

# INFO SRTEPC

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The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles  
Export Promotion Council

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## SRTEPC'S PARTICIPATION IN MOROCCO FASHION & TEX AT CASABLANCA



Shri Niravkumar B. Sutaria, Charge d' Affaires inaugurating India Pavilion with the presence of local Dignitaries including Mr. Jawad Kordoudi, CG of Consulate General of India in Casablanca at Morocco Fashion & Tex

The Council organized participation of its member-companies in “**Morocco Fashion & Tex**”, as part of its Export Promotion Programmes for the year 2018-19. The event was held at Casablanca International Fair Ground from 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 in association with the Embassy of India.

A 20-member-company of the Council participated in the Fair and all the Indian participating companies were accommodated at a demarcated area by constructing an “**INDIA PAVILION**” to get focused attention of visiting buyers. Service of a professional Exhibition Agency - M/s Pyramids International, which organised the Fair, was deployed for arranging various requirements of the participating member-companies. A separate “**Buyers Lounge**” at the India Pavilion was also arranged.

**Inauguration:** Though Morocco Fashion & Tex 2019 was inaugurated by the Organizers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Fair, “India Pavilion” – which accommodated all member companies, was inaugurated on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Int'l Fair. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of India Pavilion was jointly done by **Shri Niravkumar B. Sutaria, Charge d' Affaires**, Embassy of India and Mr.

Mohamed Hashem, Chairman, M/s. Pyramids Group along with the presence of local Dignitaries, Indian participants and media persons. Among others present were Shri Satbir Singh, Second Secretary (Com) and other Officials from the Embassy of India, Mr. Jawad Kordoudi, Consul General from the Consulate General of India in Casablanca & Marrakesh, Mr. Colin Nebhwani, President and Mr. Jilali Seghrouchni from India Morocco Chamber of Commerce and Industry including Indian participants.

After the Inaugural programme, all the Senior Officials of the Indian Mission and IMCCI visited the Stalls at the “**India Pavilion**”, and interacted with the participants. Thereafter, all Officials of IMCCI visited the Buyers Lounge, and Shri Sutaria, Charge d' Affaires briefed Ms. Kalavathi Rao, the visiting representative of the Council about the current trade with Morocco - highlighting Free Trade Agreements between Morocco, USA and Europe.



A 5-Member Delegation led by Ms. Viktoriia Krivoruchko, Director from Russian Association of participants of the Fashion Industry (RAFI), Russia in discussion with Ms. Kalavathi Rao, SRTEPC at SRTEPC Buyer's Lounge

*Continued on page 28*

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### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Member,

The country's export scenario seems to have picked up as the latest reports suggest that exports in the month of March grew to five month high of 11%. The sentiments are optimistic for the fiscal year 2018-19 with the Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation Shri Suresh Prabhu informing that exports would be crossing the US\$ 330 billion mark in the year 2018-19. This is indeed good news for the country and a huge relief to the exporting community. In our MMF textiles segment, the export scenario is positive, though the growth rate in export is not substantial. The estimated figures of MMF textiles exports for the year 2018-19 is around US\$ 6100 million, showing a growth of nearly 2% as compared to the previous year. I am still optimistic that by the time the final figures come, it will give us a much better growth rate than this estimated one.

I am glad to inform you that the Council organized participation of its member companies in Morocco Fashion & Tex during 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Twenty member companies of the Council participated in the Exhibition. The Event was fairly successful as the preliminary reports suggest that most of the participants were able to develop potential trade contacts and some were even successful in negotiating on the spot business deals with their buyers during the Fair. It is reported that an estimated amount of Rs.36.00 crores was negotiated during the Fair. It was also observed that a few participants could book some trial orders. Morocco is a potential market for MMF textiles and the Council has organized participation in this market after a gap of four years. This Exhibition thus was a step towards re-building fruitful relationship with Moroccan buyers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Embassy of India in Casablanca for the assistance and support given to the Council for successfully participating in the Exhibition. I would also like to thank Shri Niravkumar B. Sutaria, Charge d' Affaires who inaugurated the 'India Pavilion' during the Exhibition and interacted with the representatives of the Indian participating companies.

On 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019, I along with the Executive Director attended a Meeting of the Working Group constituted by CBIC on export Promotion and Facilitation held in Mumbai Customs. During the Meeting, I put forth key issues of the Council regarding GST, Customs procedures & facilitation, impact of FTAs, NTBs, Rules of Origin, issues related to receipts/payments and other export related issues, etc. The Working Group Committee took note of the issues presented by us and requested us to submit a brief Note on those issues to the Department so that they would dwell into these issues and based on our suggestions, would recommend to CBIC for suitable consideration and decision.

I would also like to inform our members that the Office of the Addl. DGFT, Mumbai has started a drive in the 4<sup>th</sup> week of April till the end of May for exporters of its jurisdiction to complete the redemption of their outstanding Export Obligation under the Advance Licensing and EPCG Scheme. The Office of Addl.

*Continued on page 6*



## SHRI DHIRUBHAI SHAH

THE NEW VICE-CHAIRMAN, SRTEPC



Shri Dhirubhai Raichand Shah, Managing Director of Fairdeal Group, Surat has been elected as Vice Chairman of The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) at a Meeting held in Mumbai on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Shri Dhirubhai Raichand Shah, a graduate in Commerce with Adv. Accountancy & Auditing, was the Regional Chairman, Surat. During his tenure as the Regional Chairman, Surat, Shri Shah was actively representing the issues concerning exports of MMF textiles in the Surat region especially the twin issues hurting the MMF exporters i.e. GST and increasing imports of MMF textiles from China.

The Fairdeal Group entered in the Textile business in 1984 with 12 traditional power looms and over a period of time had organic growth through forward and backward integration and today is having a complete integrated manufacturing set-up from various value additions in yarns to manufacturing of fabric. The group is a leading manufacturer of man-made fabrics. The Group is also engaged in developing industrial parks and created milestone in development of Textile Park in Surat District. The group has two major companies i.e. Fairdeal Filaments Ltd. & Shahlon Silk Industries Ltd., both Government recognised "Export Houses". The Group had a turnover of Rs. 500+ Crores during FY 2017-18.

Shri Shah was an Active Member of various Association/Boards such as South Gujarat Texturisers Association, Surat, Excise – Regional Advisory Committee, Development Council for Textile Industries. (Ministry of Commerce and Industries - Govt. of India) 2001-03 and Textile Working Group of Gujarat - State Govt. 2001-02. He is a Coopted Member of Managing Committee of South Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Surat (SGCCI), Member of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Mentor of The South Gujarat Yarn Dealer Association (SGYDA).

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PRINTER, PUBLISHER & EDITOR : S.BALARAJU

EDITORIAL TEAM : SRIJIB ROY  
KRIPABAR BARUAH  
MURALI BALKRISHNA  
NAMITA NADKARNI

EDITORIAL : The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles  
SUBSCRIPTION & : Export Promotion Council  
ADVERTISEMENT OFFICE : Resham Bhavan, 78 Veer Nariman Road,  
Mumbai – 400 020  
Phone : 22048797, 22048690, 22040168  
Fax : 22048358  
E-mail : srtepc@srtepc.in  
Website : www.srtepc.org

REGIONAL OFFICES : SURAT  
The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles  
Export Promotion Council  
Block NO. 4DE, 4th Flr., Resham Bhavan,  
Lal Darwaja, Surat – 395 003  
Phone : 0261-2423184  
Fax : 0261-2421756  
E-mail : surat@srtepc.in

NEW DELHI  
The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles  
Export Promotion Council  
Surya Kiran Building, Flat No. 602  
6th Floor, 19, Kasturba Gandhi Marg  
New Delhi 110 001  
Phone : 011-2373 3090/92  
Fax : 011-23733091  
E-mail : delhi@srtepc.in

COIMBATORE  
The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles  
Export Promotion Council  
41 Race Course  
Coimbatore – 641018, Tamil Nadu  
Phone : 0422-4215333  
E-mail : coimbatore@srtepc.in  
Contact Person : Mr. N. Esakkimuthu  
(Mobile 09790167113)

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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DGFT, has identified a list of companies who were the registered members of SRTEPC some years back and have not renewed their membership with the Council for some reason. The Council has been trying to get in touch with these companies but their numbers are not accessible. Hence, I request all those members who have availed the licenses but have not completed redemption of outstanding Export Obligation then, please do the due compliance as soon as possible as Add. DGFT has granted an extension till the end of May for resolving the cases or else the Companies would be placed in the DEL List. So please avail the benefits of the EODC Camp extended by the Office of the Addl. DGFT, Mumbai.

