International Associations and Chambers of Commerce.

The gathering served as an excellent platform to strengthen business relationships, foster meaningful networking, and explore collaborative strategies to enhance India's textile exports and expand trade with key global markets under the Bharat Tex 2026 platform.

On the occasion, Shri Agarwal also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the European Indian Chamber of Commerce (EICC), represented by its President, Shri Amit Lath, to promote trade and investment between India and Europe, with a special focus on leveraging the opportunities expected to arise from the proposed India-EU Free Trade Agreement.

TEXPROCIL thanks all the distinguished guests, buyers, industry leaders, and partners for their enthusiastic participation and valuable support in making the event a resounding success.



Texprocil And CottonConnect Sign MoU To Boost Kasturi Cotton Exports

The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (Texprocil) and CottonConnect (South Asia) Pvt. Ltd. have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at enhancing the productivity, quality, and global competitiveness of Indian cotton under the Kasturi Cotton Bharat brand.

The collaboration seeks to provide training, workshops, and information platforms for ginners to consistently meet Kasturi specifications. Also, both parties to work towards raising awareness among farmers and supply chain stakeholders to improve cotton quality and optimize productivity.

Further, it would ensure a steady supply of Kasturi cotton for domestic

and international markets, including Organic, BCI, and Regenerative varieties with full traceability.

Under the agreement, Texprocil will lead marketing initiatives for the Kasturi brand, while CottonConnect will focus on farmer training, workshops, and sustainability programs. Both parties will jointly identify and enroll ginners, targeting

at least 30 participants in the first year.

The partnership is expected to generate premium value for cotton producers and strengthen India's position in the global textile market by promoting transparency, sustainability, and resilience in the cotton supply chain.

West Bengal To Find Its Footing In The Industrialised Textile Industry

For decades, one word defined West Bengal's textile identity - sarees, especially the handloom sarees.

From Shantipur handlooms to Baluchari silks and exquisite Kantha embroidery, the state's rich textile heritage has earned admiration across India and overseas. But now, West Bengal wants to be known for much more. A new vision is taking shape - one that aims to transform the state into a major apparel, technical textiles and export powerhouse.

The ambition is bold.

Today, Bangladesh exports around US\$ 44 billion worth of textiles and apparel. West Bengal, despite sharing geography, culture, skilled manpower and access to the same global markets, exports barely US\$ 1 billion. Industry experts believe that gap is not a limitation, it's an opportunity.

"The immediate target is US\$ 4 billion by 2030," says Sudip Bhattacharya, Director, Textiles, Government of West Bengal. "If government and industry work together, there is no reason why West Bengal cannot aim much higher in the years ahead."

The biggest shift begins with changing mindsets.

The new focus is expanding rapidly towards apparel manufacturing, hosiery, technical textiles, geotextiles, Meditech and industrial textiles - segments capable of creating large-scale employment while boosting exports.

Apparel at the heart of the industrialisation strategy

"West Bengal already possesses one of the country's largest pools of skilled women workers experienced in sewing, embroidery and garment making. The state's new vision is to organise this ecosystem, attract investment and build a globally competitive garment industry capable of generating lakhs of livelihoods," says Mr Bhattacharya.

To support that vision, officials are working on a comprehensive apparel policy, not one designed merely to attract investors, but one that also supports MSMEs, entrepreneurs and workers.

The proposed framework is expected to include the creation of the entire ecosystem - skilling, wage support, credit linkages, interest subvention, export assistance, logistics, compliance, certification and worker welfare. Rather than rushing to



SUDIP BHATTACHARYA, Director, and FALGUNI ROY, Joint Director, Textiles, Government of West Bengal

announce incentives, policymakers say they are carefully studying successful textile policies in Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and the North-East before finalising West Bengal's roadmap.

"We don't want a policy only for large investors," he explains. "Small enterprises and workers must benefit equally."

Five Champion Export Districts

The state has already identified five Champion Export Districts — Kolkata, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Howrah and Hooghly — along with four Aspirational Districts including Murshidabad, Malda, Birbhum and East Midnapore. District Export Action Plans are already in place, forming the backbone of a broader state textile strategy.

The emerging opportunities in technical textiles

Technical textiles are also emerging as a major opportunity. West Bengal already manufactures specialised industrial products such as battery separators and aluminium mesh materials through private industry. Expanding into geotextiles, Meditech and other high-value applications could significantly diversify the state's textile portfolio.

The remarkable transformation of Shantipur

One lesson repeatedly surfaced during the discussions - the remarkable transformation of Shantipur. Years ago, a carefully crafted development

roadmap helped revive the historic weaving cluster. Many believe the same model can now be replicated across the state, spreading textile development beyond a handful of traditional pockets.

New government has its work cut out

Officials are realistic. The new government has been in office only a few months, and they admit that much of the work still lies ahead. Policies must be approved, investors convinced and ecosystems built.

But one thing is already clear.

West Bengal is no longer content being known only as the land of beautiful sarees. It wants to become one of India's next big textile growth stories - and this time, the fabric of that story will be woven from apparel, innovation, exports and opportunity.

