

ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2024

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Total Membership strength of CMAI as on 31st December 2024 stood at 4637

CMAI on-boarded 38 New Companies as Members in the month of December 2024 as under :

Region	Life	Primary	Associate	Agent / Distributor	Retailer	Organisation	Total
Mumbai	-	8	2	-	-	-	10
Western	-	7	1	-	-	-	8
Southern	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Northern	-	13	-	2	1	-	16
Eastern	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Central	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	31	3	2	2	-	38

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP WITH THE ASSOCIATION

The Association has sent E-mail on 1st April 2024 to all the Categories of Members requesting them to Renew their Membership with the Association with Options of Renewal of 1,3 or 5 Years as convenient to them. Reminders were also sent from time to time to those Members who have not Renewed their Membership.

There are 413 Members whose Subscription for the current Financial Year is still pending. We once again request these Members to send their Renewals at the earliest to avoid uninterrupted Services.

Members can Pay their Renewals through the following Link or NEFT or by a Crossed Cheque. https://cmai.in/membership_form/public/members/login

The Bank Details of the Association for NEFT/RTGS are as under :-Name of Beneficiary: **CMAI Membership A/c.** Bank Name: **HDFC Bank** Account Number: **00051450000092** IFSC CODE: **HDFC0000005**

WESTERN REGION

We have received 1 New Member from this Region during the Month of December 2024.

....2/-





SOUTHERN REGION

We have received 5 New Members and 2 Renewals from this Region during the month of December 2024.

NORTHERN REGION

We have received 5 New Members and 2 Renewals from this Region during the month of December 2024

CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2024

	Nov-24		Dec-24	
MIS FOR THE PERIOD OF	No of Files	Amount	No of Files	Amount
Opening Total Cases pending resolution	1829	409048169	1847	414744776
New Complaints	26	7273191	26	4727367
Complaints Resolved fully in the Month	8	35233	8	193828
Amount Collected in the Month		1541351		3146278
Total Cases pending resolution as on Month end	1847	414744776	1865	416132037
Active Cases in Caution List	1370	302824267	1401	310847499
Active Cases pending resolution as on Month end	477	111920509	464	112061047
Current Payment	33	1064031	2	2194167
Post Dated Cheque Received	5	477320	45	952111
Amount Collected in the Month	38	1541351	47	3146278

...3/-





MEETINGS

:3:

Mr Rahul Mehta, Chief Mentor met Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Samrat Chaudhary, who is the Leader of the of the Group of Ministers on 14th December 2024 at Patna, with regard to the proposed significant changes to GST rates for the Apparel sector. According to the new recommendations, readymade garments priced up to ₹1,500 will continue to attract 5% GST, while those in the ₹1,500 to ₹10,000 range will face a sharp increase to 18% and Apparel above ₹10,000 is set to fall under the highest slab of 28%. Mr Mehta appraised hm the impact on the Garment Industry, if, GST is increased from the current tariff.

Mr Santosh Katariya, President and Mr Rahul Mehta, Chief Mentor met the Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Sigh on 16th December 2024 at New Delhi prior to the GST Council Meeting held on 21st December 2024. President & Chief Mentor also met Ms Prajakta Verma, Jt Secretary in the Ministry of Textiles in connection with Sustainable Resolution.











CMAI's Manufacturing and Productivity Sub-Committee successfully hosted an exclusive interactive session "Chai Pe Charcha" at the Association Office on 6th December 2024 with an Expert Guest Speaker who heads Sourcing for one of India's most sought after retail giant. The educative talk encompassed on:

- Fast evolving dynamics of Fashion Retail
- Co-Creation & Design Sensibilities
- Quality, Innovation & Sustainability
- Automation for Order Processing, Production scheduling & Packaging
- Cost Optimisation
- Inventory Management
- Following Best Industry Practices
- Changing needs of Indian Consumers

The fascinating session presented an opportunity to the 30 attendees mainly comprising of Private Label Manufacturers, Brand Owners to gain insights on how to meet expectations of large Corporates and fulfil their requirements

The Interactive Session was well received by the attendees.

80TH NATIONAL GARMENT FAIR

The **80th Edition of the National Garment Fair , India's Largest Spring / Summer Apparel Trade Show ,** will be held from 15th to 17th January 2025 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, NSE Complex, Goregaon (East) Mumbai.

We are glad to inform that in this Edition 1012 Exhibitors (1119 Stalls) Covering a Gross Area of 7,00,000 Sq Ft will be Presenting 1216 Brands, to Approx. 25,000 Retailers who are expected to Visit this 3 Day Fair.