The Council is also planning to have Seminars on GST issues and Export Financing – Factoring, both in Mumbai and Surat by the end of April. I urge the members of the Council to participate and discuss the issues with the subject experts during the Seminar.

The Council is always in pursuit of resolving issues faced by our member-exporters by representing them to the appropriate Government bodies on issues related to GST refunds, Duty Drawback claims, ROSL refunds, Customs clearances, etc. We are pleased to inform that we have been successful in getting settled long pending cases of our members e.g. M/s. CLC Industries Ltd., New Delhi who have since received their pending IGST refunds and M/s. Siddhachal Textiles Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai who received their long pending ROSL/ IGST refunds.

The Council is once again gearing up for its mega Reverse Buyer Seller Meet – SOURCE INDIA; unlike the last two years this year the Meet is being held in the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Goregaon, Mumbai from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019. I request member-exporters to take advantage of this unique RBSM and like the last two years make it a hat trick of success by participating in large numbers.

Yours sincerely,

RONAK RUGHANI  
CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN



## Important Meetings with Government of India during April 2019

### 1. Meeting on India-China Trade

Executive Director and Regional Director (RD), Delhi, SRTEPC, attended another meeting convened by the Dept. of Commerce regarding India-China Trade on 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2019. The meeting was chaired by Shri Suresh Prabhu, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation. Shri Anup Wadhawan, Commerce Secretary welcomed the participants and told that there is a trade deficit with China which needs to be improved by increasing our exports to China and reducing imports from China. He said that the trade deficit was more in 2017-18 which has improved in 2018-19. A presentation was made on the status of exports to China and imports from China. It was told that India is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest export destination for China. Efforts have been made by the Deptt. of Commerce to increase exports by organising events in China and India. It was told that opportunities arising out of US-China trade war should be tapped to increase our exports to China in the next 2-3 years. Shri Ramesh Abhishek, Secretary, Deptt. for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade requested the Councils to encourage investments/FDIs. He assured that the Govt. will provide all possible support in this regard.

(Details of the Council's submission in this regard are given on page no. 24)

### 2. Meeting of the Working Group Constituted by CBIC on Export Promotion and Facilitation held in Mumbai Customs

The CBIC constituted Working Group on Export Promotion under the Chairmanship of Shri O.P. Dadhich, Chief Commissioner, Delhi Zone, New Delhi along with Shri Nitish K Sinha, Joint Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue and Shri Dipin Singla, IRS Joint Commissioner, OSD, Drawback Division, Department of Revenue and had a Meeting with officials and selected members of SRTEPC on 5 April, 2019 at Mumbai Customs to look into the issues faced by exporters on various aspects. The Chief Commissioner, Mumbai Customs- Zone III, Shri Himanshu Gupta and Ms. Seema Jere Bisht, Commissioner (Import) from JNCH were the other dignitaries present for the Meeting.

Shri Ronak Rughani, Chairman, Shri S. Balaraju, Executive Director, Shri K. Baruah, Joint Director, Ms. Sybil Marques, Asstt. Director and a few member-exporters represented the Council at the Meeting.

(Detailed report on this Meeting is given on Page No. 25)

### 3. Meeting on the Study "To Promote Growth of Manmade Fibre Textile Industry in India – Road Map to Identify Gaps and Suggest Measures"

A Consultative Meeting was held at Textiles Committee, Mumbai on 02<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 to discuss broad contours about the study on "To Promote Growth of Manmade Fibre Textile Industry in India – Road Map to Identify Gaps and Suggest Measures" which was assigned by the Ministry of Textiles to the Textiles Committee. Shri Ajit B. Chavan, Secretary, Textiles Committee chaired the Meeting. Shri Ronak Rughani, Chairman, SRTEPC, Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Immediate Past Chairman, SRTEPC, Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Past Chairman, SRTEPC, Shri S. Balaraju, ED, SRTEPC, Shri Ajay Pandit, Director of the O/o. Textile Commissioner, Shri K. Baruah, Joint Director, SRTEPC and other Members of SRTEPC participated in the Meeting.

Some of the suggestions made by the SRTEPC team during the Meeting are listed below:

- (i) Processing Sector to be included in the study.
- (ii) Important players & stakeholder Members of SRTEPC will also share available information with Textiles Committee including the list of the units in each sub-segment of MMF Textile Industry.
- (iii) Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) to be organised at following 6 places:
  - (i) Coimbatore/Tirupur,
  - (ii) Mumbai,
  - (iii) Surat,
  - (iv) Ludhiana,
  - (v) Ahmedabad, and
  - (vi) Bhilwara.
- (iv) Sample size for the Gujarat State to be increased.
- (v) SRTEPC and its members would share the reports of all the studies organised by them or available with them with Textiles Committee.
- (vi) SRTEPC would share all relevant secondary data, HS Code wise export data etc. with Textiles Committee for further analysis.
- (vii) It is also suggested to study the trade policies of the three major competitors of India namely China, Bangladesh and Vietnam besides organizing FGDs in these countries. SRTEPC also volunteered to provide all help in getting necessary information on the trade policies of these three countries to the best of their ability.

As per the Terms of Reference, the Study is expected to be completed by June 2019.



#### 4. Meeting on India-South Korea CEPA

Executive Director and Regional Director (RD), Delhi, SRTEPC, attended a meeting convened by Mrs. Aditi Das Rout, Trade Advisor (TA), Ministry of Textiles regarding India-South Korea CEPA on 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2019. Mrs Rout told that India side has to offer concessions of 3-4 tariff lines of MMF textiles to the Korean side. ED, SRTEPC informed that because of increasing surplus capacity and lack of local conversion of MMF textiles within Korea, India cannot offer any tariff concession to Korea therefore, ED, SRTEPC requested the TA, MOT to maintain same status quo of exclusion category on all the existing MMF textile tariff lines.

#### 5. Interactive session with Commercial Counsellors of India posted in America and Africa region countries.

Regional Director (RD), Delhi, SRTEPC attended an interactive session on 8th April, 2019 with 20 Commercial Counsellors of India posted in America and Africa region countries who are presently undergoing training at the Foreign Service Institute, New Delhi. The session was presided over by Ambassador Mr. J.S.Mukul, Dean, Foreign Service Institute. Representatives from various EPCs were present. Mr Mukul welcomed the participants and asked the Counsellors to introduce themselves and raise issues, if any, concerning the EPCs. RD, New Delhi while introducing himself informed the Counsellors about the mandate of the SRTEPC, its membership, MMF and textile products and the exports thereof to the countries in the America and African region. He also informed that the Council will be organizing six events abroad (USA, Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Egypt and Algeria) and RBSM in Mumbai during the current year and that the Council needs requisite support from the Counsellors in the respective countries in organizing these events. The Counsellors requested to share the details of the events during this month itself which have already been forwarded to the respective Counsellors. Mr. Mukul suggested that the Council should set up India Pavilions in these events for better presentation of Indian products. He assured all possible support on behalf of the Counsellors in organizing these events by the Council.

