

NEWSLETTER

January 2026 to March 2026

Issue: 4

2025-2026

FOR MEMBERS ONLY



MUMBAI UNIT

The Textile Association (India)

Mumbai Unit

602, Santosh Apartment, 6th Floor, Plot No. 72-A, Dr. M. B. Raut Road,
Shivaji Park, Dadar (W), Mumbai – 400 028

Tel: 02231502687 / 9324904270 / 9324904271

E-mail: taimumbaiunit@gmail.com

Website: www.textileassociationindia.com

TAI, Mumbai Unit Office Bearers

Rajiv Ranjan
President

C. Bose
President Emeritus

R. R. Patil
Vice President

V. C. Gupte
Chairman

Dr. G. S. Nadiger
Vice Chairman

V. A. Bhajekar
Vice Chairman

Haresh B. Parekh
Hon. Secretary

Navin P. Agrawal
Jt. Hon. Secretary

Rajendra Ranadive
Jt. Hon. Secretary

Prof. K. D. Gawand
Hon. Treasurer

Dr. V. D. Gotmare
Hon. Editor (Newsletter)

EDITORIAL

Energy Crisis, Global Trade, and the Textile Industry: A Connected Analysis

The global economy is being reminded that energy is the backbone of industry. When energy markets are disrupted, the effects extend far beyond oil fields and power grids. Today's energy crisis—driven by geopolitical tensions, supply chain disruptions, and volatile fuel prices—is reshaping global trade and placing significant pressure on the textile industry, one of the most energy-dependent and globally connected sectors.

At the core of the crisis is the strategic importance of oil and gas. Instability in key regions, particularly the Middle East, quickly impacts global energy prices. Rising crude oil costs not only increase transportation expenses but also raise the price of petrochemicals essential for synthetic fibers like polyester and nylon. As a result, textile manufacturers face a dual challenge: higher input costs and more expensive logistics, making an already low-margin industry even more vulnerable.

Meanwhile, global trade is being reshaped by uncertainty. Shipping routes are becoming costlier and less predictable, insurance costs are rising, and businesses are rethinking their reliance on distant suppliers. The traditional “just-in-time” model is gradually shifting toward “just-in-case” strategies, with companies diversifying sourcing to build more resilient supply chains. While this enhances long-term stability, it also increases short-term costs that are often passed on to consumers.

The textile industry lies at the centre of these challenges. As a major employer in developing economies, it is highly sensitive to external shocks. Export-driven countries such as India, Bangladesh, and Vietnam are experiencing rising production costs alongside fluctuating demand in key global markets. Inflation in the United States and Europe is reducing consumer spending on apparel, intensifying pressure on the sector. In effect, the industry is being squeezed between rising costs and weakening demand.

However, the crisis also presents opportunities for transformation. It is accelerating the shift toward energy efficiency, sustainable materials, and localized production. Manufacturers are investing in renewable energy, recycling technologies, and alternative fibers to reduce reliance on volatile petrochemical inputs. Governments can further support this transition through stable trade policies and incentives for green initiatives.

Ultimately, the energy crisis highlights the deep interconnectedness of modern economies. What begins as an energy or geopolitical issue quickly evolves into a trade and industrial challenge. The textile sector exemplifies this reality. Navigating the current landscape will require not only short-term adjustments but also a broader rethinking of energy use, risk management, and supply chain strategies. In this evolving environment, resilience—alongside efficiency—will be key to sustained success.

Dr. Vijay D. Gotmare
Hon. Editor (Newsletter)

From the Desk of the President



Mr. Rajiv Ranjan
President

Dear Members,

The first quarter of 2026 has been both energising and defining for the textile industry, even as we continue to navigate an increasingly complex global environment.

TAI Mumbai Conference 2026: A Resounding Success

I am delighted to share that The Textile Association (India) – Mumbai Unit successfully hosted its flagship conference on January 30 at The Lalit, Mumbai, on the theme: “Textiles 2030 – Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations.”

The conference brought together a distinguished and diverse audience comprising industry leaders, policymakers, technologists, entrepreneurs, young professionals, and students. We were honoured by the presence of:

- Chief Guest: Ms. Roop Rashi Mahapatra, CEO, KVIC
- Guest of Honour: Mr. T. Murugan, President – Cellulosic Business, Grasim Industries
- Keynote Speaker: Mr. Prashant Agarwal, JMD, Wazir Advisors

Their insights strongly reinforced the need for the Indian textile industry to align with global expectations, sustainability imperatives, and emerging market dynamics.