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Next-Gen Texturing Starts Here: How Himson Engineering's Individual Godet Technology is Shaping the Future of DTY

In the fast-evolving textile industry, balancing premium yarn quality with maximum operational output is the ultimate competitive advantage. The HSS-DSR-4G-TS Draw Texturizing (Double Density) Individual Motorized Godet Machine represents the pinnacle of Himson's engineering legacy, seamlessly uniting proven mechanical reliability with cutting-edge automation.

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BHARAT TEX 2026 LAYOUT

BHARAT MANDAPAM

14 to 17 July 2026

Brought To You by



Legend

India's Most Trusted and Popular Industry Publication

- HALL 1-5 GF
APPAREL & FASHION, BRANDS OF INDIA,
KNITWEAR PAVILION

HALL 9-10-11
STATE PARTNER, GOVERNMENT
INSTITUTIONS, TECHNICAL SERVICES

HALL 1A
INTERNATIONAL PAVILION
(APPAREL & FASHION)
- HALL 1 - 5 FF
COMPLETE VALUE CHAIN
FABRICS & ACCESSORIES, MASTER CLASS

HALL 12-12A
TECHNICAL TEXTILES, TEXTILE SERVICES
CARPETS & FLOOR COVERING

CONVENTION CENTRE
(KNOWLEDGE SESSIONS)
- HALL 6
HOME TEXTILES

HALL 14 GF+FF
FIBRES & YARN, CIRCULARITY PAVILION
MASTER CLASS

	Visitors Registration Gate No:4,6,10		Overseas Buyers Lounge Near: Hall- 3, 4 & 5 MEZZANINE FLOOR
	Shuttle Pickup & Drop Points Gate No:4,10		Gold Lounge (VIP/Partners/ Sponsor) Near: Hall- 8, Horse Shoe-H5A
	Golf Cart Pickup & Drop Points From: Hall 1 - 6, Hall 12 - 8		Food Court Near: Hall 1B, 6A, 9A, 12A
	Emergency Assembly Points Near: Hall 1,6,11		Food Truck / Kiosk Near: Hall 11 & 12A Near H14
	Fire Tender Near: Hall 1A, 5, 8 & 14		BTTF Office & Control Room Near: Hall 2, Horse Shoe H2 A&B, Hall 7
	Protocol Lounge Hall 5GF, Mandapam		
	Parking P1,p2,p3,p4		
	Rest Room Hall-1,2,3,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,12,12A,14		



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TEXTILES



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STAKEHOLDERS OF BHARAT TEX 2026

10TH - 19TH JULY 2026
11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

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Watch master artisans bring their
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Purchase products that carry India's
cultural tapestry.
- ❄️ **Interactive Conversations:**
Engage with artisans & learn their
stories

Bharat Tex
2026



Silks of North East Region.



GI Tag for Arunachal Weaves



Mountain Wool Innovations



Khadi India At Bharat Tex 2026



Maharashtra Promotes Textile Infrastructure



Bihar At Bharat Tex 2026



Buyers Fascinated by Indian Textiles

Bharat Tex
2026



EcoLink showcases Japanese textile innovations at Bharat Tex 2026



Products Of West Bengal



Asian Buyers At Bharat Tex 2026



Dodhia Group's Sustainability Initiative At Bharat Tex 2026



Indorama Ventures At Bharat TEX 2026



Crafts Of North East Region



North East Shining

Revolutionizing The Future Of Knitwear Through Innovation, Automation And Sustainability



In today's highly competitive textile and apparel industry, manufacturers require advanced technology, speed, flexibility, and sustainability to remain successful. SHIMA SEIKI MFG., LTD, a globally recognized Japanese technology leader, has been at the forefront of innovation in computerized flat knitting machines, apparel design systems, software solutions, and automated production technologies for decades. With a strong commitment to quality, efficiency, and digital transformation, SHIMA SEIKI continues to redefine the future of knitwear production worldwide.

SHIMA SEIKI pioneered the world's first WHOLEGARMENT® knitting technology, transforming the knitwear manufacturing industry. By enabling complete garments to be knitted seamlessly in a single process, the company eliminated the need for extensive sewing and reduced production waste. This breakthrough innovation has set new standards for efficiency, quality, and sustainability in apparel manufacturing. Today, SHIMA SEIKI continues to lead the global market with advanced knitting technologies and digital solutions for the fashion industry.

SHIMA SEIKI – Product Categories Overview

Computerized Flat Knitting machine:

SHIMA SEIKI is globally recognized for its advanced computerized flat knitting machines. These machines are designed for producing a wide range of knitted garments, including sweaters, fashionwear, sportswear, and technical textiles. Known for their precision, productivity, and versatility, they enable manufacturers to produce high-quality knitwear while reducing production time and labour requirements. Shima also offers Collar, Glove and socks knitting machine.

WHOLEGARMENT® Knitting Machines

WHOLEGARMENT® technology is one of SHIMA SEIKI's most innovative developments. These machines can knit an entire garment in a single process without the need for sewing separate panels. This results in seamless garments that offer enhanced comfort, better fit, reduced material waste, and increased manufacturing efficiency.

Key Advantages

- Zero Waste & Sustainability:

your choice
SHIMA SEIKI



Because there are no seams and no fabric is cut away, yarn waste is practically eliminated, promoting a more conscious and sustainable supply chain.