#### 6. Meeting on India-Nigeria Joint Trade Committee (JTC) in the Deptt. of Commerce, New Delhi

Regional Director (RD), Delhi, SRTEPC attended a meeting on India-Nigeria Joint Trade Committee (JTC) in the Deptt. of Commerce, New Delhi on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2019. The meeting was chaired by Shri Praveen Kumar, Joint Director (Africa). Shri Praveen requested the representatives of EPCs to intimate about the status of trade with Nigeria and issues, if any, with

Nigeria. RD, New Delhi informed about the status of export of MMF textile products to Nigeria and also highlighted the issues which may be taken up during the India-Nigeria JTC meeting i.e., entering into Preferential Trade Agreement in textiles including MMF textiles with Nigeria, cooperation between the trade Associations/Organisations of the two countries, exchange of trade delegations between the two countries with a view to enhance trade and participation of buyers from Nigeria in the RBSM, Mumbai in August, 2019.

#### 7. Inter-Ministerial Meeting in the Deptt. of Commerce expansion of India-Chile PTA

Regional Director (RD), Delhi, SRTEPC, attended an Inter-Ministerial Meeting in the Deptt. of Commerce on 12.04.2019 in connection with 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Joint Administration Committee (JAC) under expanded India-Chile PTA. The Meeting was chaired by Shri Shyamal Mishra, Joint Secretary, Deptt. of Commerce. Shri Mishra told that India-Chile PTA which was expanded on 16.05.2017 is to be reviewed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of JAC which is scheduled to be held during April, 2019. He requested representatives of all EPCs to brief about the status of export to Chile and about the proposals of EPCs for the review meeting. RD, New Delhi briefed about the export of MMF textile products to Chile during 2018 i.e., 30 mn. USD. He informed that there was an increase of 20% over the previous year and that the balance of trade is totally in favour of India as import of MMF textile products from Chile during the said period is only 0.150 mn USD. He also informed that at present there are 15MMF textile tariff lines in the Chile offer list. He further informed that the SRTEPC has proposed 73 more MMF textile tariff lines for inclusion in the Chile offer list and that if the same is agreed there will be substantial increase in the export of MMF textile products to Chile.

#### Inputs on bilateral trade sent to the Ministries, Government of India during April 2019

##### 1. Action Plan for enhancing exports to China.

The Council has sent inputs to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Ministry of Textiles, Gol on action plan for enhancing exports to China as currently there is huge deficit in MMF textiles trade with China. The Council has also sent inputs to the Ministries on regulatory issues with China and duty under Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) pertaining to Man-made fibre textiles that fall under the purview of the Council.

*Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA)* is a preferential regional trade agreement formerly known as the Bangkok Agreement. Participating countries of APTA are Bangladesh, China, India,





Lao PDR, Korea Republic and Sri Lanka. APTA aims to promote economic development of its members through the adoption of mutually beneficial trade liberalization measures that contribute to regional trade expansion and economic cooperation. Over time it refocused from the initial negotiation of tariff concessions on merchandise trade to at present negotiating liberalization in investment, services trade and trade facilitation. It is also continuously working on improving and modernizing its Rules of origin for trade in goods.

## 2. India-Nigeria Joint Trade Committee (JTC)

As desired, inputs of the Council pertaining to man-made fibre textiles which fall under its purview such as a brief analysis of Bilateral MMF textiles Trade between India and Nigeria in 2017-18, market potential for MMF textiles in Nigeria as Nigeria is a member the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which is a US trade act that grants products from 40 sub-Saharan African countries (including Nigeria) duty-free access to the US market, Issues for Greater Textile Cooperation between India and Nigeria, etc. were sent to the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry. It was also suggested that in order to take advantage of the AGOA, EFTA and ECOWAS as mentioned above and enhance exports of Indian textile products including MMF textiles to Nigeria, it is proposed that both India and Nigeria may be engaged in having a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) in Textiles including MMF textiles.

## 3. India-Chile PTA Expansion

Inputs of the Council were sent to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on issues such as brief analysis of Bilateral MMF textiles Trade between India and Chile since signing of the PTA and also in 2017-18, list of MMF textile items on which Chile may offer more concessional tariff by increasing the MoP in the latest expanded list of tariff concession, MMF textile list on which India may offer slight MoP, etc. It has been observed from the above table that exports of Indian MMF textiles to Chile has increased 20% in 2018 as compared to the previous year to reach US\$ 30 mn. Current MMF textile trade balance is in favour of India. SRTEPC suggests a lists of MMF textile items falling under its purview along with corresponding MOPs to be included in the Chilean Offer List to India under the India – Chile PTA.

## 4. Operationalization of Bilateral Cooperation Agreements (BCAs) of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) with Brazil.

The Council informed to the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Gol that Brazil practices stringent standards and labeling Requirements for import of textile products.

As far as Standards are concerned, Textile products are subject to mandatory certification in Brazil. The MERCOSUR Standards Association (Asociacion MERCOSUR de Normalizacion - AMN), Made up of the Standards Institutes of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay -- develops and harmonizes standards.

As far as Labelling is concerned, the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR) Technical Regulations on Product Labelling Textiles (Regulamento Técnico de Etiquetagem de Produtos Têxteis) requires the information on a permanent label that is either attached, stamped, printed or otherwise affixed to most textile and apparel products such as Name or registered brand and tax identification of the domestic producer or importer, Country of origin, Fibre content, Care instructions (text and/or symbols, conforming to ISO 3758: 2013), Size or dimensions, as applicable, etc. As desired, the Council has also sent to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the 8 digit level HS codes of Manmade fibre textiles which are currently being exported to Brazil.

## 5. India-Finland Joint Commission

Inputs of the Council pertaining to MMF textiles that fall under its purview such as a brief analysis of Bilateral MMF textiles Trade between India and Finland in 2017-18, market potential for MMF textiles in Finland and EU, issues for Greater Textile Cooperation between India and Finland, etc. were sent to the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry. It was also informed to the MOC that SRTEPC is planning to invite potential buyers of MMF textiles from Finland for its flagship promotional programme “Source India 2019” being organised in Mumbai during August this year. The Textile Association, Trade Bodies, concerned Government department of Finland and other stakeholders may be requested to extend cooperation in identifying leading and potential MMF textile buyers from Finland to be invited for the above mentioned flagship event.

## FAQs on GSTR-9

GSTR 9 : Annual Return Filing, Format, Eligibility & Rules

An annual return has to be filed once in a year by the registered taxpayers under GST including those registered under composition levy scheme under GSTR-9 & GSTR-9A

### 1. Is it mandatory to file Form GSTR-9?

Yes, it's mandatory to file Form GSTR-9 for normal taxpayers.

### 2. Can I revise the GSTR-9 which has been filed?

No. Currently, GSTR-9 does not allow for any revision after filing.

### 3. I got my registration cancelled in the financial year say FY 2017-18. Can I file Form GSTR-9?

Yes, the annual return needs to be filed even if the taxpayer has got his registration cancelled during the said financial year.

### 4. Whether form GSTR-9 return is required to be filed at the entity level or GSTIN level?

Form GSTR-9 return is required to be filed at GSTIN level i.e. for each registration. If taxpayer has obtained multiple GST registrations, under the same PAN, whether in the same State or different States, he/she is required to file annual return for each registration separately, where the GSTIN was registered

as a normal taxpayer for some time during the financial year or for the whole of the financial year.

### 5. Should I match my input GST with 2A before filing GSTR 9?

Yes, you must reconcile GSTR-2A for FY 2017-18 data with the input tax credit accounted in your books of accounts till March 2019 for FY 2017-18 data before filing GSTR-9.

### 6. Do we have to file monthly GST and GSTR 9 return after we have received the cancellation order, but the final return is pending?

As per Legal provision of Section 44(1) of CGST Act, every registered person shall be required to file GSTR-9. Hence, even if the status of taxpayer is not registered as on 31st March 2018 but he was registered between July-17 to March-18, he shall be required to file the GSTR-9 providing details for the period during which he was registered. Similarly, if a taxpayer had applied for cancellation of registration but the application was pending as on 31st March 2018, he shall be required to file GSTR-9.