Key Highlights:

- Lifetime Achievement Award conferred on Mr. Amrish Patel
- Industrial Excellence Awards presented to Mr. Edward Menezes and Mr. Sunil Chari
- Engaging sessions on Process Innovation, ESG frameworks, and a first-of-its-kind all-women leadership panel
- Insightful presentation on global sustainability regulations by Mr. Rahul Bhajekar (GOTS)

I extend my sincere appreciation to our organising team led by Mr. V. C. Gupte, Dr. Gurudas Aras, Mr. RR Patil, Mr. Ulhas Nimkar, Mr. Haresh Parekh, Mr. Anil Mahajan and his office team, along with all committee members, sponsors, and supporters whose collective efforts made this event a grand success.

Global Landscape: Rising Complexity & New Realities

The global textile industry is witnessing unprecedented geopolitical and economic shifts:

- Ongoing conflicts in the Middle East are disrupting trade routes and logistics
- Rising freight costs and supply chain uncertainties are impacting delivery timelines
- US tariff actions are creating fresh challenges for Indian exporters
- Shifting trade alignments are redefining global sourcing strategies

These developments are compelling the industry to rethink traditional business models.

Strategic Imperatives for the Industry

In this evolving environment, the focus must shift from efficiency to resilience:

- Diversification of markets and supply chains
- Investment in technology, automation, and digitalisation
- Embedding sustainability and compliance into core strategy
- Building scale, integration, and operational agility

In line with these developments, I had the privilege of hosting a webinar on “India–US Trade Deal 2026: Overview, Objectives and Framework,” which generated meaningful dialogue on future opportunities.

The Road Ahead: From Adaptation to Leadership

Despite global uncertainties, India's textile industry continues to demonstrate remarkable resilience. Our strengths in raw materials, domestic demand, and growing innovation capabilities position us well for the future.

The way forward lies in collaboration between industry, government, and academia, and in our ability not just to respond to change, but to anticipate and shape it.

Closing Thought

The textile industry has always demonstrated resilience, and in the current times needs to build this into everything that it does.

In conclusion, competitiveness in textiles will no longer be defined only by cost and capability, but by the ability to anticipate, adapt, and respond to a rapidly changing global environment.

Warm regards,

Rajiv Ranjan
President
The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit

International Conference on **“TEXTILES 2030 - Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations”** held 30th January 2026, Hotel- The Lalit, Mumbai

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit organized an International Conference on **“TEXTILES 2030 - Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations”** on **Friday, 30th January 2026** at Hotel the Lalit, Mumbai. The Conference received overwhelming response with 300 delegates in attendance. The theme of Conference, topics, presentations, and speakers were highly appreciated by one and all. Some of the highlights of the conference are described as under.

Mr. V. C. Gupte, Chairman, Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit and Convener of the Conference, extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest, Ms. Roop Rashi (IA&AS), Chief Executive Officer, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Government of India; the Guest of Honour; the Keynote Speaker; awardees; speakers; sponsors; members of the press and media; and all delegates.

In his address, Mr. Gupte highlighted the efforts of the TAI Mumbai Unit in consistently organizing conferences on future-oriented themes of national and global relevance, culminating in the 2026 international conference themed **“TEXTILES 2030 – Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations.”** He emphasized that the global textile and apparel industry is at a critical juncture, influenced by geopolitical shifts, rapidly evolving technologies, sustainability imperatives, and changing international trade and regulatory frameworks. He mentioned about the FTAs signed by the Government of India including the most recent FTA signed with European Union which should benefit the T & A exporters and bring back volumes & margins. He suggested to move towards value-added products where competition is less. He stressed on ESG regulations which have become quite stringent, so the awareness should be created amongst the stakeholders. The Conference included a dedicated Panel Discussion by All-Women Panel on the theme of 'Women Leadership driving a Change in T & A Sector' which was unique and for the first time in any Conference.

Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, President, Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit, in his Presidential Address, highlighted the rapidly changing global landscape facing the textile and apparel industry. He noted that geopolitics, trade realignments, sustainability expectations, and technological disruption are now as influential as cost and quality in global trade.



Chief Guest Ms. Roop Rashi, CEO, Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Govt. of India lighting the lamp.

Standing (L to R): Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, President, TAI, Mumbai Unit, Mr. R. R. Patil, Vice President, TAI, Mumbai Unit, Mr. Murugan Thenkondar, President & Head - Marketing and Business, Development (Fibre Marketing), Cellulosic Business, Grasim Industries Ltd., Mr. R. K. Vij, President, TAI, Ms. Roop Rashi, CEO, Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Govt. of India, Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Co. Founder & Jt. Managing Director, Wazir Advisors Pvt. Ltd., Dr. G. V. Aras, Conference Chairman & Trustee, TAI, Mumbai Unit, Mr. V. C. Gupte, Conference Convener & Chairman, TAI, Mumbai Unit, Dr. G. S. Nadiger, Vice Chairman, TAI, Mumbai Unit, Mr. Haresh B. Parekh, Hon. Secretary, TAI, Mumbai Unit.



Welcome Address by Mr. V. C. Gupte, Conference Convener & Chairman, TAI, Mumbai Unit.