THE CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA





BHARAT TEX 2025

Bharat Tex 2025 is being organized by Textile Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) which includes Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) and supported by the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.

This mega event (2nd Edition) is set to take place from February 14 to 17, 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi and from February 12 to 15, 2025 at India Expo Centre and Mart, Greater Noida.

Bharat Tex 2025 brings together industry experts, manufacturers, sellers, buyers, designers and enthusiasts, from around the world under one platform. This is the largest and most significant extravaganza for the Textile sector and will display the entire value chain - Apparel, Home Furnishings and Floor Coverings, Fibbers, Yarns, Wool, Threads, Fabrics, Carpets, Silk, Textiles based Handicrafts, Handloom, Synthetic, Rayon and Cotton Textiles, Jute, Woollen Garments, Technical Textiles & Machinery.

The Association has so far forwarded Participation of 111 Exporters covering an Area of 2862 SQM besides 12 Brands covering an Area of 930 Sqm which will be set up exclusively for CMAI as "Brands of India Pavilion " (Total 123 Exhibitors Covering an Area of 3792 SQM.

5[™] EDITION OF CMAI FAB SHOW



The Association will be Organising the 5th Edition of CAI FAB Show on 21ast, 22nd and 23rd April 2025 at Bombay Exhibition Centre, NESCO Complex, Goregaon (East) Mumbai 400063. The Show is being supported by Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SGCCI)





The Booking of Stalls commenced on 2nd December 2024. As on 31st December 2024, the Association was able to sell 41 Stalls Covering an Area of 1216 SQM as against a Total Saleable Stall of 203 (6895 SQM Area)

Whilst the Association has received Confirmation from 46 Stalls, Covering an Area of 1216 SQM for which Payments still to be received, 25 Stalls (916 SQM Area) are in the pipeline thus aggregating a Total Stalls of 112 Stalls Covering an Area of 3329 SQM, leaving a Balance of 91 Stalls Covering an Area of 3566 SQM. The Marketing / Selling of Stalls are going in full swing.

The Association is proposed to Introduce Mills & Sustainability Pavilion, Knowledge Sessions and Fashion Shows in this Edition.

Mr Naveen Sainani, Chairman CMAI FAB Show Sub Committee Visited Ludhiana on 10th & 13th December 2024 and Ahmedabad from 26th to 28th Dec 2024 alongwith Mr Prakash Parekh, Jt Chairman of the Sub Committee.

MARKET LEARNING UPDATES

As the year 2024 braces for a farewell, the Indian apparel industry, despite its own set of obstacles, has continued to contribute to India's growth trajectory. The industry has been spreading its portfolios on the aspects of exports diversification, organised retail in 2024. As the year continued to witness high growth of organised players in the fashion segment, the expansion of affordable fashion added to its growth.

With the industry projected to witness continued consolidation, the Chief Mentor of the Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI), Rahul Mehta has expressed his belief that the sportswear and athleisure wear are expected to continue registering high growth rates (over 20 per cent) in the coming year. In an interview with BW Business world, Mehta shared deep insights into the trends observed in the apparel space in 2024 along with other subjects ranging from sustainable fashion, challenges faced by the industry as well as the expectations from the coming year.

Shedding light on the key trends observed in 2024 in the Indian apparel industry, the CMAI's Chief Mentor highlighted that year saw a great number of organised players in the fashion segment. Mehta added that social commerce, livestream shopping and influencers are reshaping retail, while direct-to-commerce (D2C) models dominate personalised fashion experiences.

"Year 2024 continued to witness high growth of organised players in the fashion segment. Sales of Trent, ABFRL, Page Industries and Arvind fashions, which are the leading fashion players in India, increased by 48 per cent, 13 per cent, 6 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively in the period of January to September 2024 compared to same period last year," stated Mehta.

He further stated that success of Zudio has led to emergence of similar formats to meet the growing demand for affordable fashion such as Reliance's Yousta, Shoppers Stop's InTune, Aditya Birla's Style Up and Kiabi.





Rising Costs & Threat From Imports

As far as the key hurdles that the apparel industry faces today regarding supply chain disruption and rising costs are concerned, Mehta highlighted that following the Covid-19 pandemic, raw material prices have sharply increased and overall inflation remains high, impacting profit margins.

Mehta highlighted, "Free trade agreements (FTAs) with countries like Bangladesh and SAFTA allow duty-free imports, which pose a challenge to domestic manufacturers as cheap Chinese fabric enters Indian markets through these countries. Increase in employment opportunities in rural India along with benefits under schemes like MNREGA, free ration under PM-GKAY and financial support under schemes like Ladli Behna Yojna has created shortage of manpower in garment manufacturing clusters across the country."