- No Post-Production Labor: The elimination of the cutting and sewing process significantly speeds up manufacturing and reduces reliance on skilled sewing labour.
- Superior Fit and Comfort: Seams can sometimes cause friction and restrict movement. WHOLEGARMENT knitwear offers a better, three-dimensional fit that naturally contours to the human body, providing heightened comfort.

productivity using a wider variety of yarns, including high-speed knitting of challenging yarns such as fancy yarns, stretch yarns, slub yarns and delicate cashmeres. Precise electronic control means i-DSCS+DTC® provides consistent quality among different machines, production batches and repeat orders, and is crucial to the precision knitting required in WHOLEGARMENT® production.

Design Systems and Software

SHIMA SEIKI provides advanced design systems and software solutions that support the complete product development process. These digital tools allow designers to create patterns, simulate garments in 3D, and visualize products before production, helping to reduce sampling costs and accelerate product development cycles.

Key Benefits:

- 3D Virtual Sampling – Create and visualize garments digitally, reducing the need for physical samples.
- Faster Product Development – Accelerates the design-to-production cycle through digital workflows.
- Improved Design Accuracy – Enables precise pattern creation and knit programming for better production results.
- Enhanced Collaboration –



Facilitates communication between designers, merchandisers, and production teams through shared digital data.

- Cost and Waste Reduction – Minimizes sampling costs and material waste by validating designs virtually before manufacturing.
- Supply Chain Integration – Supports multiple stages of the product supply chain, from concept development to sales promotion.

CAD/CAM and Cutting Systems

The company's CAD/CAM and automated cutting systems are designed to improve accuracy and productivity in apparel manufacturing. These solutions help optimize fabric utilization, reduce material waste, and ensure consistent cutting quality throughout the production process

Key Features and Benefits:

Complete Production Workflow Support – Covers the entire process from pattern creation and grading to marker preparation and cutting.

Advanced Pattern Making Software (PGM) – Dedicated CAD software for pattern development, grading, and marker planning to improve design accuracy and production efficiency.

Automated Pattern Matching – Pattern Matching Premium automatically reads fabric using a line-scan camera and compensates for fabric skew, ensuring accurate



pattern-matched cutting.

Automated Cutting Solutions

– Shima Cutting Solutions automate the workflow from fabric spreading and cutting to material pick-up, significantly improving operational efficiency.

Enhanced Material Utilization

– Optimized marker planning helps reduce fabric waste and improve production economics.

Flexible Cutting Technologies

– Supports a variety of cutting methods, cutting areas, and material thicknesses to meet diverse production requirements.

Multi-Industry Applications

– Successfully used in fashion, sportswear, healthcare, automotive, aerospace, home furnishings, and industrial materials sectors.

Global Service & Support

– Backed by worldwide maintenance services, training programs, technical support, and genuine spare parts

5. Knit Production Management Solutions

SHIMA SEIKI offers software solutions that support production planning, monitoring, and management. These systems help manufacturers improve operational efficiency, enhance workflow visibility, and streamline factory operations from order receipt to final delivery.

6. Digital Services and Online Platforms

To support the digital transformation of the textile industry, SHIMA SEIKI provides online services such as yarn sourcing databases, digital content platforms, customer support portals, and e-learning systems. These solutions enable customers to access technical resources and industry information from anywhere in the world.

7. Industrial and Technical Textile Solutions

Beyond fashion applications, SHIMA SEIKI technologies are utilized in sectors such as:

- sportswear
- footwear,
- healthcare,
- automotive,
- aerospace,
- industrial materials.

These solutions demonstrate the company's ability to address diverse market requirements through advanced knitting technology.

SHIMA SEIKI has evolved from a knitting machine manufacturer into a comprehensive technology provider for the textile and apparel industry. Through its combination of advanced machinery, digital design systems, automation, and sustainable manufacturing solutions, the company continues to drive innovation and shape the future of knitwear production.

Universal TMD offers you everything you could ask from a technology Partner and solutions provider.

Spread across 16 branches in India, Universal TMD - is a strong force with textile professionals to offer the customers with best in class, innovative, cost-efficient and sustainable solutions.

Our team of engineers are specialised in both solutions and applications, having received extensive training at our principals' works. They are well-versed with the demands and challenges across a diverse range of products.

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MR N.D. MHATRE, Director (Technical), ITAMMA

ITAMMA Participates In Bharat Tex For The First Time

At Bharat Tex 2026, the Indian Textile Accessories & Machinery Manufacturers' Association (ITAMMA) took a new step by participating in a user-industry exhibition for the first time, turning the platform into a business scouting opportunity for its members.

Building on its earlier participation in textile machinery and accessories exhibitions across India and globally, ITAMMA is now using exhibitor networks to help members expand their customer base, discover new opportunities and connect with potential partners.

The association is also strengthening its technology scouting mission by tracking innovations and emerging trends across the textile ecosystem.

Alongside this, ITAMMA engaged with various state governments to understand textile policies and opportunities that can benefit its members.

With this forward-looking approach, ITAMMA is not just promoting machinery, it is helping create stronger business linkages for India's textile engineering sector.