### 7. Last date for filling GSTR 9?

At the 31st GST Council meeting held on 22nd December 2018, it recommended further extension for filing GSTR-9, GSTR-9A and GSTR-9C upto 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

SOURCE: Cleartax



## China

### Tariff on import of textiles lowered

China's tariffs on textiles among others articles will be lowered to 20 per cent from 25 per cent. Tariffs on import of books, computers, food, furniture and medicines will drop to 13 per cent from 15 per cent starting from April 9, the Chinese State Council's tariff commission announced.

The move is reportedly perceived as part of Beijing's response to major trading partners that are challenging its trade practices.

Source : Fibre2fashion

## Vietnam

### Exports of textile and clothing up 13.3% during the first quarter of 2019

The garment and textile industry in Vietnam earned almost US \$ 7.3 billion from its exports in the first quarter of 2019 registering a growth of 13.3 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y). It is reported that the apparel and textile exports in March alone was an impressive US \$ 2.7 billion, which is a y-o-y growth of 15.9 per cent.

The Ministry added that the growth was mainly owing to several companies being booked with orders till June 2019 and some even being booked till the end of the year.

At the start of the year, the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS) had predicted that the industry would touch US \$ 40 billion by the end of 2019. However, going by the numbers attained in the first quarter, many speculate the industry would yet again surpass the projected target.

It is imperative to note that the country's apparel and textile exports to USA jumped by 12.3 per cent whereas it saw a surge of 9.8 per cent to the European Union in Q1.

Besides, the increase was 40.5 per cent to ASEAN, 7.4 percent to Japan and 6.4 per cent to South Korea.

Source : [www.apparelresources.com/](http://www.apparelresources.com/)

## EU

### US to impose tariffs on EU textiles

The Trump administration is proposing US\$11 billion in tariffs on a selection of imports from European countries in retaliation for EU subsidies to Airbus.

It is believed that the members have been alerted that proposed product categories include fibers, yarns and some finished home textiles. The tariffs would apply to targeted products from all 28 EU countries. The US Trade Representative is currently accepting comments on the list.

In addition, the EU also threatened counter-retaliation in the form of tariffs on US exports if the US tariffs become effective.

Source : <http://www.hometextilestoday.com>

## Bangladesh

### Trade agreement Czech Republic to boost exports

Bangladesh is in negotiation to sign a trade agreement with the Czech Republic, primarily to enjoy duty benefits on goods exports to the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) nations. The pact will make Bangladesh join a customs union of all CIS nations and pay lesser duties in some major countries, especially on garment shipments.

It is learnt that the Czech Republic, then, can be used as a hub for exporting goods to other countries under the customs union.

Bangladesh is working to diversify both its export basket and destinations to promote sustainable business after the graduation from the league of least developed ones to a developing country by 2024, the final implementation of which would come by 2027.

Source : Fibre2fashion

### **Government to come up with a Scheme to refund taxes on exports to US**

The government is considering a scheme to refund taxes imposed on India's exports to the US that will suffer loss of competitiveness once the concessional duties enjoyed under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) are withdrawn.

A Rebate of State Levies (ROSL) kind of scheme, which would refund unrebated taxes that are included in the price of goods, would incentivise exporters and ensure India's shipments do not drop. The unrebated taxes would be refunded through the drawback route.

It is believed that leather, textiles, some lines of organic chemicals, and nuclear reactors and boilers are some sectors that are likely to face a disadvantage. The government may consider ROSL for these sectors.

While most Indian exports are incentivised through the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme, the programme has been disputed by the US for violating the World Trade Organization (WTO) rules.

ROSL is compliant with international trade norms and found favour in mid-term review of the Foreign Trade Policy. The scheme should take into account the needs of the energy-intensive sectors and states with poor infrastructure, the government had noted in the review.

The industry has identified basic and processed food, imitation jewellery, leather articles (other than footwear), pharmaceuticals, chemicals and plastics as sectors that would get hit the most with the preferential tariffs in the post GSP era.

The preferential tariffs under the GSP on Indian exports range between 1% and 6%.

As per the study, India's global merchandise exports for 2018 were US\$324.7 billion, of which US\$51.4 billion were to the US. However, only US\$6.35 billion of exports from India to the US benefited from the GSP scheme. Such exports were covered under 1921 US tariff lines.

In March, the US had announced withdrawal of special duty benefits available to India, saying the country levied high duties on its exports. The GSP benefits will end in 60 days from the announcement.

Source : The Economic Times

### **Government considering extending the RoSCTL Scheme to all textile products**

The Government is planning on a scheme that offers rebate on all taxes at the central and state levels to the exporters of apparel and made-ups is likely to be extended to all categories of textile exports as an alternative to the MEIS scheme that must be withdrawn under WTO rules.

The government is mulling the option of extending the Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) scheme to all textile products. Under the scheme, exporters of garments and made-ups are reimbursed all un-remitted input taxes paid at the state and central levels.

It is learnt that the Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme (MEIS) is not World Trade Organisation-compliant and there is need for a scheme which is acceptable globally and also provides a competitive edge to Indian exporters. The extension of RoSCTL to all textiles would help the sector.

Once MEIS is withdrawn from the textile sector, it would be taken away one by one from the other sectors as well.

Under MEIS, claimed by the bulk of garments and textile exporters, the government gives incentives to exporters equivalent to about 4 per cent of their export value in the form of duty credit scrips that can be used to pay customs duties and are freely transferable.

As it is a direct export subsidy and the textile sector's phase-out period for such subsidies ended in 2018, it would have to be withdrawn soon.

India has moved above the threshold of per capita gross national income of US\$1,000, which makes it ineligible to offer export sops to any sector.

For the textile sector, officials said there was no room for extension beyond 2018 as exports officially crossed the threshold limit of 3.25 per cent of world exports in 2010 and the eight-year phase-out period is over.

The RoSCTL scheme will benefit garments and made-up exporters as shipments from neighbouring countries such as Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Vietnam enjoy zero duty access to the EU, which is the biggest export market for the domestic apparel sector.

Source : The Telegraph

### **CBIC sets up three Working Groups to study and recommend measures for trade and exports**

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has constituted three Working Groups to study and recommend measures to facilitate trade, promote exports and improve compliance.

The Working Groups will focus on:

- \* Improving the legislative structure of Customs tariff and update it to suit the emerging and future needs of the economy and industry. Special focus would be given to create a comprehensive export tariff structure to enhance India's export competitiveness

\* Export promotion and facilitation with emphasis on boosting exports through e-commerce, addressing the trade facilitation barriers faced in India's export markets and improving the quality of logistics services for exporters

\* Enhancing compliance, plugging loopholes to improve revenue collection on Customs and curb IGST refund frauds

The groups will consult the stakeholders extensively, including the Export Promotion Councils and relevant wings of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

It is learnt that the Groups will submit their report within a period of two months, said a release.

Source : [www.eximin.net](http://www.eximin.net)

### **Exports to be at an all time high of US\$ 330 billion during 2018-19**

India's exports are likely to register an all-time high of US\$330 billion this fiscal. It is learnt that the growth is propelled by higher exports of pharmaceuticals, petroleum and engineering. The Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry informed that the country's exports are expected to reach US\$32.38 billion in March, the highest in any month so far and that it would cross the US 331 billion mark in the year 2018-19.

India's total outward shipments were US\$303.5 billion in 2017-18. The all-time high is \$314.4 billion posted in 2013-14.

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Suresh Prabhu is confident of India's exports touching new heights this year. He believes that this happened because of our sectoral strategy, an institutional mechanism... a product-geography matrix. Shri Prabhu said that the country's exports were declining for a long time, but now "this year, we would have record exports". He said that the figures in 2018-19 will be the highest ever at a time when there is a worst scenario in the world trade front, he said.

Shri Prabhu further stated that outbound shipments are growing because of concerted efforts by the Ministry in the last one year. He said adding export potential was tapped in regions such as Africa and Latin America. The Ministry also held several meetings with the line ministries, including food, agri, pharma and IT Ministry, to resolve issues hindering exports.

India's exports grew 8.85 per cent to US\$298.47 billion during April-February 2018-19. Meanwhile, the Commerce Ministry, after consulting various departments like IT and agriculture, has made an offer to the US to resolve trade issues between the two countries, Prabhu said.

