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National Textile Export Roadmap Targets \$100 Billion by 2030

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WHY IN NEWS

The Ministry of Textiles concluded the two-day Textiles Summit 2026 in New Delhi on June 23 to 24, laying the foundation for a National Textile Export Roadmap 2030 that aims to raise India's textile and apparel exports from around USD 37 billion to USD 100 billion by 2030.

The summit, addressed by Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh, was the culmination of an extensive bottom-up consultation: 36 State and Union Territory consultations, nearly 200 district-level consultations, and participation from over 5,000 stakeholders. This produced 36 State Export Action Plans (SEAPs) and 200 District Export Action Plans (DEAPs), which will be consolidated into the national roadmap. The exercise reflects a “Team India” federal approach, treating textile exports as a shared Centre-State mission.

WHY TEXTILES MATTER TO INDIA

Textiles is one of India's oldest and most labour-intensive industries and a cornerstone of the rural and informal economy.

INDICATOR	VALUE
India's rank in global textile exports	Second-largest exporter
Direct employment	About 4.5 crore people
Current textile and apparel exports	Around USD 37 billion
Export target by 2030	USD 100 billion
Strength	Cotton, jute, silk and a full value chain from fibre to garment

Because the sector employs a large share of women and rural workers, every dollar of textile growth has an outsized effect on inclusive employment, making it central to India's development model.

THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF THE ROADMAP

The roadmap leans on a set of existing flagship schemes, now to be aligned toward the export target.

PM MITRA Parks

The Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) scheme is creating 7 mega textile parks across states, offering plug-and-play infrastructure that brings spinning, weaving, processing, and garmenting into a single integrated location to cut logistics costs and boost competitiveness.

Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme

The PLI scheme for textiles incentivises scale and value addition, with a [deliberate](https://ujjyari.com/vocab/deliberate/) focus on man-made fibre (MMF) apparel and fabrics and technical textiles, the high-growth segments where India has historically lagged behind competitors such as China, Vietnam and Bangladesh.

National Technical Textiles Mission and Samarth

The National Technical Textiles Mission promotes high-value technical textiles used in healthcare, agriculture, infrastructure and defence. Complementing these, Samarth (the Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector) provides demand-driven, placement-oriented skilling to supply the trained workforce the export push will need.

LEVERAGING TRADE AGREEMENTS

A central theme of the summit was using Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to win tariff-free market access. The India-United Kingdom FTA opens duty-free access to a major apparel market, while the India-European Union trade agreement in the pipeline targets another large, high-value destination. These agreements are strategically important as a hedge against tariff headwinds from the United States, India's single largest textile market, helping diversify export destinations.

ANALYSIS AND WAY FORWARD

The roadmap's strength is its bottom-up design: by aggregating district and state plans rather than dictating from the Centre, it builds local ownership and identifies cluster-specific bottlenecks. The challenges, however, are structural. India remains heavily cotton-dependent in a world shifting toward man-made fibres, faces scale disadvantages relative to integrated competitors, and must meet rising sustainability and traceability standards in Western markets.

The way forward lies in four directions: accelerating the shift to MMF and technical textiles through the PLI scheme; embedding sustainability and circularity (water-efficient processing, recycled fibres) to meet EU and UK green norms; completing and operationalising the PM MITRA parks on schedule; and closing FTAs swiftly so Indian exporters gain a first-mover tariff advantage. Moving up the value chain from raw fibre to branded, design-led garments is the surest route to the USD 100 billion goal.

UPSC RELEVANCE

GS Paper 3 (Economy): Growth and development, industrial policy, employment, effects of liberalisation, and the role of external-sector strategy (FTAs) in industrial competitiveness.

Prelims pointers:

- PM MITRA scheme establishes 7 mega textile parks.
- The PLI scheme for textiles focuses on man-made fibre (MMF) apparel and technical textiles.
- India is the world's second-largest textile exporter.
- Samarth is the textile-sector skilling scheme.

Mains question: “India’s textile sector is a labour-intensive export engine constrained by structural weaknesses.” Examine these constraints and assess how the National Textile Export Roadmap 2030 and Free Trade Agreements can help India reach its USD 100 billion export target. (15 marks, 250 words)

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Event: Textiles Summit 2026, New Delhi, June 23 to 24, 2026, organised by the Ministry of Textiles (Union Minister Giriraj Singh).

Goal: National Textile Export Roadmap 2030, raising exports from about USD 37 billion to USD 100 billion by 2030.

Process: 36 State Export Action Plans (SEAPs) and 200 District Export Action Plans (DEAPs); over 5,000 stakeholders consulted.

Sector scale: India is the second-largest textile exporter; the sector employs about 4.5 crore people directly.

PM MITRA: Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel scheme, 7 mega parks with plug-and-play infrastructure.

PLI scheme: Targets man-made fibre (MMF) and technical textiles.

Other schemes: National Technical Textiles Mission (high-value technical textiles) and Samarth (skilling).

FTAs in play: India-UK FTA (signed) and India-EU agreement (in pipeline), used to offset US-tariff headwinds.

Sources: Press Information Bureau (<https://pib.gov.in/>), Ministry of Textiles (<https://texmin.gov.in/>), Organiser (<https://organiser.org/>)

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