TBD Pavilion Emerges As Hub For Innovation, Investment And Technical Textile Knowledge At Bharat Tex 2026

Moving beyond a conventional exhibition experience, the TBD Pavilion at Bharat Tex 2026 has emerged as one of the event's most engaging knowledge and business destinations by bringing together innovation, investment facilitation and industry knowledge under one roof. Designed around three distinct yet interconnected themes, the pavilion is attracting entrepreneurs, industry leaders, investors, students and policymakers looking to explore the future of India's textile and technical textile sector.

The first and most prominent attraction is Sanrachna – The Bharat Tex Edition, a national-level Technical Textile Hackathon that has brought together young innovators, researchers and students from across the country to develop market-oriented solutions for real-world challenges. The platform showcases breakthrough innovations in healthcare, defence, agriculture and industrial textiles while creating meaningful collaboration between academia and industry. The initiative received a major endorsement during Bharat Tex 2026 when Honourable Union Cabinet Minister for Textiles Shri Giriraj Singh visited the pavilion, appreciated the quality of innovations on display and felicitated the winners of the Sanrachna Innovation Challenge. The pavilion also witnessed the visit of Honorable Minister of State for Textiles and External Affairs, Shri Pabitra Margherita, who interacted with participants at Sanrachna and encouraged them to continue driving innovation and contributing to India's technical textile ecosystem.

The innovations presented during Sanrachna reflected the immense potential of young Indian minds. Among the most notable Innovations



Union Minister of Textiles, **GIRIRAJ SINGH JI** at the TBD Pavilion

were specialized protective garments designed to safeguard farmers from extreme heat and insect bites, offering practical solutions to occupational hazards faced in agriculture. Another remarkable innovation focused on advanced diabetic wound care through specialized bandages capable of improving healing outcomes while reducing infection risks. Participants also developed ultra-lightweight insulated mattresses intended for personnel stationed in high-altitude regions, providing enhanced thermal protection while significantly reducing transportation weight and logistical challenges.

The second theme focuses on investment promotion through the TBD Investment Ideation Center, an initiative aimed at encouraging import substitution and domestic manufacturing. The centre displays a curated range of high-value textile and technical textile products that

are currently imported worth USD 4.8 Billion from countries such as China, Taiwan and South Korea and other countries but have strong manufacturing potential within India. This Investment Ideation Centre the Imported Products worth

Beyond enabling visitors to physically examine these products, the Ideation Center provides comprehensive investment intelligence through TextileProjects. in, a recently launched digital platform offering Model Project Reports, Detailed Market Analysis, Financial Feasibility Reports, Manufacturing Process Flows, Technology Information, Raw Material Sources, Supply Chain Linkages and Market Linkages. The initiative is helping entrepreneurs move beyond product identification to informed investment decision-making with access to practical, implementation-ready business information.

The third pillar of the pavilion is the National Conference on Technical Textiles, where industry experts, policymakers, researchers and business leaders are discussing emerging technologies, investment opportunities, innovation trends and the growing role of technical textiles across sectors including healthcare, infrastructure, mobility, defence and sustainability. The conference serves as a collaborative platform to exchange ideas and accelerate India's transition towards high-value textile manufacturing.

Commenting on the initiative, Kumar Abhishek, Managing Director, Unified Knowledge Solutions Pvt. Ltd., said, "Bharat Tex 2026 has given us the platform to not only foster innovation mindsets but also help entrepreneurs take informed investment decisions in the textile and apparel domain in India."

Ravi Bhushan Arora, Foudrer & CEO, Unified Knowledge Solutions Pvt. Ltd., added, "TBD, our flagship brand, is committed to promoting import substitution and export-oriented manufacturing in India, and this can only be achieved through an innovative mindset. This is fully aligned with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of taking innovation to the market."

By seamlessly integrating innovation, entrepreneurship and industry knowledge, the TBD Pavilion is demonstrating how exhibitions can evolve into powerful ecosystems for collaboration, investment and technology adoption. As Bharat Tex 2026 continues to strengthen India's position as a global textile destination, the pavilion stands out as a model for connecting ideas with industry and transforming innovation into commercially viable opportunities.



SHRI PABITRA MARGHERITA with innovators at the TBD Pavilion



FROM BOTTLE TO FABRIC: Dodhia's Big Recycling Mission At Bharat Tex 2026

What happens to thousands of plastic bottles used during a mega textile event? At Bharat Tex 2026, they are getting a second life — not as waste, but as yarn and fabric.

Leading recycling player Dodhia Group has launched a special sustainability initiative at the show, collecting used plastic bottles and converting them into recycled yarn. The company plans to transform the collected material into fabric and donate it back to the textile industry, creating a complete circular journey from consumption to creation.

Said Ritesh Dodhia, Director, Domestic Sales, Dodhia Group, "Our objective was to create awareness about recycling and sustainability. Whatever collection we get from Bharat Tex, we will convert it into yarn, make fabric and give it back to the industry."

The initiative perfectly captures the spirit of Bharat Tex 2026, where sustainability has moved from being a conversation to becoming a business reality.

Beyond Recycling: Completing The Bottle Story

Dodhia Group is taking recycling a step further.

