

Apparel Export Promotion Council

AEPC hosted a successful Bharat Tex 2025 roadshow in London

- *UK a trusted partner of India: Chairman AEPC*

New Delhi/ London; 30th November 2024: Organized by AEPC, Bharat Tex Roadshow was successfully held in London, UK between 27th- 29th November 2024, marking a significant milestone in promoting and positioning the event overseas. The event was graced by Ms. Shubhra, Trade Advisor, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. The roadshow, one of the largest in the overseas series, attracted more than 100 attendees from various reputed brands, retail chains and research bodies including textiles associations, across the fashion industry. The other important delegates who participated in the roadshow included Shri Sudhir Sekhri, Chairman AEPC, Shri Premal Udani, Chairman, Export Promotion Committee of AEPC and Mr. Roger Gilmartin Sr. Associate, Gherzi Consulting.

Ms Shubhra, Trade Advisor MOT, in her address noted that, "India's textile industry is witnessing transformative growth, underpinned by strong government initiatives and private-sector innovation. Key programs like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme and PM MITRA Parks are laying the foundation for a globally competitive sector. These initiatives represent tremendous opportunities for global investors to partner with India's textile journey." India recognizes the UK as a vital ally in advancing sustainable growth, driving innovation, and improving market access. With India's emphasis on sustainability and ethical practices, and the UK's commitment to responsible sourcing and circular fashion, we are well-positioned to create a more sustainable, innovative, and resilient supply chain that will benefit both nations, she stated.

Speaking at the roadshow at London Shri Sudhir Sekhri, Chairman AEPC stated that, "As we stand here today, we are on the threshold of exciting new opportunities to strengthen the already dynamic textile trade relationship between India and the UK—two vibrant economies ready to collaborate and chart the future of global textiles." The UK is a global fashion hub and the 6th largest importer of apparel, with a total import value of USD 20.27 billion last year (2023). India, with its robust textile and apparel sector, has long been a trusted partner for the UK. In the past year (2023) alone, India's exports to the UK reached USD 1.2 billion, securing a 6.14% share of the UK's textile and apparel market. RMG exports to the UK for the period April- October 2024-25 has grown by 9.4%, compared to the same period last year, which is a good sign, Chairman AEPC added.

Further Shri Sekhri noted that, "At Bharat Tex 2025, we will celebrate this successful partnership, underscored by shared values of quality, innovation, and sustainability. Iconic UK brands such as Marks & Spencer, Primark, Next, Charles Tyrwhitt, Burberry, Dunhill, Clarks, and JW Anderson already source high-quality products from India, appreciating the craftsmanship and sustainability embedded in our textiles. Fast-fashion leaders like Primark, Asos, and Boohoo also turn to India for innovative solutions that align

with their commitment to quality and sustainability. These are the values that will take center stage at Bharat Tex 2025, as we highlight India's advancements in eco-friendly materials, closed-loop manufacturing, and waste management—principles that strongly resonate with the UK's commitment to a sustainable future.”

The delegation members met the High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom, Shri Vikram Doraiswamy. The delegation members also discussed various issues relating to trade, joint ventures, FTA, etc. The High Commissioner shared insights on the way ahead for successfully hosting the Bharat Tex 2025. He assured that UK textile players are most willing to explore Indian opportunities and deepen the engagement.

The delegation also had one- on- one meetings with key stakeholders on 27th- 28th and 29th of November 2024 on the sideline of the London Roadshow. The delegation discussed India's position as a global leader in textile production and the opportunities for further growth in export and innovation. The team explored the role of sustainable materials in reducing environmental impact and enhancing India's reputation in eco-friendly textile production. They also discussed the potential partnerships and collaborations that could help elevate India's textile industry, including research, development, and export strategies.

A presentation on Bharat Tex 2025 was made by Mr. Premal Udani, Chairman Export Promotion Committee, AEPC.

Bharat Tex 2025 builds upon the success of Bharat Tex 2024. The 2nd edition will be held at two prestigious venues: Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from February 14–17, 2025, and the India Expo Centre & Mart in Greater Noida from February 12–15, 2025. These venues will showcase the entire textile value chain, with a special focus on key sectors such as Handicrafts, Apparel Machinery, Chemicals, and Dyes.