Presidential Address by Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, President, TAI, Mumbai Unit.

Events held

Referring to recent U.S. tariff actions, he emphasized that trade today is increasingly shaped by alignment and perception. He welcomed the signing of the India–EU Free Trade Agreement as a significant opportunity to improve market access, reduce duty disadvantages, and strengthen India's position as a reliable sourcing partner for Europe, while stressing that preparedness will be key to benefiting from it. The address underlined that while domestic demand remains strong, exports face pressures from global slowdown, intense competition, and rising compliance requirements. To remain competitive, Indian textiles must combine cost efficiency with sustainability, digital enablement, and innovation. Calling Textiles 2030 a mindset rather than a milestone, he urged the industry to embrace automation, AI, ESG, circularity, design, and branding, and stressed the need for closer collaboration between industry, academia, and government. He concluded by reaffirming India's resilience and commitment not just to adapt to the future, but to design it.

Mr. R. K. Vij, President, Textile Association (India), in his address, emphasized the importance of a forward-looking and globally aligned approach as the textile and apparel industry moves towards the TEXTILES 2030 vision. He highlighted the need for the industry to remain resilient and responsive to changing geopolitical dynamics, evolving global trade environments, and rising international expectations. Mr. Vij underlined the role of strategic planning, policy alignment, and collective industry efforts in strengthening India's position in the global textile value chain. He appreciated the initiative of the TAI Mumbai Unit in organizing the international conference and stated that such platforms play a vital role in fostering dialogue, knowledge exchange, and long-term vision for the sustainable growth of the industry.

Dr. G. V. Aras, Conference Chairman and Trustee, Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit, briefed the delegates on the structure of the conference, including the selected topics and distinguished speakers. He stated that the programme was carefully curated to address the conference theme “TEXTILES 2030 – Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations” from the perspectives of the organized industry, MSMEs, and international stakeholders. He emphasized that the conference aimed to provide a comprehensive outlook on the future direction of the textile and apparel sector, keeping in view evolving global market dynamics, policy environments, and industry expectations. He further informed that the conference would feature knowledgeable and expert speakers. He informed that there would be a 'All-Women panel discussion speaking on the Women Leadership driving a change in the T&A Sector.

Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Co-Founder and Joint Managing Director, Wazir Advisors Pvt. Ltd., in his Keynote Address, provided a comprehensive overview of the TEXTILES 2030 landscape, highlighting how geopolitical shifts, evolving global trade dynamics, regulatory frameworks, and changing consumer and market expectations are shaping the future of the textile and apparel industry.



Address by Mr. R. K. Vij, President, TAI



Address by Conference Chairman, Dr. G. V. Aras



Key Note Speaker Mr. Prashant Agarwal, Co. Founder & Jt. Managing Director, Wazir Advisors Pvt. Ltd. addressing the gathering.

He emphasized the need for Indian textile enterprises to align their long-term strategies with global developments, emerging market opportunities, and sustainability-driven expectations to remain competitive in the decade ahead. He noted that with its strong manufacturing base and growing global relevance, the Indian textile and apparel industry is well positioned to play a pivotal role in the international value chain leading up to 2030.

Mr. Murugan Thenkondar, President and Global Head – Marketing and Business Development, Birla Cellulose, Grasim Industries Ltd., the Guest of Honour, addressed the gathering and appreciated the relevance and timeliness of the conference theme “TEXTILES 2030 – Navigating Geopolitics, Technology Innovations and Global Expectations.” He commended the TAI Mumbai Unit for organizing a forward-looking international conference that brought together diverse perspectives from across the textile value chain to deliberate on the future direction of the industry.

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit continued its long-standing tradition of recognizing distinguished personalities for their outstanding contribution to the Indian textile industry. At the present International Conference, the Lifetime Achievement Award was conferred upon **Mr. Amrishbhai Patel**, Chairman, Deesan Group of Companies; President, SVKM; and Chancellor, NMIMS, in recognition of his exemplary leadership and enduring contribution to industry, education, and society. In his remarks, Mr. Patel expressed his gratitude to the TAI Mumbai Unit for the honour and acknowledged the role of the textile sector in nation-building and long-term socio-economic development.

The Industrial Excellence Award was jointly presented to **Mr. Edward Menezes**, Executive Chairman, and **Mr. Sunil Chari**, Managing Director, Rossari Biotech Ltd., in recognition of their significant contribution to innovation, growth, and leadership in the textile chemicals sector. The awardees thanked the TAI Mumbai Unit for the recognition and reaffirmed their commitment to contributing to the future growth of the Indian textile industry in a globally evolving environment.



Guest of Honour, Mr. Murugan Thenkondar, President & Head - Marketing and Business, Development (Fibre Marketing), Cellulosic Business, Grasim Industries Ltd. addressing the gathering.