While conventional recycling often focuses only on the main bottle body, other components like labels and caps are frequently discarded. The company has developed solutions to recycle the complete bottle.

"We proudly say that we are complete recyclers of one bottle. From the label to the cap, everything is converted into the final product," he said.

The company has also entered the bottle-to-bottle recycling space and is currently processing around 300 tonnes per day, supplying recycled materials to major beverage companies.

From bottle to textile and now bottle back to bottle, Dodhia Group is showcasing how circularity can become a practical industrial model.

Bharat Tex Moves Into Global League

For Ritesh Dodhia, sustainability was only one part of the Bharat Tex experience.

The third edition of the show witnessed stronger participation from international buyers, domestic brands and textile value chain players.

"The third edition has been very good. There are lots of international buyers as well as domestic buyers," he said.

One of the biggest advantages was the quality of business



RITESH DODHIA, Director, Domestic Sales, Dodhia Group

interactions. Buyers who use Dodhia yarns to develop fabrics brought their own customers and development teams to the exhibition.

The result?

Faster decisions and quicker business movement.

"Instead of going through sampling, customers have given us trial orders. It is a very good platform to be on," he added.

Bharat Tex Finds Its Global Rhythm

According to Dodhia Group, Bharat Tex is steadily moving towards becoming a global textile marketplace.

The company sees similarities with major international exhibitions

like China's Canton Fair, where the entire value chain comes together under one roof.

"What we are seeing in the third edition is clear — Bharat Tex is becoming something similar to Canton Fair. The entire value chain is available here," he said.

With fibres, yarns, fabrics, apparel, technology providers, brands and sustainability solutions all participating, the exhibition is emerging as a one-stop destination for textile business.

The Best Edition Yet

The growing maturity of Bharat Tex is visible in the profile of visitors.

"Lots of international customers and serious buyers are turning up.

Everyone is looking for something new — new products, new developments and new announcements," he said.

For Dodhia Group, Bharat Tex 2026 has been the strongest edition so far.

"This is the best show out of all three Bharat Tex exhibitions till now," he said.

As the textile industry moves towards circularity and responsible manufacturing, initiatives like Dodhia Group's bottle recycling mission show the direction the sector is heading — where waste is not the end of the story, but the beginning of a new textile journey.

NEHHDC Elevates Eri Silk As India's Ethical Luxury Fibre

The North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation, NEHHDC, is reinforcing the global appeal of Northeast India's traditional textiles through sustainable innovation, artisan empowerment and market driven initiatives. Monmayuri Saikia, Senior HR and BD, NEHHDC highlighted the corporation's efforts to position Eri silk, popularly known as Peace Silk or Ahimsa Silk, as one of India's most sustainable and ethically produced natural fibres. Unlike conventional silk, Eri silk allows the silkworm to emerge naturally from its open-ended cocoon before the fibre is spun, making it a cruelty free textile that has gained increasing recognition among environmentally conscious consumers.

Saikia said the corporation is promoting Purbashree as a leading platform for authentic handloom and handicraft products from the Northeast while expanding market opportunities for indigenous artisans and weavers. She also highlighted Ryndia, Meghalaya's premium Eri silk heritage, which has emerged as an important symbol of sustainable luxury and women led craftsmanship.



MONMAYURI SAIKIA (fourth from the left), Senior Executive HR and BD, and Team NEHHDC with **JAYADRATHA DEV BARMAN**, Director (Export Promotion & Quality Assurance), Textiles Committee, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India

According to her, NEHHDC continues to strengthen the entire value chain through dedicated spinning facilities, design development, skill enhancement and stronger market linkages for rural producers.

A major highlight of the corporation's innovation strategy is Padma Doree, an initiative that combines the unique qualities of Northeast India's Eri silk with the renowned Chanderi weaving tradition of Madhya Pradesh, creating premium products that blend two of India's finest textile legacies. Saikia also underscored the significance of the Ashtalakshmi initiative in promoting the Northeast as a vibrant hub for textiles, handicrafts and entrepreneurship while generating sustainable livelihoods across the region.

