



It is with great humility and a profound sense of responsibility that I present this message as the newly appointed President of **The Indian Silk Export Promotion Council** (ISEPC). Having assumed office on Sept 30, 2024, I am deeply honoured to lead this apex body that represents the dynamic, diverse, and resilient Indian export community.

This 42nd Annual Report, a landmark, is not only a comprehensive account of the Council's performance for the financial year 2024–25, but also a tribute to four decades of ISEPC's unwavering service to the nation's exporters. The achievements highlighted herein are the result of the strategic and dedicated efforts of the ISEPC's Committee of Administration team. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of them for navigating the organization through a year of global economic flux and evolving trade landscapes with clarity and commitment.

Taking the baton forward, I am acutely aware of the legacy I inherit. The strong foundations laid over the past decades are a source of both inspiration and responsibility. My endeavours will be to build upon this legacy and elevate ISEPC to newer heights of service and impact. Our focus will remain on empowering Indian exporters, especially SMEs (tinny and tots), through capacity building, digital transformation, greater access to global markets, and meaningful policy interventions that reflect ground realities.

India's ambition to be a global trade powerhouse is within grasp. ISEPC, as the collective voice of exporters, will play an increasingly crucial role in shaping this aspiration into reality, by facilitating dialogue, driving innovation, and fostering competitiveness across the entire export ecosystem.

On behalf of the Council, I express my sincere thanks to our members, the Government of India, trade bodies, industry stakeholders, and all our partners. Your trust, collaboration, and shared purpose are the cornerstones of ISEPC's success.

In the financial year 2024–25, the total value of India's goods and services exports reached a record US \$824.93 billion, marking a healthy growth of around 6 percent over the previous year's US \$776.68 billion. The merchandise exports were marginally up, at US \$437.51 billion, compared to US \$437.06 billion in FY 2023–24, while services exports showed robust growth of 13.6%, rising to US \$387.51 billion from US \$341.06 billion. Whereas as silk and other allied silk products are concerned.

Building on this solid foundation, India is actively diversifying its export basket beyond traditional products such as iron ore and agricultural commodities. The country is now targeting high growth sectors like electronics (which rose over 32 percent to US \$38.6 billion), pharmaceuticals (up over 9 percent to US \$30.5 billion), engineering goods (up 6.7 percent to US \$116.7 billion), and food items including rice, coffee, tea, and meat products; textiles, silk, handlooms, handicrafts all experiencing double digit gains in FY 2024–25.

Market Size & Growth:

➤ **Significant Market:**

India is the world's largest consumer and the second-largest producer of raw silk.

➤ *Value & Projection:*

The market reached ₹612.7 billion in 2024 and is expected to grow to ₹2,217.5 billion by 2033, at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 14.6%.

Key Market Drivers

✓ **Strong Domestic Demand:**

High domestic consumption of silk for religious ceremonies, festivals, and traditional attire like sarees drives the market.

✓ *Growing Exports:*

India exports a variety of silk products, including raw silk, yarn, fabrics, readymade garments, carpets, and silk waste, to more than 190 countries.

✓ *Government Support:*

The government provides R&D, technology transfer, and training, as well as financial and technical assistance, to support the industry.

Production & Consumption Trends

❖ **Increased Production:**

Raw silk production increased to 41, 121.40 MT in 2024-25, supported by expanded mulberry plantations.

❖ *Bivoltine Silk Demand:*

There is a growing demand for superior quality bivoltine silk for both domestic and export markets.

❖ *Major Producing States:*

Karnataka leads in silk production, known for its soft and lustrous Mysore silk. Bhagalpur in Bihar is a notable center for Tussar silk.

Key Export Products & Destinations

✚ **Top Exports:** Silk fabrics, made-ups, and readymade garments are the most exported items, followed by silk waste and carpets.

✚ **Major Importers:** Key export markets include the UAE, USA, China, and Italy.

✚ *Research & Development:*

Ongoing R&D projects aim to improve silk production techniques and develop new products.

The Government plans to further broaden export offerings—such as processed foods, ready to eat meals, confectioneries, and value-added fruit products like jackfruit and banana—through in-depth market research, tailored legal and regulatory compliance, and customized branding. This strategy aims to align India's export portfolio with global demand, enhance price competitiveness, and meet consumer and statutory standards across diverse markets.