Mr. Chintanbhai Patel receiving The Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of his father Mr. Amrishbhai Patel, Chairman, Deesan Group of Companies by the hands of Chief Guest Ms. Roop Rashi.



Mr. Mikhail Menezes receiving The Industrial Excellence Award on behalf of his father Mr. Edward Menezes, Executive Chairman, Rossari Biotech Ltd. by the hands of Chief Guest Ms. Roop Rashi.



Mr. Sunil Chari, Managing Director, Rossari Biotech Ltd. receiving The Industrial Excellence Award by the hands of Chief Guest Ms. Roop Rashi.

Ms. Roop Rashi (IA&AS), Chief Executive Officer, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Government of India, and Chief Guest of the event, addressed the delegates and highlighted the significance of the conference theme **TEXTILES 2030** in providing a holistic and forward-looking perspective for the development of the textile and apparel sector. She emphasized the need for the industry to align with evolving global expectations, policy frameworks, and market dynamics while strengthening India's position in the international textile value chain. Ms. Roop Rashi appreciated The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit for selecting a timely and globally relevant theme and for organizing the international conference as a meaningful platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and strategic thinking for the future of the textile industry.



Release of Book of Papers



Chief Guest Ms. Roop Rashi, CEO, Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Govt. of India addressing the gathering.



Vote of Thanks by Mr. Haresh B. Parekh, Hon. Secretary, TAI, Mumbai Unit.

Informative technical sessions

There were three Technical Sessions – each Session had 3 papers and a Industry First All Women's Panel Discussion.

Technical Session I

Ms. Vaishali Kamble, Assistant General Manager - Future Fibre, Birla Cellulose, Grasim Industries Ltd., delivered the opening technical presentation of the conference on behalf of Mr. Shaymlal Patnaik, Jt. President, Head – Specialty Products. In her presentation, she spoke on the innovation in the cellulose fibres which would provide advantage over present fibre, but also also meet the ever changing regulations and compliances. The presentation provided valuable insights into how the industry can align with global requirements leading up to 2030.



Technical Session I – Speakers (Sitting L to R): Mr. Mikhail Menezes, Director – Technical, Rossari Biotech Limited, Ms. Vaishali Kamble, Assistant General Manager - Future Fibre, Birla Cellulose, Grasim Industries Ltd., Ms. Nidhi Kaushik, Sr. Vice President (Treasury), Kotak Mahindra Bank

Mr. Mikhail Menezes, Director – Technical, Rossari Biotech Ltd., delivered the second technical presentation of the conference. In his address, he dwelled on innovation in Surfactants which are treated as work horse of the chemical industry.

He introduced 'Green Surfactant' which would meet sustainability and regulations. He talked on biosurfactants which are derived from vegetable oils like palm oil, coconuts etc. These are highly biodegradable with lower toxicity and there is increasing consumer demand for green labels and stricter environmental regulations. He also laid stress on their functional advantage in textile processing. The presentation offered practical insights into aligning chemical solutions with future-ready textile manufacturing practices and was well appreciated by the delegates.

Ms. Nidhi Kaushik, Senior Vice President (Treasury), Kotak Mahindra Bank, delivered the third technical presentation of the conference. She provided an overview of the global financial and trade environment in the context of the TEXTILES 2030 vision, highlighting the impact of international market movements, currency trends, and trade dynamics on the textile and apparel sector. Her presentation offered valuable perspectives on financial planning, risk awareness, and preparedness for textile enterprises operating in an increasingly interconnected global marketplace. The session generated keen interest among the delegates and concluded with an interactive question-and-answer segment.

Technical Session II

Mr. Sudipto Mandal and **Mr. Shridhar Dhumal**, Regional Sales Directors, Oerlikon Textile India Pvt. Ltd. (now Oerlikon Barmag), jointly delivered a technical presentation on Recycling Technologies. He provided the details of waste of different types generated in India and solutions provided by Oerlikon in PET bottles waste. He also talked on R & D activities followed in Oerlikon in chemical recycling. His colleague, Mr. Shridhar Dhumal presented paper on non-woven technologies offered by Oerlikon. He specially covered spunbond and Meltblown applications and their solutions provided by Oerlikon like in geotextiles. The presentation offered insights into how textile enterprises can prepare for future industry requirements and both the papers were well received by the delegates.



Technical Session II – Speakers (Sitting L to R): Mr. Sudipto Mandal, Regional Sales Director, Oerlikon Barmag, Mr. Shridhar Dhumal, Regional Sales Director, Oerlikon Barmag, Mr. B. Sankar, General Manager (Technical and Development), Perfect Engineering Corporation, Ms. Payal Kochar Shrimal, Channel Sales Manager, Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd.