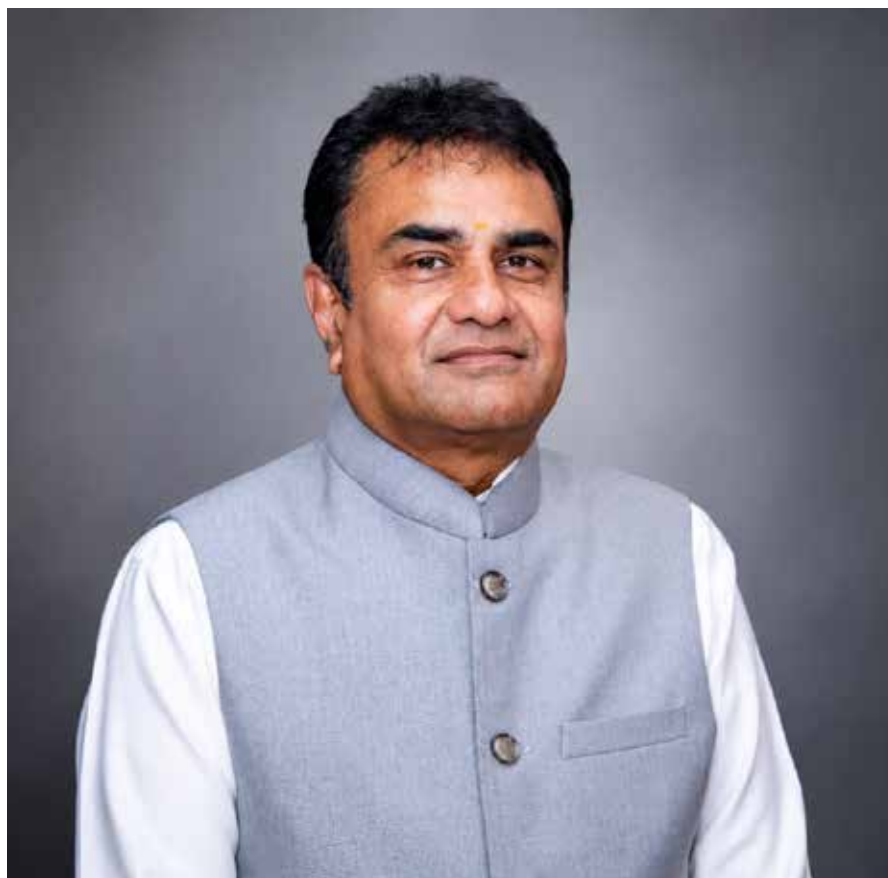
Reflecting on Bharat Tex 2026, she described the exhibition as an invaluable platform to connect artisans, designers, buyers and global stakeholders under one roof. According to Saikia, growing consumer preference for sustainable, traceable and ethically produced textiles presents a significant opportunity for Northeast India's handcrafted products to gain wider acceptance in domestic and international markets.

HEPC Chairman V. Lakshmi Narasimhan Calls Bharat Tex 2026 A Launchpad For India's Handloom Export Growth

Bharat Tex 2026 has emerged as a powerful platform to accelerate India's handloom exports, according to Shri V. Lakshmi Narasimhan, popularly known as Ramesh, Chairman of the Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC). A leading exporter from Karur, Tamil Nadu, and associated with M/s. Sri Laxmi Export, he said the exhibition is creating unprecedented opportunities for Indian handloom manufacturers to strengthen their global presence at a time when new trade avenues are opening.

Speaking during Bharat Tex 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, Lakshmi Narasimhan said the exhibition has successfully brought together the complete textile value chain under one roof. More than 1,600 exhibitors are participating in the four-day event, which is expected to welcome over 1.30 lakh visitors, including more than 7,000 overseas buyers from major sourcing markets.

The Handloom Export Promotion Council has made a strong impact through the participation of 65 member exporters, displaying India's diverse handloom heritage and value-added products. Trade delegations



SHRI V. LAKSHMI NARASIMHAN (RAMESH), Chairman of the Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC)

from Oman, Russia, Sri Lanka and several other countries have also joined the exhibition, creating fresh opportunities for business partnerships and export expansion. Lakshmi Narasimhan noted that

the implementation of the India United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement on 15 July 2026 marks a defining moment for the textile industry. He said the agreement is expected to improve market access for Indian handloom and textile products while enhancing the country's competitiveness in one of the world's largest premium consumer markets.

He emphasised that India's ambition to achieve US\$ 100 billion in textile and apparel exports by 2030 presents a significant opportunity for the handloom sector. Growing global demand for sustainable, handcrafted and ethically produced products aligns naturally with India's traditional weaving strengths. He added that innovation, superior design, product diversification and active participation in international trade fairs and Buyer Seller Meets will enable Indian exporters to capture greater global market share.

Lakshmi Narasimhan expressed confidence that Bharat Tex 2026 will further establish India as a preferred sourcing destination for premium handloom products while reinforcing the country's leadership in sustainable textile manufacturing.

The Forgotten Wisdom Of The Loom: How Preserving Knowledge Can Bring India's Handlooms Back To Life

Naresh Ramasubramaniam

For thousands of years, a loom has been more than a tool.

It has been a place where mathematics met imagination, where science met creativity, where patience transformed loose fibres into stories. Every movement of the shuttle, every arrangement of threads, every crossing of warp and weft carried within it generations of observation, experimentation and understanding.

Yet, somewhere along the way, the world began seeing handloom only as a product.

A beautiful sari. A heritage fabric. A traditional craft. A livelihood opportunity.

But hidden beneath the colours, patterns and textures lies something much deeper - a vast ocean of knowledge.

And perhaps, the future of handlooms depends not only on protecting the hands that weave, but on protecting the wisdom that created the weave.

This is the belief of a new generation of weaving thinkers who argue that India must look beyond the emotional idea of "saving crafts" and rediscover weaving as a living knowledge system.

Because skills may disappear.

But knowledge can evolve.

The Loom Is Not Just A Machine. It Is A Thinking System

For nearly a decade, our weaving initiative has been exploring handloom not merely as a method of production but as a way of thinking.

The idea is simple yet profound — weaving is not only about making fabric. It is about training the mind.

The deeper one travels into weaving, the more layers appear.

For artists, it is a medium of expression.

For designers, it is a language of form and colour.

For engineers, it is a study of structures.