I along with the ED cum CIO called on the Commerce Secretary, Mr Sunil Barthwal on April 15, 2024 at New Delhi and discussed several key issues related to the exports sector of the economy.

During the first interaction of my predecessor on May 16, 2024, he talked about the exports' performance, gave suggestions, and put across his views on the recent developments in international trade and India's foreign trade, especially exports and imports. During the interaction, he was accompanied by me and by he ED cum CIO along with a Committee Member who also interacted with the media persons during the event.

The Hon'ble Union Commerce and Industry Minister, Mr Piyush Goyal on June 27, 2024 chaired a meeting with ISEPC, other Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), FIEO and Industry Associations and discussed strategies to enhance global market outreach.

The Hon'ble Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Ms Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the seventh Pre-Budget Consultation with representatives of trade and services to take suggestions for the upcoming General Budget 2024-25 in New Delhi on June 25, 2024. ISEPC at the meeting was represented through our representation. During his intervention at the meeting, we put forward several key suggestions to further support exports.

ISEPC welcomed the Union Budget presented on July 23, 2024 in the Parliament and greet the Hon'ble Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister, Ms Nirmala Sitharaman for a budget that has focused on the growth potential of the Indian economy by focusing on farmers, poor, youth and women. It has also created a long-term roadmap in pursuit of not only keeping the country as the fastest growing economy but also developing it as Viksit Bharat.

ISEPC participated in a comprehensive Board of Trade Meeting chaired by our Commerce and Industry Minister, Mr. Piyush Goyal. The meeting was extensive and lasted throughout the day attended by the several Chairman of the EPCs. We shared our sentiment, having also been fully engaged in the discussions. In the meeting of the Board of Trade, ISEPC flagged the issue of flow of credit to exports, which is constantly declining, extension of interest equalization scheme, deeper subvention, developing an Indian shipping line, extending normal transit period for issuance of bill and transmission issues in ICEGATE, DGFT and EDPMS. The Hon'ble CIM said that he is pursuing the extension of the Interest Equalization Scheme and RoDTEP.

On September 11, 2024, the Hon'ble Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, and the Hon'ble MoS for Commerce and Industry, Shri Jitin Prasada, held a meeting in New Delhi with ISEPC and other Export Promotion Councils and Industry Associations. I along with the ED Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sharma represented ISEPC at this meeting, along with senior officials from other EPCs and industry groups.

On September 19, 2024, ISEPC also attended an inter-ministerial meeting in New Delhi, led by the Hon'ble CIM, to address the rising costs of freight, shipping delays, container shortages, and congestion at ports. Senior officials from several ministries attended this meeting to discuss these issues.

Looking ahead, ISEPC made several key suggestions in the pre-Budget meeting with the Hon'ble Finance Minister on December 26, 2024. We requested that the Interest Equalization Scheme be extended, as it is set to end in 2025. This scheme helps exporters by reducing credit costs and improving their ability to compete in global markets. We also proposed a new marketing scheme for the U.S. market to increase exports by \$25 billion. Additionally, we pointed out the opportunity for India to replace China in textiles sector.

ISEPC always raises the voice of the exporting community to remove the trade barriers and seamless exports. During the last few months, ISEPC took up several issues with the Government which were affecting exports and the Government accepted the following: -

- Extension of RoDTEP scheme for exports made from DTA Units and AA/EOU/SEZ Units till 30.09.2025
- Enabling Voluntary Payment electronically on ICEGATE e-payment Platform replacing the TR-6 Challans
- Roll out of automated OOC for AEO T2 & T3 Authorization Holders
- Facility to choose e-mail id for ICEGATE Registration.
- In merchanting trade, earlier, the time allowed between the import and export legs of a

transaction was previously 120 days which has now been extended to 180 days.