Towards Sustainable Fashion

As the Indian consumers are willing to pay more for sustainable fashion, the manufacturers are being encouraged to adopt sustainable practices such as eco-friendly materials, ethical production, and waste reduction. Mehta highlighted that CMAI has introduced an initiative of the garment industry by bringing together 14 of India's top brands and retailers to form the SU.RE initiative – SU.RE standing for Sustainable Resolution.

He further stated that , "Under this initiative, signatories of SU.RE have voluntarily agreed to make a significant portion of their raw materials, processes and final products more sustainable, by incorporating the best practices available internationally as well as developed indigenously."

As per the Chief Mentor of the CMAI, the ultimate objective of the SU.RE movement is to gradually initiate the concept of sustainability right down to the smallest micro, small and medium entrepreneur (MSME) manufacturer, with CMAI holding training programs, seminars, workshops and roadshows to spread the message, the need and the benefits of sustainability and circularity in our Industry.

Manufacturers Leveraging Innovations

With the increasing demand for faster production cycles and cost-effective manufacturing, the Indian manufacturers leveraging innovations to improve production efficiency and reduce lead times. Mehta added that in last few years, there have been several innovative tools and technologies developed which can automate and/or improve efficiencies of processes such as order planning, designing, material handling and cutting, packing, quality monitoring, etc.

REPRESENTATIONS

The Association made Representations to the Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Hon'ble Minister of Finance, , Govt of India, and also to the Chief Ministers / Finance Ministers who are on the GST Panel rrequesting for their intervention to discard the GST rate revisions for Apparel sector proposed by the Group of Ministers.





CMAI REPRESENTEATION TO HON'BLE MINISTER OF TEXTILES THRU NCTC

The Association has made a joint **Appeal to simplify protocols for the older versions of TUFS cases based on the recommendations of TAMC through NCTC to Shri. Giriraj Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles,** Government of India, through NCTC, Joint representation by NCTC for suggestions to expedite resolving pending cases of TUFS

The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been the driving force behind the investment in modernization by the textile and apparel sector since 1999 which has attracted over Rs 3.3 lakh crore of investment with a subsidy release of about Rs 30,000 crore. However, we would like to flag the following concerns that need to be urgently addressed so that a fresh investment scheme can be devised and much needed investment and modernization can resume: There were so many issues **related to the older cases**

While the TUFS scheme proved to be extremely beneficial for the industry, there were several issues that have affected the investments made under TUFS. Some of the issues are:

During the restructuring of TUFS, the scheme was temporarily discontinued from 29th June 2010 to 27th April 2011. Projects and term loans sanctioned during this blackout period were deemed ineligible for TUFS benefits, severely impacting hundreds of units that had invested in state-of-the-art technology in compliance with scheme guidelines.

2. Mistakes of banks/nodal agencies in furnishing the committed liabilities

The Textile Commissioner was acting as a single window for resolving various TUFS related issues till 2007 and the office of TxC used to clarify all the queries made by CAG then and there.

However, from the 10th plan onwards, the ring-fencing system was introduced and the decisionmaking powers even for bank-related issues referred to IMSC. Certain banks/nodal agencies made serious mistakes in furnishing the committed liabilities (both monthly and quarterly claims) due to:

- Lack of clarity and frequent changes in the formats
- Frequent changes in the seats of TUFS Cells of various nodal agencies and also at the branches
- Lack of knowledge of TUFS and its guidelines

• Several banks stopped filing the claims after a certain period; some banks claimed only the interest subsidy and failed to claim the capital subsidy; and few banks made excess claims.

3. Application of subsequent GR to earlier loans

Considering the observations of the CAG in its audit report No. 52 of 2015, the Ministry of Textiles, withheld the release of subsidies. In the said report, CAG made some recommendations for the future design of the scheme. Accordingly, MoT revised the procedures of the ATUFS scheme and also brought protocols for the older versions of the TUFS on similar lines, thus making the scheme highly complicated.

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As a result, during the year 2018-19, MoT could utilize only Rs.443.10 crores as against the budget allocation of Rs.2,300 crores, and subsequently, the budgets were pruned. This delay in the release of the subsidy resulted in severe financial stress in the Indian textile industry as also affected the modernization/new investment in the textile industry.

The present status of the TUFS scheme is given in a separate Annex for his kind perusal.