Mr. B. Sankar, General Manager (Technical and Development), Perfect Engineering Corporation, delivered a technical presentation focusing on Recycling of textile waste. Perfect Engineering is providing recycling plant for the textile waste. He shared in detail information about the recycling plant and its operation. The delegates appreciated the working of recycling of textile waste. The presentation provided practical perspectives for the industry.

Ms. Payal Kochar Shrimal, Channel Sales Manager, Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited, delivered a technical presentation highlighting the role of sustainable energy integration in shaping the future of the textile value chain in line with the TEXTILES 2030 vision. She discussed the importance of aligning energy strategies with evolving global expectations, environmental considerations, and long-term operational resilience for textile enterprises. The presentation offered valuable insights into how the industry can prepare for future energy-related challenges and opportunities.

Technical Session III

Mr. Rahul Bhajekar, Managing Director, Global Standards GmbH, delivered a technical presentation addressing the evolving regulatory and compliance landscape of the textile and apparel industry. He introduced ESG Regulations to the audience. He highlighted 5 regularity pillars impacting textiles and apparel industry. He talked about the regulation more specific to the European Union. He specified Europe's headline regulations for textiles and apparel, like ESPR, Waste/Circularity, CSRD, CSDDO and Antigreenwashing. He explained all these regulations. He also briefed on very recent new levy on fast fashion by Germany.

He presented on Ecomodulation specific about France, Spain and Italy. He also talked about regulations in US and Asia-Pacific. At the end, he also what Indian Textile and Apparel need to follow minimum viable compliance stack. His presentation provided clarity on ESG regulations and It was very highly appreciated by the delegates.

Mr. Navodit Babel, Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, Green Story Europe B.V., Netherlands, delivered a technical presentation focusing on the transition of the textile and apparel industry towards greater transparency and accountability. He showed three main points for regulatory timelines, for example Green Claims Directive by 2023, ESPR adoption by 2024 and Digital Product Passport by 2027. He explained the three regulations in detail. He also presented the consequences of non-compliance in terms of Heavy Penalty, Market Access and Brand Trust. He presented strategic roadmap for brands. The presentation highlighted the importance of credible data, traceability, and clear communication of sustainability efforts to international stakeholders. The presentation was very well appreciated.



Technical Session III – Speakers (Standing L to R): Mr. Rahul Bhajekar, Managing Director, Global Standard gGmbH, Germany, Dr. Leonie Vaas, General Manager – Sustainability, Hirdaramani Apparel, Sri Lanka, Mr. Navodit Babel, Co-Founder and CTO, Green Story Europe B.V., Netherlands.

Dr. Leonie Vaas, General Manager – Sustainability, Hirdaramani Apparel, Sri Lanka, delivered a technical presentation highlighting how her organization has implemented ESG goals across its manufacturing campuses in six countries as part of its long-term vision. She shared practical insights into the company's approach towards embedding environmental, social, and governance principles across operations, supply chains, and workplace practices. Drawing from real-world implementation experiences, her presentation illustrated how structured ESG strategies can drive responsible growth and resilience across geographically diverse operations. She presented at the end of the presentation highlighting that ESG Readiness is Not A Cost, but it is Startegic Investment.

Session III – Panel Discussion

The theme of the Panel Discussion was **“Women Leadership Driving a Change in the Textile & Apparel Sector”**, bringing together a distinguished group of women leaders from industry, technology, sustainability, heritage, and global business. The session drew an enthusiastic response from delegates and underscored the growing role of women leadership in shaping the future of the textile and apparel industry.

The Panel Discussion was moderated by **Ms. Neha Gupta**, Founder, International Fashion Business Exchange Council.

The panel discussion served as an insightful platform for industry stakeholders to understand the perspectives, experiences, and leadership journeys of women professionals who are actively driving transformation across the textile and apparel value chain. The session highlighted the increasing influence of women in decision-making roles and their contribution to innovation, sustainability, and inclusive growth in the sector.



Panel Discussion Session (Standing L to R): Ms. Anoushka Veljee, Chief Revenue Officer, Frontier.cool Inc., California, USA, Ms. Shefali Gopalka, Partner, National Dyechem Industries, Ms. Smita Yeole, Managing Director, Oriental Weaving & Processing Mills Pvt. Ltd., Ms. Katyayani Agarwal, Freelance Consultant, Museum Curator & Cultural Heritage Specialist, Ms. Neha Gupta, Founder, International Fashion Business Exchange Council (IFBEC), Dr. Seema Srivastava, Executive Director, India ITME Society, Mrs. Smita Joshi, Vice President - Home Textiles and Exports, Sutlej Textiles & Industries Ltd.