For mathematicians, it is a world of patterns, grids and systems.

The very nature of weaving creates endless possibilities because every fabric is built through relationships between threads, spaces, repetitions and structures.

A simple grid can become a textile.

A mathematical sequence can become a rhythm.

A pattern can become a visual expression of logic.

This hidden intelligence inside weaving is what makes it unique.



NARESH RAMASUBRAMANIAM, Managing Director at Shuttles & Needles

The Sixth Grader Who Discovered Mathematics Inside A Loom

Sometimes, the power of weaving reveals itself in unexpected places.

During a school weaving programme, students were introduced to weaving not as a craft lesson but as a combination of mathematics, physics, material science and creativity.

The exercise involved rhythm.

Students created rhythms through clapping. Those rhythms were then translated into colours and patterns on the loom.

One sixth-grade student was weaving a pattern when she suddenly became upset.

When asked what happened, she explained that her rhythm had broken while repeating the pattern. She had realised that the sequence she had chosen created a problem when the design joined together.

Her solution?

Next time, she would use an odd-number rhythm or adjust the final lines so the pattern would continue naturally.

For an adult observer, it was a

small classroom moment.

But for a psychologist watching the process, it was something much bigger.

The child was not merely weaving.

She was observing, analysing, identifying a problem and finding a solution.

She was applying knowledge.

The loom had become a tool for thinking.

The Forgotten Difference Between Skill And Knowledge

This is where the conversation around handlooms takes a dramatic turn.

India has often focused on preserving artisans.

Protecting communities.

Keeping traditional techniques alive.

But the argument is that this approach may not be enough.

Because skills are fragile.

Skills depend on individuals.

If a technique remains limited to a few master artisans, it becomes vulnerable. When those practitioners disappear, the knowledge disappears

with them.

The answer lies in transforming weaving from a skill-based activity into a knowledge-based discipline.

"Skill is overrated. Knowledge is never overrated."

This simple statement captures the entire philosophy.

A skill is something one person can possess.

Knowledge is something society can expand.

When weaving becomes part of education, research and innovation, it moves beyond preservation and enters evolution.

The question changes from:

"How do we save this old craft?"

to:

"How do we allow this knowledge to create something new?"

Gandhi's Forgotten Message Behind The Spinning Wheel

This idea has a fascinating connection with Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of spinning.

The charkha is often remembered as a symbol of self-reliance and independence.

But there was another deeper message.

Gandhi believed that educated people should also spin.

Not because they needed to earn a livelihood from it.

Not because they would replace professional spinners.

But because participation creates understanding.

When educated minds engage with a craft, they bring new perspectives.

A scientist may see material possibilities.

An engineer may see structural patterns.

A designer may see new forms.

A teacher may see new methods of learning.

The craft grows because new minds enter the conversation.

The true purpose of spinning was not only production.

It was connection.

It was understanding.

It was a way for society to participate in the knowledge behind creation.

The American Lesson: How Knowledge Saved Weaving

The history of weaving in America offers an important lesson.

Two hundred years ago, hand weaving existed across the world.

But industrialisation transformed textile production.

In America, access to capital



accelerated the shift from handlooms to power looms. Within a few decades, hand weaving as a major production activity almost disappeared.

At first, industrial textiles brought efficiency and affordability.

But something else was lost.

The richness of structures.

The diversity of patterns.

The deep understanding of weaving techniques.

Later, revival movements began.

But interestingly, they did not attempt to fight industrialisation.

They did not argue that machines were the enemy.

Instead, they focused on preserving knowledge.

Weaving guilds emerged. Their purpose was not mass production. Their purpose was documentation, research, experimentation and learning.

They collected weave structures. They studied techniques. They created new possibilities. They treated weaving as knowledge. That approach allowed hand weaving to

survive in a completely different form.

Not as competition to industry.

But as a source of creativity and innovation.

India's Challenge: Moving Beyond Symbolism

India's handloom heritage is among the richest in the world. Every region carries unique traditions, techniques and knowledge.

But the danger lies in reducing this heritage only to symbols.

A motif.

A GI tag.

A heritage label.

The deeper value lies in understanding what created these traditions.

A design is only the visible expression.

The knowledge behind creating that design is the real treasure.

The future of Indian handlooms depends on asking a different question:

Are we preserving products?

Or are we preserving the intelligence that creates them?

The Future Belongs To What Machines Cannot Create

Interestingly, the strongest argument for handloom may not be its past.

It may be its future.

The areas where handloom can survive are precisely those where industrial production cannot easily compete.

Unique structures.

Experimental textiles.

Personalised creations.

Material innovation.

Human imagination.

The future of handloom is not necessarily producing more.

It is creating what cannot be produced by machines.

That is where its true value lies.

The Loom As A Living Memory

A loom carries memories.

Not only of people who used it.

But of generations who experimented, failed, discovered and refined.

Every thread carries knowledge.

Every pattern carries thought.

Every technique carries the fingerprints of human curiosity.

Perhaps saving handlooms does not mean keeping them frozen in time.

Perhaps it means allowing them to breathe again.

To enter classrooms. To enter laboratories. To enter design studios.

To enter conversations with science and technology. Because traditions do not survive when they are protected behind glass.