Our earnest appeal

Considering the long pending requests and suggestions of the Indian Textile Industry, the then Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal during the 10thIMSC meeting held on 05.02.2024 advised the Ministry of Textiles to suggest simplified protocols, expedite the release of subsidies and close the scheme. Accordingly, the TAMC has recommended the simplified protocols to the IMSC details of which are given in Annex 2.

In light of the above, we earnestly request your kind intervention to:

1. Recognize and include all the genuine investments made during the Blackout period to be covered under the TUFS scheme

2. Approve the TAMC-recommended simplified protocols to resolve pending cases under older TUFS versions. (Annex 2)

3. Allow submission of alternative documents where cases are stalled due to errors by banks or nodal agencies

4. Simplify the ATUFS guidelines based on the suggestions given in Annex 3.

The above suggestions will expedite the release of pending subsidies amounting to ₹10,000 crores, thus enabling the industry to recover from financial stress and contribute to achieving the visionary target of a US\$ 350 billion textile industry (including US\$ 100 billion in exports) by 2030.

We are extremely sure that your good self will consider our above pleas favourably and will take the necessary steps to expedite the resolution of pending cases.

CMAI IN THE MEDIA

Press Release

Apparel Industry upset with GoM's Proposed GST Hike as it will affect Growth

Mumbai, December 03, 2024: The Group of Ministers (GoM) on Rate Rationalization, led by Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary, recently proposed significant changes to GST rates for the Apparel sector, announced on Monday, December 2, 2024. According to the new recommendations, readymade garments priced up to ₹1,500 will continue to attract 5% GST, while those in the ₹1,500 to ₹10,000 range will face a sharp increase to 18% and Apparel above ₹10,000 is set to fall under the highest slab of 28%. Consequently, the Clothing Manufacturers Association

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of India (CMAI) has raised serious concerns about the potential challenges these revisions could pose for the Apparel industry, including the grave impact on manufacturing, pricing, and consumer demand.

The proposed GST rate hike risks severely disrupting the formal retail sector by driving both consumers and businesses toward informal channels. This shift would adversely affect legitimate retailers and potentially benefit unscrupulous sellers and illegal merchants. The textile industry, already under strain, could face potential one lakh job losses. SMEs in spinning, weaving, and garmenting generally operate with thin PAT margins of 1-3%, and such developments could lead to income losses and further squeezing of profitability. The handloom sector, with over 2 million weavers, a vital part of India's heritage, may further face up to 25% income loss besides struggling to keep their age-old craft alive due to limited market access and traditional business models. Likewise, ripple effect would be seen in the wool industry of India that provides employment to around 1.2 million people in the organized sector and about 2 million people in the associated industries.

Such hike would lead to more price inflation, compounding challenges for price-sensitive consumers, especially women. Higher taxes on products related to celebrations and festivals will further slowdown consumption, which is already on the decline, creating a potential setback for the economy. While weddings and other celebrations have significant cultural significance, the proposed hike will have serious implications on middle-class families who will be imposed with additional financial burden. While the government aims to increase tax revenue, the proposed change risks reducing overall industry compliance, undermining formalization efforts and eroding the tax base. Instead, a focus on encouraging compliance with lower tax rates and improved enforcement would be more effective.

Expressing his deep concern over the proposed rate revisions, **Santosh Katariya**, **President**, **Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI)**, stated, "The proposed GST rate revisions pose a significant threat to the Apparel industry as a whole, which is already facing challenges like drop in consumer demand, profit erosion and working capital issues. While we acknowledge the government's commendable step of raising the 5% GST threshold from ₹1,000 to ₹1,500, benefiting the weaker segments, the middle class, which forms a significant portion of the consumer base, remains disproportionately impacted by these hikes. If implemented, it could lead to closures of MSME's in our sector, further destabilizing an industry that plays a vital role in employment and economic growth. A uniform GST rate of 5% was conducive and offered a practical solution to these challenges. It ensured stability across the value chain, minimized disruptions, and avoided any adverse impact on exports. Moreover, the prevailing rate supported the industry without causing drop in GST collections, fostering both economic growth and ease of doing business. We strongly urge the government to avoid new tax structure and abandon such regressive steps which will create further disruption of businesses which are already struggling for growth due to lackluster consumer sentiments since past two years."