- Extension in filing of Annual RoDTEP Return (ARR) from 31.03.2025 to 30.06.2025 while grace period extended from 30.06.2025 to 30.09.2025.
- Indian Exporters now allowed to open, hold and maintain a Foreign Currency Account with a bank outside India, for realisation of full export value and advance remittance received by the exporter towards export of goods or services.
- To enhance transparency and for electronic disbursement of refunds, an online processing and disbursement of Customs duty refund applications has been developed and is enabled on the Customs Automated System.
- Requirement of multiple bonds that need to be submitted at different Ports for different schemes/ benefits done away by CBIC by introducing Ekal Anubandh, a Single Unified Multipurpose Electronic Bond (SEB).
- Resolution for cases wherein shipping bills unable to capture above 120 characters description posed issues in closing of Advance Authorizations.
- CBIC has now allowed post EGM amendments as well as conversion of export incentives post exports.

On January 30, 2025, Union Commerce & Industry Minister Mr. Piyush Goyal and Minister of State Mr. Jitin Prasada co-chaired a key meeting in New Delhi with ISEPC, other Export Promotion Councils, FIEO and Industry Associations. Discussions focused on boosting exports, enhancing global competitiveness, and simplifying trade processes. Representing ISEPC, I along with the ED (A) Shri Sanjeev Kr Sharma highlighted key concerns including the Interest Equalization Scheme (IES), R&D support, trade compliance timelines, GST refunds for e-commerce exporters, self-generation of eBRCs, and a Liberal Amnesty Scheme for EPCG, Advance, and DFIA licenses. I also pleased to share the approval of the Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs (MCGS-MSME). With 60% guarantee coverage by NCGTC and credit access up to ₹100 crore, this will empower MSMEs to invest in advanced machinery and scale up manufacturing and exports.

On behalf of the Committee of Administration and in my personal capacity, I reaffirm our continued and steadfast commitment to working in close partnership with the Government and the exporting community. Our collective focus remains on streamlining export operations and aligning with national objectives. We remain confident in the dynamic leadership of our Hon'ble Union Cabinet Textile Minister Shri Giriraj Singh ji, our Hon'ble Minister Commerce & Industry Minister, Shri Piyush Goyal ji, whose advocacy for the export sector in discussions with the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman, and the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, continues to be instrumental in realizing the Government's vision of India for becoming the third-largest economy by 2027 and a USD 5 trillion economy in the next three years.

I take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation to all members of our Council and the entire silk fraternity — the Committee of Administration, all the Four Regional Chairmen, Empowered Committee Members, Functional Committee Members, and our Executive Director cum Secretary and CIO, Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sharma— for their continued trust and support. Their collective efforts have enabled ISEPC to deliver on its mandate and effectively support the exporter community. I would also like to acknowledge the commendable performance and dedication of our officers and staff, whose resilience and commitment, particularly during testing times, have been exemplary under the able leadership of our Executive Director cum Secretary.

We are deeply grateful to Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Commerce & Industry Minister; Shri Jitin Prasada, Hon'ble Minister of State; Shri Sunil Barthwal, Commerce Secretary; Shri Ajay Bhadoo, Additional Secretary & DGFT; Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, the then DGFT; Shri

Arvind Srivastava, Revenue Secretary; Smt. Neelam Shami Rao, Secretary Textiles, Shri Rohit Bansal, Addl Secretary, Smt Shubhra, Trade Advisor in the Ministry of Textiles; Shri Sanjay Kumar Agarwal, Chairman, CBIC; Shri Ravi Agarwal, Chairman, CBDT; Shri Sanjay Malhotra, Governor, RBI and all senior officials from the Ministry of Commerce, DGFT, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of MSME, Ministry of DONER, Reserve Bank of India, and other allied Ministries and departments. Your consistent guidance and cooperation have been crucial in advancing our national export agenda. I also would like to thanks to all the Chairmen of all the Export Promotion Councils, their executive heads and staff members who were equally part and parcel of our export oriented progrmames with a single aim to increase the export basket who are friends and well-wishers of our Council.

A word of thanks is also due to our own Press and Media in India and abroad, for their responsible reporting and advocacy, which have been instrumental in bringing attention to the concerns of exporters and helping shape a more responsive policy environment.