They survive when they continue to inspire.

The future of Indian handlooms may not lie in preserving the hands alone.

It may lie in awakening the wisdom hidden inside those hands.

And once that wisdom begins to flow again, the loom will not merely create fabric.

It will create ideas.



Himalayan Craftsmanship Eyes Global Markets

Traditional Himalayan craftsmanship is attracting renewed attention from domestic and international buyers as artisans increasingly combine heritage techniques with contemporary product development. Speaking to Textile Excellence during Bharat Tex 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, Sonam Tashi Gyaltsen highlighted the growing opportunities for handcrafted textile and lifestyle products from the Himalayan region in premium global markets.

Gyaltsen said every product reflects generations of artisanal knowledge, with intricate handwork, traditional motifs and region-specific craftsmanship creating distinctive value in an increasingly competitive marketplace. The collection includes handcrafted decorative products, wall hangings and textile-based lifestyle articles that preserve authentic cultural identity while appealing to modern consumer preferences.

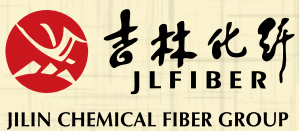
Handmade textures and three-dimensional surface effects further distinguish these products from mass manufactured alternatives.

He emphasised that stronger market access, digital promotion and collaboration with export promotion organisations can help traditional artisans reach a wider international audience. Greater participation in global exhibitions and trade platforms is expected to create new business opportunities while encouraging younger generations to continue practising traditional crafts.

Reflecting on Bharat Tex 2026, Gyaltsen described the exhibition as an important meeting point connecting artisans, exporters, buyers and industry stakeholders from across the world. He noted that direct interaction with international visitors provides valuable insights into evolving design preferences, product innovation and emerging market requirements.



(L-R) SONAM TASHI GYALTSSEN, Founder of La (Parent company of Chubako), and AKASH GURUNG, Intern



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Venue

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Hall No.

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Stall No.
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CHOOSE SUSTAINABILITY, CHOOSE A BETTER FUTURE

Japanese Functional Fashion Fabric Launched In India

Japanese textile innovation is making a strong entry into the Indian apparel market as Ecolink Solutions partners with Japan's Murotani & Co. Ltd. to introduce next generation functional fabrics designed specifically for tropical climates. Speaking to Textile Excellence during Bharat Tex 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, Kartik Maheswaran, Director of Ecolink Solutions, said the company's focus is to transform advanced Japanese textile technologies into commercially viable solutions that address real consumer challenges rather than simply introducing new finishes.

The collaboration combines Japanese engineering, precision manufacturing and advanced textile chemistry to develop performance fabrics tailored for Indian conditions. One of the flagship innovations is CrossMint, a functional cooling technology that integrates mint based sensory cooling with xylitol based thermal regulation. The technology can reduce skin temperature by up to 3 to 4°C during perspiration

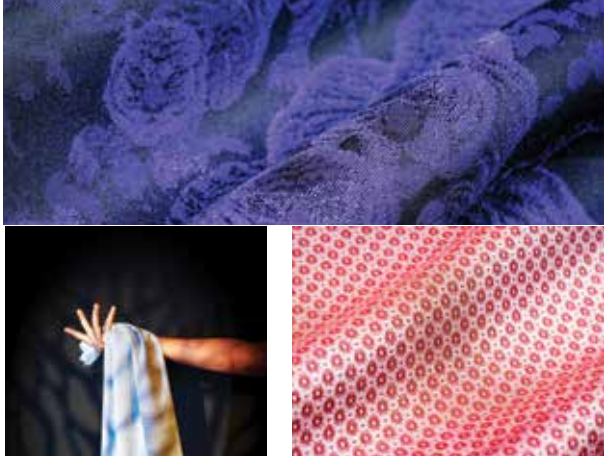


(L-R) MADHAV S.M, Director at Ecolink Solutions, YOSHIHIKO HYODO, Textile Evaluation Specialist and Deputy Manager, Product Division, Murotani & Co. Ltd., and KARTIK MAHESWARAN, Director, Ecolink Solutions

and retains its performance after 75 wash cycles, making it suitable for sportswear, workwear, uniforms and everyday apparel. Ecolink has also introduced an extensive portfolio of specialty textiles. Highlights include sweat stain resistant cotton fabrics, Cupro based natural cooling fabrics produced from regenerated cotton linter, Camellia processed Jacquard fabrics that utilise premium Camellia oil to deliver exceptional softness without formaldehyde based

chemical finishes, and linen cotton blends featuring an advanced Pearl Soft mechanical finish that achieves a luxurious hand feel entirely through mechanical processing. Another standout development is the Japanese woven Tiger Jacquard, an intricately engineered woven fabric that incorporates striking tiger motifs using specialised Jacquard weaving technology rather than conventional printing. The company is also promoting Washi paper blended fabrics,

combining traditional Japanese paper fibres with cotton to deliver linen like breathability, superior wrinkle resistance and enhanced garment structure. Maheswaran said Ecolink's partnership with Murotani & Co. Ltd., supported by Yoshihiko Hyodo, Textile Evaluation Specialist and Deputy Manager, Product Division, aims to bridge Japanese innovation with Indian manufacturing capabilities.





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