Speaking on this development, **Rahul Mehta, Chief Mentor, Clothing Manufacturers Association** of India (CMAI), stated, *"The Apparel industry plays a crucial role in India's economy, providing millions of jobs and contributing significantly to the nation's growth. However, the sector is already struggling with weakened consumer demand and is actually in dire need of policy support to boost*





sales. Policies should be designed to nurture the industry, ensuring a balanced approach that fosters growth and stability. The Government must consult industry stakeholders to fully understand the implications and avoid further challenges before making decisions. The government's commitment to ease of doing business should reflect in their actions, supporting with policies that drive growth, reduce obstacles, and help the industry to thrive."

In light of these concerns, the Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) urges the government to discard the proposed GST rate revisions. While the intent to streamline the tax structure is recognized, it is crucial that policy changes should only strengthen the Apparel industry's growth and stability. The proposed tax hike on garments, especially those priced under ₹10,000, seems disproportionate when compared to the GST rate on genuinely high-value luxury products. For example, a ₹1.5 lakh high-end mobile phone is taxed at 18%, whereas a ₹10,000 ladies' suit is proposed to be taxed at 28%. This discrepancy will lead to further instability in the sector.

A continuation of the existing GST rate provides the needed stability and protects jobs, enabling the sector to continue driving significant economic contributions. All the good work done by the Government in formalizing businesses with the current GST regime can be easily wiped out by increasing price point based higher taxes. CMAI advocates for a balanced approach that ensures long-term sustainability and benefits for all stakeholders.

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Apparel industry slams proposed GST hike

#KOLKATA

The apparel industry has expressed serious concerns over the proposed GST rate hike recommended by the Group of Ministers (GoM) on rate rationalisation.

Under the new tax structure, garments priced between Rs 1,500 and Rs 10,000 would be taxed at 18%, while apparel above Rs 10,000 would fall under the highest GST slab of 28%. The rate for apparel priced up to Rs 1,500 would remain at 5%.

The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) has urged the government to reconsider the hike, warning that it could lead to reduced consumer demand, widespread job losses, and disruptions in the industry's value chain.

The CMAI has requested to continue with the current 5% rate. **PTI**



Apparel industry slams proposed GST hike

Under the new tax structure, garments priced between ₹1,500 and ₹10,000 would be taxed at 18 per cent

Kolkata

THE apparel industry has expressed serious concerns over the proposed GST rate hike recommended by the Group of Ministers (GoM) on rate rationalisation. Under the new tax structure, garments priced between Rs 1,500 and Rs 10,000 would be taxed at 18 per cent, while apparel above Rs 10,000 would fall under the highest GST slab of 28 per cent.

The rate for apparel priced up to Rs 1,500 would remain at 5 per cent. The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) has urged the government to reconsider the hike, warning that it could lead to reduced consumer demand, widespread job losses, and disruptions in the industry's value chain. The association emphasised the need for government policies that support the growth and stability of the industry, advocating a balanced approach to ensure long-term sustainability and benefits for all stakeholders. "The proposed GST rate hike risks severely disrupting the formal retail sector by pushing both consumers and businesses toward informal channels.

This shift would hurt legitimate retailers and potentially benefit unscrupulous sellers and illegal merchants. The textile industry, already under strain, could face job losses of up to one lakh," CMAI said in



a statement. The CMAI further suggested that a uniform GST rate of 5 per cent would be more practical and beneficial for the industry, urging the government to at least maintain continuity in the existing rates. "The proposed GST rate revisions pose a significant threat to the apparel industry as a whole, which is already facing challenges such as declining consumer demand, profit erosion, and working capital issues. If implemented, it could lead to the closure of MSMEs in our sector, further destabilising an industry that plays a vital role in employment and economic growth," CMAI president Santosh Katariya said.





Clothing Manufacturers Association raises concerns regarding GST rates proposal



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 5DECEMBER

The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) has raised concerns regarding the rate-rationalisation proposal put forward by the Group of Ministers (GoM) that includes significant changes to GST rates for the apparel sector.

As per the new recommendations, ready-made garments priced up to Rs 1,500 will retain the 5% GST rate, but those priced between Rs 1,500 and Rs 10,000 will see a significant increase to 18%. Garments above Rs 10,000 are proposed to fall under the highest GST bracket of 28%. CMAI has expressed deep concerns regarding the potential adverse effects of these changes on the apparel industry, particularly the impacts on manufacturing, pricing, and consumer demand.

"The proposed GST rate hike risks severely disrupting the formal retail sector by driving both consumers and businesses toward informal channels. This shift would adversely affect legitimate retailers and potentially benefit unscrupulous sellers and illegal merchants," the CMAI said in a statement. It further said that the textile industry, already under pressure, may lose up to 100,000 jobs, with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in spinning, weaving, and garment manufacturing — operating on thin profit margins — facing income losses and squeezed profitability.