The US is demanding greater market access for its agricultural, dairy products and medical devices. Besides, it is seeking reduction in import duties on certain IT products and increasing their exports to bridge trade deficit with India.

Exports have been hit by the muted growth of traditional exports such as gems and jewellery, farm and engineering as well as liquidity crunch stemming from the goods and services tax, and global factors. The healthy growth in exports comes at a time when the World Trade Organization has cut global trade forecast to 2.6% in 2019 from 3% in 2018.

The World Trade Organization has said that world trade will continue to face strong headwinds in 2019 and 2020 after growing more slowly than expected in 2018 due to rising trade tensions and increased economic uncertainty. WTO believes that the slow trade growth in 2018 is attributed to new tariffs and retaliatory measures affecting widely-traded goods, weaker global growth, volatility in financial markets and tighter monetary conditions in developed countries, among others.

Source : The Economic Times & Business Line

### **Goods from UK in demand**

The demand for UK goods and services is growing across the globe, with exports to India increasing at the fastest rate among the United Kingdom's top non-European Union (EU) trading partners, according to data released recently by the UK Office of National Statistics (ONS). UK exports, which increased by 2.7 per cent to £634.1 billion in 2018, continue to rise.

UK exports grew faster to India (up 19.3 per cent), Japan (up 7.9 per cent), China (up 4.6 per cent) and Canada (up 4.2 per cent) than to the EU (up 3.6 per cent) in 2018.

Share of UK exports to the EU over the past ten years has declined by nearly 5 percentage points to 45.6 per cent last year.

The export of goods and services to non-EU trading partners in 2018 reached a high of £345.1 billion.

The figures show the share of exports to the United Kingdom's top three non-EU trading partners—the United States, China and Switzerland—increasing from 21.3 per cent in 2000 to 25.4 per cent in 2018.

In contrast, the share of UK exports to the EU has decreased significantly from 54 per cent to 45.6 per cent over the same period.

The data also highlights the attractiveness of the United Kingdom as a destination for foreign investment as inwards stock has increased by 12.6 per cent to a record high of £1,336.5 billion in 2017. The United States is the top investor, with its investment stock increasing by 19.5 per cent to £351 billion.

There has also been a growing demand from Asian investors in the United Kingdom, with inwards investment stock increasing by 201 per cent since 2008, the highest growth rate of any continent. The share of inwards stock from Asia has increased from 6.8 per cent to 9.6 per cent between 2008 and 2017.

Source : Fibre2fashion



### Imports from China down during April - January 2018 - 19

India's imports from China stood at USD 60 billion during the April-January period of 2018-19 fiscal, a deceleration of 5 per cent over the corresponding period a year ago, It is reported that India's trade deficit with China also eased to USD 46 billion in April-January 2019 from USD 53 billion in the same period a year ago.

India's export to China totalled USD 13.8 billion whereas its imports from the neighbouring country stood at USD 60.1 billion during the April-January period. Indian shipments to China totalled USD 13.33 billion in 2017-18 (April-March), whereas the country's imports from China stood at USD 76.38 billion in the period.

It is believed that India has seen a major breakthrough in its exports to China during the last few months whereas imports of Chinese products in India are decelerating. Its exports to China grew 31 per cent in April-January 2019, increased from USD 10 billion in April-January 2018 to USD 14 billion in April-January 2019. Although the trade deficit with China is substantial, given the recent trends and amendments in the foreign trade policy 2015-20, the volume of trade deficit is expected to ease in the coming years.

Over the past decade, China has been able to enhance its footprint in India to a greater extent. However, it is observed that the trend has seen a reversal in the April-Jan 2018-19.

Source : The Financial Express

### Exports at a new high of US\$ 331 billion during 2018-19

Exports of goods in 2018-19 registered a 9.06 per cent growth to hit a new high of US\$331 billion, breaching the previous high of US\$314 billion clocked in 2013-14.

Exports of goods in March was 11 per cent higher at US\$32.55 billion (the highest monthly performance) on the back of significant contributions from sectors such as engineering goods, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and petroleum products.

Imports in 2018-19 grew 8.99 per cent to US\$507 billion, but growth in March was 1.44- per cent lower at US\$43.44 billion with a fall in imports of machinery, transport equipment, electronic goods and coal and coke.

Trade deficit in 2018-19 increased to US\$176.42 billion, compared to US\$162.05 billion in the previous year, but deficit in March shrunk to US\$10.89 billion compared to US\$13.51 billion in March last year.

India's exports had taken a hit in 2014-15 due to poor global demand and rising protectionism in buying countries with exports falling sharply for two consecutive years and then recovering slowly.

Source : The Business Line

### GeM sees four fold rise in transactions

Government e-Marketplace (GeM), the national public procurement portal for the Central and State departments and PSUs, has witnessed a four-fold increase in transactions and doubling of number of sellers in the marketplace in 2018-19.

It is reported that GeM grossed over ₹ 23,000 crore in Gross Merchandise Value through more than 17 lakh transactions on the platform. Over 8.8 lakh products were made available on the platform through a network of over 2 lakh sellers and service providers. These products and services are being bought by over 34,000 government organisations.

Source : The Business Line

## Attention : Members

### INDIAN TRADE CLASSIFICATION (HS) CODES FOR MAN-MADE FIBRE TEXTILES

A detailed ITC HS Code Book for Indian Man-made Fibre textiles is available with the Council. The Book contains Chapter-wise (54 to 63) HS Codes for the following Products.

- Fabrics
- Yarns
- Made-ups
- Fibre

The Book is available for Rs. 118 (including GST), which can be obtained from the Head Office or Regional Offices of the Council at Delhi and Surat on payment by cash or on the receipt of Demand Draft (in favour of "The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai) for the requisite amount. Please add Rs.50/- for mailing charges, if you require the Book through courier.

## Frequently Asked Questions - GSTR-9C Offline Utility

### 1) What is Form GSTR-9C?

Form GSTR-9C is a reconciliation statement, duly verified and signed by Chartered Accountant/ Cost Accountant, and required to be furnished along with filing of annual return in Form GSTR-9 by the taxpayer whose turnover is above Rs.2 Crores during a financial year.

### 2) Who needs to file Form GSTR-9C?

Every taxpayer is supposed to file GSTR-9C and required to get his accounts audited by Chartered/Cost Accountant when turnover during a financial year exceeds the prescribed limit, along with filing of his/her annual return in Form GSTR-9.

This requirement is not applicable to Central Government or a State Government or a local authority, whose books of account are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India or an auditor appointed for auditing the accounts of local authorities under any law for the time being in force.

### 3) Who needs to get his accounts audited by Chartered/Cost Accountant?

Normal taxpayer (including SEZ unit and developer) with aggregate turnover exceeding 2 crore rupees during the financial year is required to get its accounts audited.

### 4) What details are to be filed in Form GSTR-9C?

Form GSTR-9C is a reconciliation statement reconciling the turnover declared in audited Annual Financial Statement with Turnover declared in the furnished Annual Return (GSTR9).

### 5) Will I be allowed to file Form GSTR-9C if I have not filed my annual return?

No, Form GSTR-9C can be filed only after filing the annual return in Form GSTR-9.

### 6) What are the pre-conditions for filing Form GSTR 9C?

- User should be registered and should have a valid GSTIN.
- User should have valid login credentials (i.e., User ID and password)
- User has filed GSTR-9 for the relevant financial year.
- The aggregate turnover of such registered person during the financial year exceeds two crore rupees
- He should have got his accounts audited as specified.

### 7) By when do I need to file the Form GSTR-9C?

The due date for filing Form GSTR-9C for a particular financial year is 31st December of subsequent financial year or as notified by Government.

### 8) When does the system enable filing of Form GSTR 9C?

GSTR-9C tile shall be enabled only after successful filing of GSTR-9 for the financial year.