The Indian Silk, Handloom, and Handicraft Exporters' Council (ISEPC) is gearing up for a promising future, driven by its mission to support Indian exporters. However, they are facing challenges due to delayed government grants under the Market Access Initiative (MAI) and non-approval of Export Promotion (EP) events by ministries. This has hindered MSE members' participation in global events.

Key Challenges:

- ❖ **Delayed Government Grants:** Non-release of grants under MAI has affected MSE members' ability to participate in international events.
- ❖ **Non-approval of EP Events:** Ministries' non-approval has further limited participation in global trade fairs.

Strategic Focus:

- ✚ **Strengthening Global Engagement:** ISEPC aims to enhance its global presence and connections.
- ✚ **Digital Transformation:** Accelerating digital trade facilitation to streamline processes.
- ✚ **Sustainability:** Embedding sustainable practices in their operations.

To overcome these challenges, ISEPC plans to:

- Organize participation in demanding fairs worldwide, anticipating future government grant approvals.
- Focus on strategic areas to boost exports and support the growth of India's silk industry.

SNo	The Council has Requested support from the Govt on the following issues
1	Focus Product Scheme and Focus Market Scheme
2.	Reinstatement of the Interest Equalization Scheme (IES) at 5%
3.	Extension of RoSCTL and RoDTEP schemes and enhancement of rates
4.	Removal of 11% import duty on cotton
5.	Subsidized freight for US bound shipments
6.	30% Collateral free loan under ECLGS scheme with 5% interest subvention
7.	Moratorium for the repayment of principal loan amount
8.	Support for employers contribution in PF and ESI payment

9.	Introduction of an employment stability linked support scheme and textile export promotion scheme (TEPS)
10.	Income tax exemption by way of excluding USA sales from taxable income calculation
11.	Market Development Assistance schemes for participation in trade fairs, BSMS and market intelligence
12.	Global branding of Indian textile products

Ease of doing business (EoDB) measures

S.No	Support Requested
1.	Simplification and digitalization of export procedures (compliances, documentation)
2.	Simplification of the Advance Authorisation Scheme by permitting imports on self-certification basis
3.	Exemption of average export obligation under EPCG
4.	Quick disbursement of dues and State subsidies
5.	Special advance authorization scheme with greater flexibility in input-output norms
6.	Extension of EO period under Advance Authorization and EPCG scheme including average EO
7.	Rationalization of GST rates across value chain

On Export Promotion Front:

ISEPC organized participation in **Texworld (Apparel Sourcing Fair) with 30 member exhibitors** held at Paris from 1-3 July 2024 which was inaugurated by the Ambassador of India to Paris **Shri Jawed Ashraf** and the Additional represented the ISEPC wherein other EPCs were also participated. The Council was represented by the Addl ED Shri Sanjeev Kr Sharma who had done all the spade work of Liaison with Mission diplomats and the fair authority and manned the Council's information booth for the facility of the trade visitors.

ISEPC further organized participation of its member exporters in the **Sourcing at MAGIC fair at Las Vegas, USA from 19-21 August 2024 with 30 member exhibitors** of all products of textile segment including members of Leather Export Promotion Council under the Umbrella of The Indian Silk Export Promotion Council. The ISEPC was represented by Shri Sanjeev Kr Sharma, Addl ED who had liaison with the Embassy of India at San Francisco and the fair authority resulting the gigantic inauguration. The fair was inaugurated by the **CGI Dr K. Srikar Reddy**, a career diplomat who oversees the Consulate General of India and its services, such as visa and passport support for Indian nationals. Dr Reddy also served in the Ministry of Commerce as Joint Secretary and was the Chief Negotiator responsible for FTA agreements with EU and other nations from the Govt of India side.

ISEPC also mounted and led 26 exhibitor members to Paris, France to participate in the September 2024 edition of **Who's Next Paris from September 8-10, 2024**, focused on all the segment of silk and other allied silk product exports. The delegation, led by our Addl Executive Director Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, met with major hypermarket chains in both countries. The event was inaugurated by the Ambassador of India to Paris **Shri Jawed Ashraf, IFS** a season's diplomat who had bid farewell to his diplomatic career of 35 years in and around the power corridors of the world, being one of the most successful Ambassador during his days. The Ambassador and his diplomats were mesmerized with the display of vibrant coloured products of silk, textiles, handlooms, handicrafts etc and also released the fair directory of the Council.