"Such a hike would lead to more price inflation, compounding challenges for pricesensitive consumers, especially women. Higher taxes on products related to celebrations and festivals will further slow down consumption, which is already on the decline, creating a potential setback for the economy," the CMAI said.

CMAI said that in light of these concerns, it urges the government to discard the proposed GST rate revisions. While the intent to streamline the tax structure is recognised, it is crucial that policy changes should only strengthen the apparel industry's growth and stability.





એપરલ પર ઊંચો GST લાગુ કરવાની દરખાસ્ત સામે વિરોધ મુંબઈ, તા. પ

ુગર, પા. -એપરલ ક્ષેત્ર માટે ગુડસ એન્ડ સર્વિસીસ ટેકસ (જીએસટી)ના દરમાં નોંધપાત્ર કેરબદલ કરવાની ગ્રુપ એફમિનિસ્ટર્સ દ્વારા રજૂ કરાયેલી દરખાસ્તનો જો અમલ કરાશે તો, તેનાથી એપરલ ઉદ્ધોગ મુશકેલીમાં મુકાશે એમ ધ કલોથિંગ મેન્યુફેકચુરર્સ એસોસિએશન ઓફ ઈન્ડિયા દારા ચિંતા વ્યક્ત કરવામાં આવી છે.

દેશનો રેડીમેડ ગારમેન્ટ વેપાર અસંગઠીત ચેનલ તરફ વળી જવાની ચિંતા વ્યકત કરાઈ

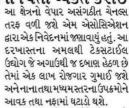
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ઊંચા જીએસટી બ્રેકેટને કારણે ગારમેન્ટસની કિંમતમાં વધારો થશે જે ભાવ પ્રત્યે સંવેદનશીલ ખાસ કરીને મહિલાઓ માટેરેડીમેડ કપડા ખરીદવાનું મુશકેલ બનાવશે એવો પણ નિવેદનમાં દાવો કરાયો છે.

દરમિયાન રિટેલર્સ એસોસિએશન ઓફ ઈન્ડિયા (રાય) દ્વારા પણ સદર દરખાસ્ત સામે નારાજગી વ્યક્ત કરવામાં આવી છે. દરખાસ્તના અમલથી રિટેલ ક્ષેત્ર તથા ઉપભોગતાના માનસ પર દૂરગામી પરિણામો જોવા મળશે.



23

THE CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA





Apparel industry slams proposed GST hike

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KOLKATA

The apparel industry has expressed serious concerns over the proposed GST rate hike recommended by the Group of Ministers (GoM) on rate rationalisation.

Under the new tax structure, garments priced between Rs 1,500 and Rs 10,000 would be taxed at 18 per cent, while apparel above Rs 10,000 would fall under the highest GST slab of 28 per cent. The rate for apparel priced up to Rs 1,500 would remain at 5 per cent.

The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) has urged the government to reconsider the hike, warning that it could lead to reduced consumer demand, widespread job losses, and disruptions in the industry's value chain.



The association emphasised the need for government policies that support the growth and stability of the industry, advocating a balanced approach to ensure long-term sustainability and benefits for all stakeholders.

"The proposed GST rate hike risks severely disrupting the formal retail sector by pushing both consumers and businesses toward informal channels. This shift would hurt legitimate retailers and potentially benefit unscrupulous sellers and illegal merchants," CMAI said in a statement.





'Apparel GST rejig to hit MSMEs, cost jobs'

The Hindu Bureau MUMBAI

The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) is concerned over the rate-rationalisation proposal of the Group of Ministers led by Bihar Deputy CM Samrat Chaudhary involving 'significant changes to GST rates' for the apparel sector.

As per the recommendations, while readymade garments priced up to ₹1,500 will continue to attract 5% GST, those costing ₹1,500-₹10,000 will face a sharp surge in GST with a levy of 18%. Apparel worth more than ₹10,000 may face 28% tax. <u>CMAI said the</u> <u>revision can have a</u> <u>'grave impact' on</u> <u>manufacturing,</u> pricing and demand

The CMAI said the revision can have a 'grave impact' on manufacturing, pricing and demand.

"This risks severely disrupting formal retail sector driving consumers and businesses towards informal channels. The textile industry could face potential one lakh job losses," it said.

"This could lead to closures of MSMEs in our sector," said Santosh Katariya, president, CMAI.