Form GSTR-9C shall be made available to all taxpayers to whom GSTR-9 is applicable for the financial year. System shall not validate whether the turnover of taxpayer exceeds 2 crore rupees or not.

### 9) How do I fill details in Form GSTR 9C?

The taxpayer, or the auditor can download GSTR-9C offline tool (.zip file) from GST Portal and unzip the downloaded file to open excel based offline tool. Fill details in the downloaded offline sheet and validate sheet.

**10) From where can I download and use the GSTR-9C Offline Utility in my system?**

To download and open the GSTR-9C Offline Utility in your system from the GST Portal, perform following steps:

- 1) Access the GST Portal: [www.gst.gov.in](http://www.gst.gov.in).
- 2) Go to Downloads Offline Tools GSTR-9C Offline Tool option and click on it.
- 3) Unzip the downloaded Zip file which contain GSTR\_9c\_Offline\_Utility.xls excel sheet.
- 4) Open the GSTR\_9c\_Offline\_Utility.xls excel sheet by double clicking on it.
- 5) Read the 'Read Me' instructions on excel sheet and then fill the worksheet accordingly.

**11) Do I need to login to GST Portal to download the GSTR-9C Offline Utility?**

No. You can download the GSTR-9C Offline Utility under 'Downloads' section without logging in to the GST Portal.

**12) Do I need to login to GST Portal to upload the generated JSON file using GSTR-9C Offline Utility?**

Yes. Taxpayer must login in to the GST Portal to upload the generated JSON file using GSTR-9C Offline Utility. Log in to GST portal Annual return Select Financial year and click on Search Click on 'Prepare Offline' option in GSTR-9C tile Go to 'upload' tab.

**13) What are the basic system requirements/configurations required to use GSTR-9C Offline Tool?**

The offline functions work best on Windows 7 and above and MSEXCEL 2007 and above.

**14) Is Offline utility mobile compatible?**

As of now GSTR-9C Offline utility cannot be used on mobile. It can only be used on desktop/laptops.

**15) Will there be any system computed fields and data auto-populated in Form GSTR 9C?**

Taxpayer can download the 'System generated summary based on GSTR-9' in PDF file from the portal by clicking on 'Download GSTR-9C tables derived from GSTR-9(PDF)' button. Downloaded PDF can be handed over/passed on to auditor. Auditor can use the same to fill the GSTR-9 related fields in GSTR-9C.

'System generated summary based on GSTR-9' filed shall have the following fields:

- Turnover as declared in Annual return (GSTR-9)
- Taxable turnover as per liability declared in Annual Return (GSTR-9)
- Total amount of Tax paid as declared in Annual Return (GSTR-9)
- ITC claimed in Annual Return (GSTR-9)
- ITC claimed in Annual Return (GSTR-9)

**16) How would Form GSTR 9C be verified and signed by Chartered Accountant/ Cost Accountant?**

Chartered Accountant/Cost Accountant shall use the offline tool to fill up the required details and the Certificate. He would generate a JSON file after validation and upload the file. After generating JSON the Auditor shall affix his digital signature.

**17) Who would upload the Form GSTR 9C?**

Chartered Accountant/ Cost Accountant after verification and signing shall pass on the signed JSON file to taxpayer for upload of Form GSTR 9C. It is to be uploaded on GST portal by the taxpayer, after verification, along with a copy of the following documents: Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account/ Profit and Loss Account and any other document.

**18) Can I download draft Form GSTR 9C before filing?**

Yes. Draft GSTR-9C in PDF format can be downloaded after the upload of JSON file.



**19) What is the format to be used for upload of Form GSTR 9C?**

Upload format allowed for GSTR-9C is JSON only and upload format allowed for Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Account/ Income and Expenditure Account and any other document is PDF only.

**20) Is there any limit on the size of documents required to be uploaded?**

Limit of upload for following documents under each section shall be 2 files and each file size should not exceed 5 MB:

- ✓ Balance Sheet
- ✓ Profit and Loss Account/Income and Expenditure Account
- ✓ Other document 1, if any
- ✓ Other document 2, if any

**21) Can I make any changes in the JSON file uploaded by the Auditor?**

No, you cannot make any changes in the JSON file uploaded by the Auditor. System shall validate that no changes have been made by taxpayer in JSON signed by auditor.

**22) What can I do if Auditor has made recommendation on additional liability to be discharged by taxpayer?**

You are given an option to navigate to GST DRC 03 for making payment towards additional liability. After making payment through GST DRC 03, you will be navigated back to Form GSTR 9C.

**23) What can I do in case of any error shown by system on uploading the Form GSTR 9C with necessary documents?**

Download the JSON error file and handover it to auditor. Auditor has to open it in offline tool by clicking on "Open downloaded error JSON file". He would correct errors as per details mentioned in "GST Validation errors" and sign it again after generating JSON. On upload of signed JSON; system shall validate that no changes have been made in signed JSON by taxpayer.

**24) Can I track the status of Form GSTR 9C?**

Taxpayer can track the status of form GSTR-9C through 'Track return status' option in Services menu. Once return is filed successfully, then you can check the details in 'View e-filed returns' option under Services menu.

**25) Can I save and download the filed Form GSTR 9C?**

Yes, you can save/ download the filed form for future reference. ARN and date of ARN will also be shown on summary downloaded after filing the form.

**26) Can I revise Form GSTR 9C or make any changes in it?**

Form GSTR-9C once filed cannot be revised. However, changes can be made till filing even post payment through GST DRC-03.

**27) I am uploading GSTR-9C JSON File again, after making changes. What will happen to details of the previous upload?**

If some details exist from previous upload, it will be updated with latest uploaded details. All new entries will be added as new entries.

Do I need to click on 'save' button in 'upload relevant documents page' after every upload?

Yes. You need to click on 'Save' button after the status is 'Processed'. Save button shall be enabled only after successful upload of mandatory documents (Balance sheet and Profit & loss statement/Income & expenditure statement)

What will happen if I click on 'proceed to file' without clicking on 'save' button.  
Error message shall be displayed if you click on 'proceed to file' without clicking on 'Save' button.

**28) When proceed to file button shall be enabled**

Proceed to file' button shall be enabled only after successful upload of

1. Signed JSON file
2. Balance sheet in PDF/JPEG format
3. Profit & Loss statement/ Income & Expenditure statement in PDF/JPEG format and save.

**29) When 'File GSTR-9C' button will be enabled?**

'File GSTR-9C' button will be enabled only after Proceed to file and select the declaration/verification check box.

**30) Can I add/delete the uploaded PDF/JPEG file after clicking on 'Proceed to file' or 'File GSTR-9C' button?**

Yes. You can add/delete PDF/JPEG file till successful filing of GSTR-9C. If you have deleted/added any documents, then you have to click on save and proceed file again.

**31) Can I download the reconciliation statement in excel format before/after filing of GSTR-9C?**

Yes. You can download the reconciliation statement details in excel format.

**32) Can I download the uploaded PDF/JPEG (Balance sheet, profit & loss statement etc.) and JSON file after successful filing?**

Yes. You can download the GSTR-9C JSON/PDF/Excel files by clicking on 'Download GSTR-9C' button in GSTR-9C tile and PDF/JPEG uploaded by taxpayer can be downloaded by clicking on 'View GSTR-9C' button in GSTR-9C tile.

Source: <https://taxguru.in/goods-and-service-tax/gstr-9c-offline-utility-released-faqs-user-manual.html>

**ATTENTION : MEMBERS****Renewal of Membership for the year 2019 - 20**

All Members are requested to send the Membership Subscription Fee for the year 2019-20 immediately. The last date for renewal of membership is 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.

The annual membership fee is as follows :

- For SSI units : Rs.8201/- (inclusive of GST)
- For others : Rs.12,331/- (Inclusive of GST)

Members may note that non-payment of Membership Subscription will lead to discontinuation of Membership as well as cancellation of the Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) issued..

