GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-*149
ANSWERED ON- 31/07/2026

DECLINE IN TEXTILE AND APPAREL EXPORTS TO USA

*149 # SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a 28.7 per cent decline in India's textile and apparel exports to the USA market, while Vietnam's exports have increased by 5 per cent;
(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to prevent this loss of market share and the associated impact on employment;
(c) whether Government has been able to secure better tariff/trade deals for India compared to countries like Vietnam, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
(d) whether Government has a concrete, time-bound plan to bring orders back from countries like Vietnam and Bangladesh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 149 FOR 31.07.2026 REGARDING "DECLINE IN TEXTILE AND APPAREL EXPORTS TO USA" ASKED BY SHRI NEERAJ DANGI

(a) to (d): India's global exports of textiles and apparel demonstrated resilience and sustained momentum, increasing by 0.67 per cent, from USD 36,706 million in 2024 to USD 36,952 million in 2025, with export growth recorded in more than 100 destinations. Despite a 4.2 per cent decline in the United States' (US's) global imports of textiles and apparel, from USD 118.4 billion in 2024 to USD 113.4 billion in 2025, India marginally improved its market share in the US from 8.83 per cent in 2024 to 8.84 per cent in 2025, reflecting the continued competitiveness, strong market presence and growing geographical diversification of India's textile and apparel sector.
(Source: ITC Trade Map)

The Government is engaged with the United States for a Bilateral Trade Agreement.

Export orders are driven by commercial factors such as tariffs, global demand, input and logistics costs, exchange rates, and market access and industry competitiveness. Government measures therefore focus on improving the overall competitiveness of India's textile and apparel sector rather than targeting orders from any particular country. The Government has consulted relevant stakeholders, including exporters, industry associations and Export Promotion Councils, to safeguard India's trade interests and enhance the competitiveness of the Indian textile industry. The Government has implemented various schemes and initiatives to strengthen the Indian textile and apparel sector and enhance its competitiveness.

These measures are contributing to the growth of exports from the country. Major schemes and initiatives include the PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks Scheme; Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme; National Technical Textiles Mission; SAMARTH-Scheme for Capacity Building in the Textile Sector; Silk Samagra-2; National Handloom Development Programme; National Handicrafts Development Programme; and Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme. In addition, the Export Promotion Mission (EPM), comprising Niryat Protsahan and Niryat Disha, and the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE) have been launched.The Government is also implementing the Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) Scheme for Apparel/Garments and Made-ups, based on WTO-compliant principles of zero-rated exports. Textile products not covered under the RoSCTL Scheme are supported under the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme, along with other non-textile sectors.

Further, Import duty on cotton was exempted from 19 August 2025 to 31 December 2025 and has again been exempted from 1 June 2026 to 31 October 2026. Import duty on key raw materials used in the man-made fibre value chain, including Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) and Mono-Ethylene Glycol (MEG), was also temporarily exempted. The Reserve Bank of India issued the Trade Relief Measures, 2025, to support the industry, including the textile sector. Further, the Export Obligation period under the Advance Authorisation Scheme for inputs covered under mandatory Quality Control Orders in the textile sector has been extended from six months to eighteen months.

To strengthen export preparedness, the Ministry of Textiles has established six Textile Export Facilitation Centres. It has also launched the India Immersive Experience Programme through the National Institute of Fashion Technology to showcase India's textiles, handicrafts, cultural heritage and design ecosystem to international institutions engaged in design and fashion.

Further, Sixteen Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), including the India-United Kingdom Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), are already in force. In addition, negotiations for the FTA with the European Union have been successfully concluded, while India has signed an FTA with New Zealand. These agreements provide opportunities for the Indian textile and apparel sector to enhance exports and diversify its markets.

These measures are aimed at sustaining export orders, improving competitiveness and supporting employment generation across the textile value chain, particularly in MSME-intensive segments.

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