Rate restructuring may spur parallel economy, say firms

VIVEAT SUSAN PINTO & RAGHAV AGGARWAL Mumbai/New Delhi, December 3

TWO ASSOCIATIONS OF manufacturers and retailers have said that the new goods and services tax (GST) slabs proposed for readymade garments will promote a parallel economy, defeating the very purpose of GST.

The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) and the Retailers Association of India (RAI) the two bodies representing all major companies in textiles and organised retail sectors — will make presentations to the ministries of finance and textiles as well as to members of the GST Council in the next two days to apprise them of their views.

"The step is retrograde," said Rahul Mehta, chief mentor, CMAI. "The move will set the textile and garment industry back and spur grey market. This will have a wideranging impact on all segments, including the mid-segment, as well as the wedding market, where garments are typically priced above ₹10,000,"he said.

"All the work that has been done to formalise the economy with the GST regime will be wiped out by increasing taxes based on price points. This will encourage unscrupulous sellers online and illegal merchants to flourish offline," Kumar Rajagopalan, chief executive officer, RAI, said.



All the work that has been done to formalise the economy with the GST regime will be wiped out by increasing taxes based on price points

According to sources, the group of ministers (GoM) on GST rate rationalisation on Monday had proposed taxing apparel up to ₹1,500 at a rate of 5%. While readymade garments priced at anything between ₹1,500 and ₹10,000 will be taxed at the rate of 18% and apparel above ₹10,000 will be taxed at the rate of 28%. The finance ministry has, however, refuted reports on rate changes.

On "sin" products such as tobacco and aerated beverages, the GoM proposed increasing tax to 35% — a move which did not go down well with investors.

On Tuesday, shares of ITC, Godfrey Philips, VST Industries as well as PepsiCo bottler Varun Beverages fell sharply in response to the news. While shares of ITC decreased as much as 3% intraday on the BSE, the most in nearly two months, Godfrey Philips and VST Industries fell 3.2% and 2.3%, respectively. These stocks pared some of their losses at the end of trade on Tuesday.

Varun Beverages closed trade 1.86% down on the BSE, even as the broader BSE Sensex closed in the green at 80,845.75 points.

Mails and text messages to PepsiCo India, Coca-Cola India and ITC elicited no response till the time of going to press. However, some companies issued clarifications to the stock exchanges.

Calling them "only preliminary recommendations", Varun Beverages said that after deliberations, the GST Council will need to come up with a rate change notification. Godfrey Phillips said that it "cannot estimate the impact on the company till such time the current GST rate is changed by the process of law".

But industry sources say that higher tax on cigarettes will encourage the market for smuggled goods.

Some experts also said that it may lead to lower profit margins for companies. "These industries already face heavy sin taxes, an increase in GST could further tighten profit margins," said Shashi Mathews, Partner at IndusLaw. Another tax expert said that adding another GST slab goes against the basic idea of setting up the GoM, which was to simplify the system.



'Stability' in economic policy is buzzword for new RBI Guv Malhotra



The incoming governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Sanjay Malhotra unwittingly showed his age, being one day, whilst addressing the media at RBI headquarters in Mumbai on Wednesday.

He was careful not to say anything that could be construed as a forward looking policy statement, that could rock the markets in coming days. He was even more wise to not do a question and answer session with the gathered media who were, as I would, itching to ask some pointed questions, including, presumably, whether he would cut interest rates.

Interestingly, he spoke of policy stability and stability in general several times. And while that applies to the RBI in general, it would actually apply in specific to his previous job at the Ministry of Finance where he was Revenue Secretary. Which is why, for someone who heard of his move to RBI governorship at best a couple of days before the world did, he was perhaps reflecting more on stability in the context of economic policy than monetary policy. In a manner of speaking of course.

In all my conversations with tax experts and businesses alike, perhaps the biggest grouse has been the lack of stability on policies. Tax is a classic example and lets take the most recent cases.

Last week, it emerged that the Government is looking at

raising goods and service tax on a wide variety of products including ready made garments to between 18 and 28 per cent. The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India erupted in protest. In August 2023, the Government said it was going to license imports of laptops and tablets. Following a severe backlash, it flipped and flopped, backpedalled several steps and finally said a few months later it would not impose import restrictions. When it comes to taxes, both direct and indirect, the list of grievances is so long that it will require a year long special series of columns just to address them. Suffice to say that on taxes and overall policy, India has not been able to deliver stability that investors, whether domestic or international press for.

CMA

The Union Budget 2025 is expected to see, among other things, an attempt at reducing the sheer onerousness of the current Income Tax Act for which work is on and suggestions have been taken for several months now.