We also take this opportunity to inform you that online renewal of membership as well as online issuance of RCMC w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 can be done by members. Members may renew their membership online through Council's website [membership.srtepc.in](http://membership.srtepc.in)

## USA : A HUGE POTENTIAL MARKET FOR TEXTILES AND CLOTHING PRODUCTS

The United States of America has emerged as the leading market for Indian textiles and clothing (T & C) products with exports amounting to US\$ 7.54 bn. during 2017-18. It is likely to remain at the top position for Indian T & C exports during 2018-19 also with an estimated exports of around US\$ 8 bn. as per the projections made based on DGCI&S statistics. Being the top market, USA alone accounts for more than 20% of our total annual T & C exports to the world. Currently, the top partner countries from which United States is importing Textiles and Clothing products include China, Vietnam, India, Mexico and Bangladesh.

### Highlights

- **The USA was a US\$ 120 billion Textile & Clothing market during 2018.**
- India's share in total imports of Textile & Clothing of USA is 7.12%, worth about US\$ 8 billion in 2018.
- Textile imports (excluding made-ups & apparel) of USA from the world account for nearly 14% (US\$ 16.44 billion) of its total T&C imports.
- Clothing imports of USA from the world account for nearly 73% (US\$ 86.79 billion) of its total T&C imports.
- Imports of Made-ups from the world reached over US\$ 16.27 billion with a share of nearly 13%.
- **USA's total imports of MMF textiles from the world during 2018 were around US\$ 12 billion, of which India's share was around 5% (US\$ 0.63 billion).**
- Hence, there is scope for increasing exports of Indian MMF textiles to US and capture a larger market share.
- The major suppliers of Textile products to the US are China, India, Mexico, Canada, and Pakistan.
- The leading suppliers of Clothing products to the US are China, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Indonesia, India and Mexico.

### The US's Textile and Clothing Imports from the World during 2018

Chapter	Product label	USA's imports from world (value in USD Mn)	USA's imports from India (Value in USD Mn)	India's share % in 2018
		2018	2018	
50	Silk	87.34	11.79	13.50
51	Wool, fine or coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn etc.	287.36	3.62	1.26
52	Cotton	961.69	103.83	10.80
53	Other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn etc.,	244.95	66.02	26.95
54	Man-made filaments; etc	2372.60	206.65	8.71
55	Man-made staple fibres	1883.80	137.08	7.28
56	Wadding, felt and nonwovens; ..	2554.77	103.41	4.05
57	Carpets and other textile floor coverings	3255.42	959.51	29.47
58	Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics; etc	798.06	47.38	5.94
59	Impregnated, coated, covered ..	2914.15	124.20	4.26
60	Knitted or crocheted fabrics	1088.97	78.47	7.21
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories,.	47745.03	1880.22	3.94
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, ...	39048.94	2147.57	5.50
63	Other made-up textile articles; sets; worn clothing.	16270.37	2634.70	16.19
<b>Total</b>		<b>119513.45</b>	<b>8504.46</b>	<b>7.12</b>

SOURCE : ITC Trade map

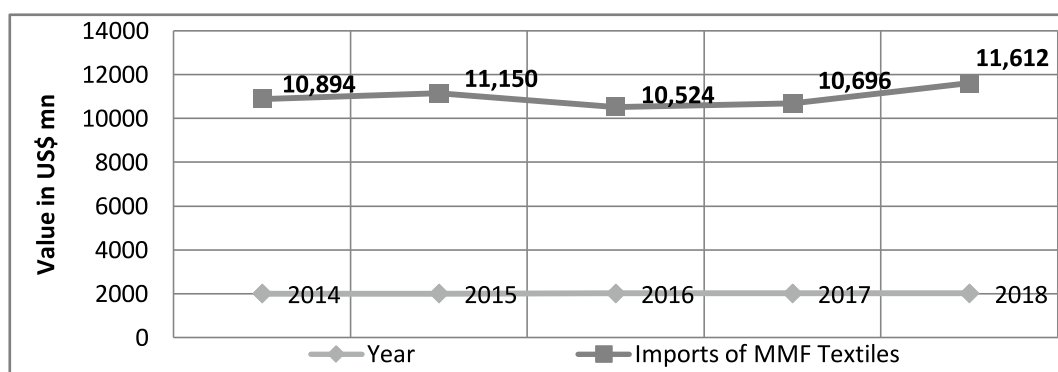
**Share of Textile & Clothing Imports of the USA from the World in 2018**

Imports from World	Value in US\$ Mn	% Share in Total T&C Imports from World
Textile	32719.48	27.38
Clothing	86793.97	72.62
<b>Total T&amp;C Imports</b>	<b>119513.45</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source : ITC Trade map

**Growing Potential for Manmade Fibre Textiles**

The USA is one of the leading markets for MMF textiles. Its MMF textile imports have been growing steadily over the last few years and reached US\$ 11.61 billion in 2018. China, Korea Republic, India, Canada, Mexico, Germany, Japan, Turkey etc. were the leading suppliers of MMF textiles to the USA. **USA's imports of MMF textiles during last five years are given below :**



SOURCE: ITC Trade map

**Top 10 MMF Textile products imported by the USA from the World during 2018**

S. No.	HS Code	Product Description	Value in US\$ Mn
1	550320	Staple fibres of polyesters, not carded, combed or otherwise processed for spinning	643.66
2	540220	High-tenacity filament yarn of polyesters (excluding that put up for retail sale)	386.12
3	540720	Woven fabrics of strip or the like, of synthetic filament, incl. monofilament of >= 67 decitex . . .	323.76
4	550410	Staple fibres of viscose rayon, not carded, combed or otherwise processed for spinning	195.07
5	540219	High-tenacity filament yarn of nylon or other polyamides (excluding sewing thread, yarn put . . .	153.20
6	540233	Textured filament yarn of polyester (excluding that put up for retail sale)	147.01
7	540211	High-tenacity filament yarn of aramids (excluding sewing thread and yarn put up for retail . . .	137.43
8	540761	Woven fabrics of yarn containing >= 85% by weight of non-textured polyester filaments, incl. . . .	107.66
9	540490	Strip and the like, e.g. artificial straw, of synthetic textile material, with an apparent . . .	105.52
10	540752	Woven fabrics of yarn containing >= 85% by weight of textured polyester filaments, incl. monofilament . . .	91.16

SOURCE: ITC Trade map

Continued on page 27



**Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Immediate Past Chairman  
(February 2017 to February 2019)**

Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, the Managing Director of Praful Group of Industries, was born in Delhi. Although ambitious and eager to pursue Chartered Accountancy studies, Shri Aggarwal had to forego his post graduation after his B.com (Hons.) from Hindu college, Delhi University at his father's insistence. In 1977 he joined the family business which was started by his grandfather in 1950.

They represented textile-manufacturing units based in Mumbai and Amritsar for North India; he shifted to Surat and started with wholesale trading in 1987. In the next 3 years, business spread to three different markets in Surat itself, which was good initial success for the group. The reason behind this success was hard work, on-time delivery, proper 'value for money', customer satisfaction and focus on quality. Shri Aggarwal with his astute business sense, keen understanding & knowledge of the market trends coupled with yearning to learn new things and ready to take risks has been able to keep the Group ahead in the competitive market and become trendsetters. The group has since grown multi-times in the last 30 years due to new ventures and timely decisions.

Shri Aggarwal took over as Chairman of the Council in February 2017. In his two year term as the Chairman, he was successful in representing the Council and addressing the grievances and problems hindering the MMF textile exports with the appropriate authorities. Needless to say, his apt presentation of the issues helped in resolving those with the Government of India. Shri Aggarwal was capable of corroborating his point on many issues such as the ROSL, MEIS and Drawback rates to the appropriate authorities which were taken up suitably by them. His knowledge about the issues and presenting it effectively was instrumental in finding solutions to matters that were hurting the exports of MMF textiles and causing concern to the exporters. Shri Aggarwal was successful in convincing the Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Irani to sanction Ministry's support for conducting a comprehensive Study on MMF textile industry in India.