The panel included eminent women leaders from diverse segments of the industry:

1. **Dr. Seema Srivastava**, Executive Director, India ITME Society
2. **Ms. Smita Yeole**, Managing Director, Oriental Weaving & Processing Mills Pvt. Ltd.
3. **Ms. Shefali Gopalka**, Partner, National Dyechem Industries
4. **Ms. Katyayani Agarwal**, Freelance Consultant, Museum Curator, Cultural Heritage Specialist
5. **Ms. Anoushka Veljee**, Chief Revenue Officer, Frontier.Cool Inc., California, USA
6. **Mrs. Smita Joshi**, Vice President – Home Textiles and Exports, Sutlej Textiles & Industries Ltd.

Ms. Neha Gupta skilfully moderated the discussion, guiding the panel through a wide range of topics covering leadership journeys, challenges faced by women in the textile and apparel industry, opportunities for growth, and the evolving role of women in shaping global business practices.

The panel discussion covered several key areas, offering valuable insights to the delegates, including:

1. Women Leadership and Industry Transformation

The panelists shared how women leaders are contributing to the transformation of the textile and apparel sector through:

- Strategic leadership and decision-making
- Driving innovation and operational excellence
- Strengthening sustainability and ethical business practices

2. Challenges and Opportunities

The discussion addressed challenges faced by women professionals, including:

- Navigating leadership roles in traditionally male-dominated segments
- Balancing professional growth with organizational and social expectations
- Creating inclusive workplaces that support talent development

At the same time, panelists highlighted emerging opportunities for women leaders as the industry becomes more global, diverse, and innovation-driven.

3. Building Inclusive and Future-Ready Organizations

The panel emphasized the importance of:

- Encouraging diversity and inclusion at leadership levels
- Mentorship and capacity-building for young professionals
- Creating organizational cultures that support collaboration and long-term growth

4. The Way Forward

A recurring theme of the discussion was the need for collective efforts by industry bodies, organizations, and leadership teams to:

- Enable greater participation of women in leadership roles
- Foster inclusive growth across the textile and apparel value chain
- Prepare the industry for future global expectations under the TEXTILES 2030 vision

The session concluded with an interactive question-and-answer segment, where delegates actively engaged with the panellists on leadership development, career pathways, and the evolving role of women in the textile and apparel industry. The panellists provided thoughtful and inspiring responses, further enriching the discussion.

The event was widely appreciated by the delegates, who represented a broad cross-section of the textile and apparel ecosystem, including manufacturers, exporters, designers, technology providers, academicians, and policy stakeholders. Participants commended the conference and panel discussion for offering thoughtful, balanced, and forward-looking perspectives on the challenges and opportunities shaping the textile and apparel industry.

Events held

In concluding the session, the moderator summarized the key takeaways, emphasizing the importance of:

- Adopting a strategic and globally aligned outlook to remain competitive in international markets
- Encouraging innovation and adaptability to address evolving industry and market requirements
- Integrating sustainability and responsible practices into long-term business strategies
- Preparing organizations and professionals for changing global expectations and future industry dynamics

The conference concluded with a strong collective message that while the textile and apparel industry faces significant global challenges in the coming decade, it also holds substantial opportunities for growth, resilience, and leadership on the world stage. Delegates highlighted the need for collaborative efforts, informed decision-making, and long-term vision to successfully navigate the road to TEXTILES 2030.

There was active interaction between speakers and delegates during the question-and-answer sessions as well as informal discussions during tea and lunch breaks, enabling meaningful exchange of ideas and effective dissemination of insights aligned with the conference theme.



The Distinguished Audience

Mr. Haresh B. Parekh, Hon. Secretary, Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit, proposed the Vote of Thanks, expressing gratitude to the speakers, panelists, sponsors, delegates, and organizing committee members for contributing to the success of the International Conference, which was attended by around 300 participants.

Events held

Webinar on

“India–US Trade Deal 2026: Overview, Objectives & Framework”

held Saturday, 21 February 2026 from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit successfully conducted a webinar titled “India–US Trade Deal 2026: Overview, Objectives & Framework” on **Saturday, 21 February 2026**, from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

The session brought together industry leaders and experts to discuss the potential implications of the proposed trade agreement between India and the United States, particularly for the textile and apparel sector.

Session Overview:

The webinar was moderated by **Mr. Rajiv Ranjan**, President, The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit. The panel featured distinguished speakers including:



Mr. R. K. Vij, President, The Textile Association (India) and Advisor – Polyester, Indorama Synthetics (India) Ltd. and **Mr. Sachin Kumar Arora**, Executive Director, Textile Machinery Manufacturers Association (India).

The discussion provided valuable insights into the evolving trade dynamics between India and the United States and explored how the proposed agreement could shape the future of bilateral trade.