ISEPC organized participation in the **Global Sourcing Fair at Hong Kong** held from 27-31 October 2024 with 40 member exhibitors of the Council. This time ISEPC also involved the participation of around seven members from the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council. The Fair was inaugurated by The Consul General of India in Hong Kong **Ms Satwant Khanalia, IFS**, a remarkable and inspiring career diplomat. She was known for her inclusive outreach and dedication to connecting with the Indian diaspora and she was very happy to also release our Fair Directory and presented a copy of the same to every one including to the Hong Kong buyers, which she described as the encyclopaedia of the Silk Industry and also kept a couple of copies of the ISEPC Fair Directory in the CGI's library, The ISEPC was represented by Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, Addl ED and done all the liaison work for the inauguration;

ISEPC organized its **18th India International Silk Fair cum Mega Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet (RBSM)** during 2024, held from November 7-9, 2024, at Yashobhoomi. New Delhi This event, was organized by The Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, gave a global platform to all the state's products. It brought together over 250 international buyers from more than 35 countries. The event was opened which was inaugurated by **Dr. M. Beena is the Development Commissioner for Handlooms under the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India**. As an IAS officer, she leads the government's efforts to promote and develop the handloom sector, which includes supporting weavers, showcasing Indian artistry, and strengthening the textile industry. The Development Commissioner praised the growth story of the silk and other allied silk products including handlooms and handicrafts and recognized the role and leadership of the ISEPC.

The Council organised participation of its members in the 2nd edition of Bharat Tex 2025 was a landmark global textile event held in New Delhi from February 14-17, 2025, which showcased the entire Indian textile value chain, attracted over 5,000 exhibitors and 120,000 visitors, and facilitated over 70 conference sessions on topics like AI in manufacturing, technical textiles, and sustainable fashion. The event, which Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed, aimed to drive economic growth and strengthen India's global position in the textile industry by promoting innovation, sustainability, and the government's "Farm to Fibre, Fabric, Fashion, and Foreign Markets" vision. It featured innovations, start-up pavilions, and fashion shows, while also celebrating India's heritage through traditional demonstrations and cultural performances.

The I S E P C organized participation in a **Mega Silk Exhibition cum Buyer Seller Meet in South Africa at Cape Town** from 24-25 February 2025 with its best of 29 member exhibitors of their unique and vibrant silk and silk blended products. **Her Excellency Ms. Ruby Jaspreet, Consul General of India in**

Cape Town, South Africa inaugurated the Silk Council's India Pavilion cum Buyer Seller Meet in the august presence of esteemed guests, including Chairman, the Executive Director of ISEPC, Heads of Chamber of Commerce, Trade Associations, Indian exhibitors; overseas buyers and Indian Diaspora. The Consul General appreciated the vibrant products exhibited, including exquisite silk items such as high fashion accessories, silk scarves, silk and jute bags, high-fashion accessories, and silk fabrics, displayed by member exhibitors of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council. The liaison work in the South Africa was carried out by the Executive Director and invited the diaspora and the CGI diplomats to be witnessed the mega Silk Exhibition in this part of South African continent.

ISEPC is poised to champion the interests of Indian exporters:

By adapting to these challenges and focusing on strategic goals, ISEPC is poised to champion the interests of Indian exporters effectively.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to each member, partner, and stakeholder for their invaluable contributions and unwavering support. Your collective dedication has been instrumental in our progress thus far, and I am confident that it will continue to underpin our shared achievements.

As we embark on the path ahead, I propose that we anchor our endeavours in the principles of collaboration, resilience, and innovation. I invite all stakeholders to join forces in these endeavours, striving to propel India's exports forward with a steadfast commitment to sustainability, inclusivity, and ambition.

Acknowledgements:

Shri Narendra Modi
Smt Nirmala Sitharaman
Shri S. Jaishankar
Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi
Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari

:Hon'ble Prime Minister
:Hon'ble Finance Minister
:Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs
:Hon'ble Minister for MSME
:Hon'ble Minister for Road, Transport & Highways

Dr Bimal Mawandia
Chairman, ISEPC