While RBI has welcomed its new governor in the form of the self professed technology oriented Sanjay Malhotra, the Ministry of Finance also has a somewhat sudden hole, which will not be easy to fill, as Businesss Standard Editorial Director Ashok K Bhattacharya has argued on The Core Report on Wednesday. Right now, the Government needs more stability of economic policy and the RBI needs less stability of monetary policy, at least in the context of interest rates.

Govindraj Ethiraj is a senior television & print journalist and Editor of www.thecore.in, a recently launched business news and analysis website, newsletter and podcasts initiative.

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Date	Subject	Particulars			
Circulars (Email, Website & WhatsApp to All Members)					
2nd December 2024	Cir No. 28 / 80TH NGF / 2024	Cir No. 28 / 80TH NGF / 2024 – 80TH NATIONAL GARMENT FAIR – SHOW DIRECTORY			
2nd December 2024	Cir No. 29 / FAB / 2024	Cir No. 29 / FAB / 2024 – 5TH FAB SHOW – STALL BOOKING NOW OPEN			
9th December 2024	Cir No. 30 / G-2 / 2024	Cir No. 30 / G-2 / 2024 – MEDIA COVERAGE DOSSIER ON GST RATE HIKE ON TEXTGILES & GARMENTS			
17th December 2024	Cir No. 31 / M-3 / 2024	Cir No. 31 / M-3 / 2024 – ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2024			
18th December 2024	Cir No. 32 / T-10 / 2024	Cir No. 32 / T-10 / 2024 – TEXTILE LEADERSHIP CONCLAVE 2024 – SURAT CLUSTER ON 20TH & 21ST DECEMBER 2024			
Social Media Posts (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIN,					
	Twitter, WhatsA	App & YouTube)			
4th December 2024	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT FAIR	80th National Garment Fair - Visitor Registration Now Open			
7th December 2024	CMAI POST	CHAI PE CHARCHA ON PVT LABEL MANUFACTURING			
10th December 2024	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT FAIR	80th National Garment Fair - Visitor Registration Now Open			
11th December 2024	5TH FAB SHOW	5TH FAB SHOW (Fabrics, Accessories & Beyond Show) - STALL BOOKING NOW OPEN!			
12th December 2024	C.N.A POST	Caution !			
17th December 2024	C.N.A POST	Caution !			
19th December 2024	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT FAIR	Exhibitor Post			
20th December 2024	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT FAIR	Exhibitor Post			
20th December 2024	C.N.A POST	Caution !			
20th December 2024	5TH FAB SHOW	5TH FAB SHOW (Fabrics, Accessories & Beyond Show) - STALL BOOKING NOW OPEN!			
21st December 2024 TH	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT FAIR F CLOTHING MANUEACTUE	Exhibitor Post RERS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA			

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23rd December	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT	
2024	FAIR	Exhibitor Post
23rd December		
2024	C.N.A POST	Caution !
23rd December	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT	80th National Garment Fair - Visitor Registration
2024	FAIR	Now Open
25th December	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT	
2024	FAIR	Exhibitor Post
25th December		
2024	C.N.A POST	Caution !
26th December	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT	
2024	FAIR	Exhibitor Post
27th December	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT	
2024	FAIR	Exhibitor Post
27th December		
2024	C.N.A POST	Caution !
28th December		5TH FAB SHOW (Fabrics, Accessories & Beyond
2024	5TH FAB SHOW	Show) - STALL BOOKING NOW OPEN!
28th December	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT	
2024	FAIR	Exhibitor Post
30th December	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT	
2024	FAIR	Exhibitor Post
31st December	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT	
2024	FAIR	Exhibitor Post
31st December	80TH NATIONAL GARMENT	
2024	FAIR	15 Days to go!
١	Neekly Newsletter (Ema	il, WhatsApp & Website)
		Business News related to Domestic and
2nd December		International Garment Industry for the period
2024	eNews Vol. 13 No. 47	prior to 2nd December 2024
		Business News related to Domestic and
9th December		International Garment Industry for the period
2024	eNews Vol. 13 No. 48	prior to 9th December 2024
		Business News related to Domestic and
16th December		International Garment Industry for the period
2024	eNews Vol. 13 No. 49	prior to 16th December 2024
		Business News related to Domestic and
23rd December		International Garment Industry for the period
2024	eNews Vol. 13 No. 50	prior to 23rd December 2024
		Business News related to Domestic and
30th December		International Garment Industry for the period
2024	eNews Vol. 13 No. 51	prior to 30th December 2024

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