Key Discussion Points:

- The webinar covered several critical aspects of the proposed trade deal, including:
- Background and key highlights of the India–US Trade Deal 2026
- Strategic objectives and economic implications for both nations
- Potential impact on the Indian textile and apparel industry
- Emerging export–import opportunities under the proposed framework
- Tariff structures, policy reforms, and market access considerations
- Key challenges, risks, and future outlook

LIVE WEBINAR
The Textile Association (India) Mumbai Unit
India–US Trade Deal 2026: Overview, Objectives & Framework
Saturday, 21st February 2026
11.00 AM TO 12.30 PM

Moderator	Speaker	Speaker	
			
Mr. Rajiv Ranjan President The Textile Association (India) Mumbai Unit	Mr. R. K. Vij President, TAI and Advisor - Polyester Indorama Synthetics (India) Ltd.	Mr. Sachin Kumar Executive Director Textile Machinery Manufacturers Association (India)	
Click Link Below			
Registration Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/nMCsoxVMTa2GT_ST4s8oHQ (After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar)			
RAJIV RANJAN President	R. R. PATIL Vice President	V. C. GUPTA Chairman	H. B. PAREKH Hon. Secretary
The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit 602, Santosh Apartment, 6th Floor, Plot No. 72-A, Dr. M. B. Raut Road, Shivaji Park, Dadar (W), Mumbai – 400 028 Tel: 02231502687 / 9324904270 / 9324904271 taimumbaiunit@gmail.com www.textileassociationindia.com			CONVENOR: Mr. Hareesh B. Parekh +91-9167515676



Insights for the Textile Industry:

Speakers highlighted that the proposed trade agreement could create significant opportunities for India's textile and apparel exports, especially in segments where India holds a competitive advantage such as cotton textiles, yarn, and garments. At the same time, the panel emphasized the need for policy preparedness, compliance readiness, and technological advancement to remain competitive in the global market.

The discussion also underlined the importance of strategic collaboration between industry stakeholders, policymakers, and technology providers to maximize the benefits of the agreement.

Conclusion:

The webinar concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where participants engaged with the speakers on issues related to trade regulations, compliance frameworks, and the future trajectory of the textile sector under the proposed trade deal.

The session was well received by members and industry professionals, reaffirming the commitment of the TAI Mumbai Unit to promote knowledge sharing, industry dialogue, and informed decision-making within the textile community.



Social Media initiative taken by the TAI, Mumbai Unit

As a Social Media initiative taken by the TAI, Mumbai Unit, we are regularly posting news articles on LinkedIn. We are glad to inform you that we have crossed 12000 followers on LinkedIn. We have also started our other social media platforms like Instagram, twitter, facebook, etc. We request all the members to follow our social media pages:



LinkedIn :

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/textile-association-india-mumbai-unit-90658021b/>



Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61566748117668&mibextid=ZbWKwL>



Instagram

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/textilefortoday?igsh=ZHJjaHpoa3ZqdHZ0>



X (Formerly Twitter):

https://x.com/textilefortoday?t=2i070Exz2ahyCrmlk_uXEw&s=09



WhatsApp Group only for the members of TAI, Mumbai Unit.

This group will help the members to get regular updates about events, LinkedIn post link, JTA, Newsletter letters, etc.

We request all the members to give permission with your WhatsApp number to add the same in the group by mail on taimumbaiunit@gmail.com or on mobile 9324904271.

Whatsapp Group Link: (Only for Members of TAI, Mumbai Unit)

https://chat.whatsapp.com/FsFfmb12dIXBJQ96wXH4nf?mode=gi_t

Join The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit!

Your Gateway to Excellence in the Textile Industry

About Us

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit, is a premier professional body dedicated to advancing the Indian textile industry. With a rich history of over eight decades, we are committed to fostering the growth and development of textile professionals and technocrats.

Our mission is to enhance industrial performance by promoting scientific knowledge, continuous education, and professional ethics.

Our objective is to promote and stimulate the thought and knowledge of the science of textile technology and its communication by continuing education and training programme in the field of manufacturing of fibre, yarn, fabrics and garments of any description in combination with the knowledge of natural science which relates to the physical, chemical or other fundamental properties of any of the substances used or any of the manufacturing processes employed in the textile education.

Our Key Activities

- **Conferences & Seminars:** We organise national and international conferences, seminars, and workshops on the latest trends and technologies in the textile industry.
- **Exhibitions:** We host exhibitions to showcase the latest textile machinery and products, providing a platform for business-to-business interactions.
- **Educational Programs:** We conduct professional examinations (ATA, GMTA) and refresher courses to help members enhance their qualifications and stay updated with industry developments.
- **Publications:** We publish the prestigious "Journal of the Textile Association" (JTA) and other valuable literature to disseminate knowledge and research in the field.
- **Networking Events:** We provide numerous opportunities to connect with fellow professionals, industry leaders, and experts.

Past Events

- International Conference "Automation and Robotics in Textile & Apparel Industry"
- Hybrid Session "Automation of GST Refund for Textile Industry"
- Webinar "Key for Success in Business Daily Profit & Loss"
- Lecture "Opportunities & Threats AI poses for MSME textile units"
- International Conference "Sustainability and Circularity – The New Challenges for the Textile Value Chain"
- International Conference on - "Digitalization - A Step Towards Textile 4.0"
- International Conference - "TEXTILE 4.0 - Global and Indian Perspective:
- Conference - "Make in India - Global Vision of Indian Textile Industry"

Become a Corporate Member of the TAI!

- This membership will be open to the Textile units, Fibre manufacturers, Textile machinery manufacturers, Dyes, Chemicals, and Auxiliary manufacturers, etc., connected with the Textile Industry and Textile Research Institutions and Laboratories.
- The Corporate Membership allows the right to depute four persons to participate in the activities organised by the Association. Such Nominees will enjoy all the facilities of Life Membership.

Why should you become a Corporate Member?

- Substantially concessional delegate fees for all our events.
- Opportunities to be part of delegations to major international textile events.
- A chance to enhance your professional qualifications.
- Access to our exclusive publications and e-journal.
- Networking opportunities with a vast community of textile professionals.
- Meet your peers
- Participate in cutting-edge discussions at the Conferences and Webinars
- The chance to discuss issues with highly experienced stalwarts of the industry.

Join us to be a part of a vibrant community and contribute to the future of the textile industry.

Get in Touch!

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit

602, Santosh Apartment, 6th Floor, Plot No.72-A, Dr. M. B. Raut Marg, Shivaji Park, Dadar (W), Mumbai – 400 028

Phone: Tel: 02231502687 / 9324904270 / 9324904271

E-mail: taimumbaiunit@gmail.com Website: www.textileassociationindia.com



Mumbai Unit

The Textile Association (India) Mumbai Unit

Membership of The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit

The Textile Association (India) is the national body of textile professionals and technocrats having 26 affiliated units all over the country. The TAI, Mumbai Unit is one of the largest Unit in the country having the membership strength of over 4000 members. The Mumbai Unit is the pioneer Unit of this Association and organizes seminars, national and international conferences in the most professional manner, for the betterment of the textile industry.

We request you to become the member of the Association and be a part of this esteemed organization.

The Association renders the following benefits to its members:

1. Member is eligible for a substantial discount in delegates fees in the conferences / seminars / exhibitions organized by any Unit of the Association all over India and TAI, Central Office.
2. Opportunity to enhance your textile qualification by undertaking examination / submitting CV to acquire professional qualifications such as ATA, GMTA, FTA.
3. Eligible for a complimentary soft copy of bi-monthly magazine i.e. Journal of the Textile Association (JTA) and Newsletter.
4. WhatsApp Group (Only for members of TAI, Mumbai Unit) – 9324904271
WhatsApp Group Link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/DxcOyEVeQza9akIQCxHUuX>
We are regularly sending Linkedin Post, news, magazines, newspaper, etc on whatsapp group
5. You can regularly visit our website for the current issue of JTA and other activities of the TAI, Mumbai Unit. Our website is: www.textileassociationindia.com

The various memberships of TAI available are as follows. We have three categories of membership: Life / Patron / Corporate membership.

TAI MEMBERSHIP FEES

Srl. No.	Type of Member	Membership Fees	GST @ 18%	Total Fees
1.	Life Member	3,200 /-	576 /-	3,776 /-
2.	Patron Member	4,600 /-	828 /-	5,428 /-
3.	Corporate Member	20,000 /-	3,600 /-	23,600 /-

Please visit our website for membership registration: website: www.textileassociationindia.com

Registration Link: <http://textileassociationindia.com/online-membership-registration/>

You can register yourself or your organization online through above registration link. Please transfer the necessary membership fees including GST to the Unit by RTGS/NEFT and mention the payment details while filling-up the online form.

The Life & Patron Membership is for individual person and Corporate Membership is for Organisation. The fees for the membership is onetime and membership is for the lifetime.

If you need any further information, please contact us.

Appeal to Members

Dear Members,

We have noticed that many members have not informed changes in their personal profile due to which various communication sent by the Mumbai Unit do not reach them. We would kindly request you to spare few minutes for updating your records for our office purposes. Your kind action in this regard will establish a continuous and better link between yourself and the Association. We would request you to kindly complete the following format and send it back to Association as per your convenience i.e. by e-mail, post or courier, etc. This will enable us to serve you in a better way. Also request your friends / colleagues who are members of the Association to update their address and contact details. Kindly accept our thanks in advance for this co-operation from your end.

Membership No.:.....

Name:.....

Designation:.....

Organisation:.....

Address of the Organisation:.....

.....

.....

Tel:..... Fax:.....

Mobile:..... Email:

Residence Address:.....

.....

.....

Tel (Residence):.....

Address for communication (Tick on the preferred block) Residence Organisation



Mumbai Unit



taimumbaiunit@gmail.com



www.textileassociationindia.com