His tenure coincided with the implementation of GST which was a significant step from Government of India in the history of the country. The implementation of GST brought about with it confusion and exporters were ignorant about the implications. During this time it was Shri Aggarwal's initiative to organize Workshops/Seminars on GST and its implications on exporters to educate them. During his two year stint, Council held its exclusive Exhibitions in Kenya & Ethiopia and participated in Fairs in Panama, Russia, Cairo, Hong Kong, UK, Peru, Colombia and Morocco. Textiles India 2017 organized by the Ministry of Textiles at Gandhinagar, Gujarat during 30<sup>th</sup> June-2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017 which was highly successful and SRTEPC had one of the largest displays of Man-made Fibre, Yarn, Fabrics, Made-ups and Home Textiles. The following year saw Council's ambitious project - RBSM Source India organized in Surat during September 2018 which was once again a hit among the Indian exporters as well as foreign buyers. If Source India 2016 set the standards on how Global Buyer Seller Meets are organized, then Source India 2018 took it to another level by setting a benchmark on how to organize definitive, engaging and productive interaction between buyers and sellers during the event, the credit for which goes to Shri Aggarwal who was the Chairman and under his supervision and eagle eyes the whole Show was put together. Shri Aggarwal was also a part of the High Level Textile Delegation led by the Secretary Textiles to Japan. Besides, Council participated in the Mega event "Textiles in Karnataka" organized by the Ministry of Textiles in Bengaluru. His keen foresightedness to bring more companies under the fold of SRTEPC prompted the Council to open its branch in Coimbatore.

Before taking charge as the Chairman of the Council, he was the Vice Chairman for two years and the Regional Chairman of Council's Surat Regional Centre for a long period of time. He has been holding many prominent positions including President of Agarwal Vikas Trust, Surat. He is also the Executive member of Regional Advisor Committee of Central Excise and Customs; Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce in Surat and South Gujarat Processors Association.

Shri Aggarwal is also actively involved in various social and trade activities in Surat. Health and education are the two areas that attract him and he is keenly connected with it.



### Positive Mindset Can Change

By Shri Deepak Kumar Mansingka, Director, Shree Mahadeo Cotton Mills Ltd.

Textile industry in India is one of the oldest in world. But in recent past the growth and total volume in international trade has decreased as compared to other textile producing countries. Here data is not important as we all know the fact.

In this context, i would like to raise a few small but significant points, according to my knowledge and understanding.

The first and core issue is that industrialists or entrepreneurs in india over the last few years have started thinking that textile is a low profit business compared to other lucrative, fast earning looking business and to support that we see some old big business house, who started business with textile, made a huge money out of it and later shifted to other industry. But everybody cannot be that lucky to be that big, where leaving a industry doesn't dent their portfolio.

Any ways, so this mindset needs to be changed and my personal experience says that textile is a very steady business and can give very handsome and steady earnings. But it needs a lot of patience and efforts.

So once we change our mindset to positive, we start thinking and investing our money & efforts which will automatically start making way for success. One important factor of textile industry, is 'worker' which unfortunately considered one of the most unproductive, here my opinion is that Indian worker/labour are one of the most versatile skilled labour and can be much more productive too, if we can provide them the necesssary support, incentives, future assurance ad good working conditions and atmosphere. Obviously timely technological upgradation, support to workers, market development expenses, exposure, etc needs investment, which can only be done if we ourselves have a mindset that this industry can give us fruitful results in due course and for long period. Here i must say that we must not forget our ancient culture, which emphasises on honesty and commitment values. Which can be a winning combination in long run.

As far as government support in concerned and would say that government can support us in some areas like providing us the same platform for duties and incentives etc, for which we only can request the government but cannot sit waiting for government to come and support us all the way. Actually my knowledge in respect of government support whether in China or India is very limited.

So leaving aside i would also like to mention some of the advantages in respect to resources that India has over other competitive countries, to name a few, availability of raw materials, huge population, young population, reasonably cheap labour and most importantly the brains and efforts we indians can put in our business so if we can work on our strengths (for eg: we have to explore, promote and educate buyers about the advantages of viscose/rayon and that too fibre dyed over 100% polyester or wool or piece dyed) with commitment and positive mindset, i am sure we can be world leaders again.



### **K.D. Enterprises**

#### **Fusing quality, variety and reliability within our weaves**

This tagline perfectly captures our essence- a brand that has globally mastered the art and skill of manufacturing fashionable, diverse, and premium quality fabrics, with not even a thread out of place. We are K.D. Enterprises, working towards leveling up the fashion appetite of our markets with complete fabric solutions at competitive prices. The sole aim of the company is to supply human friendly fabrics to the global customer base at affordable rates, ensuring end-to-end fabric supply to all our customers. Our strength lies in our variety- we offer a wide range of prints, colors, patterns and embroideries to choose from. Thus, we have successfully created a niche for ourselves in the local as well as international markets.

K.D. Enterprises is the brainchild of Mr. Dhanshuk Shah, who established the company in 2005. Despite starting small, an urge to cater to global customers and international quality standards, manufacture a wide and dynamic range of fabrics, and have a stable vendor management system, has led to the massive growth of the company in a short span.

The omega factor for the company's humongous progress has been the penchant for innovation that the team possesses their expertise and experience, along with their individual passion for work. The company prizes its superior vendors, counting on their reliability, trustworthiness and positive market image to source the best quality fabrics. Along with this, we ensure the smooth working of continuous chain of raw material supply to manufacture fabrics such as 2X2 voile, Lining & Pocketing, Light weight fabric, Mid weight fabric in 100% cotton & cotton blended fabric.

K.D. Enterprises prides itself over its strict quality control standards. The fabric quality is checked even before procuring the range from the vendors. Even after procurement, our quality experts test the fabric over the parameters of quality, color fastness, shrinkage and dyeing, before packaging it off to the customers. Owing to such high standards and timely deliveries, the company has managed to create a wide network of international markets in countries like Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Indonesia & other Asian Country also United Kingdom, Other European Countries, United States of America, Australia & African countries like Sudan, Djibouti.

Since customer satisfaction is our prime most goal, we also offer customization services to them. This is done in collaboration with our vendors. The fabric can be customized according to the client's requirements on the basis of fabric type, stitch, color combination, design and patterns.

Our dedication and commitment towards delivering results, quality, diversity and customer satisfaction has made us earn trade membership with SRTEPC, TEXPROCIL and INDO ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE .



## MEETING WITH SHRI SURESH PRABHU, HON'BLE UNION MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND CIVIL AVIATION



The Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation addressing the Meeting

The Executive Director of the Council, Shri S. Balaraju attended a Meeting chaired by Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation regarding India-China Trade on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019 in New Delhi. The Commerce Secretary, Shri Anup Wadhawan was also present at the Meeting. Shri Wadhawan welcomed the participants and told that there is a trade deficit with China which needs to be improved by increasing our exports to China and reducing imports from China. He said that the trade deficit was more during 2017-18 which has since improved in 2018-19. A presentation was made on the status of exports to China and imports from China. It was informed that India is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest export destination for China. It was also informed that efforts were being made by the Deptt. of Commerce to increase exports by organising events in China and India which showed moderate result. It was pointed out that the ongoing US-China trade war has opened up opportunities for Indian exporters to increase exports to China in the next 2-3 years.

Shri Ramesh Abhishek, Secretary, Deptt. for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade requested Councils to encourage investments/FDIs. He assured that the Govt. will provide all possible support in this regard.

All the Councils were requested to give suggestions as to how we can increase our exports to China and decrease our imports from there and also to prepare strategy to attract more investments in the country.

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation while addressing the participants said that it is very essential to balance trade with China. He requested that each of

the Councils must prepare a strategy document for increasing exports to China and make it happen. The strategy should be focused on enhancing India's market share in China. He further stated that export promotional events should be organized in China and for that the Ministry of Commerce will help the EPCs with suitable funds to implement along with their strategies. He also said that the EPCs should conduct market studies to understand and penetrate the market better in collaborations with Chinese companies. He further said that all EPCs should work together in this regard and take this as a national challenge.

Commerce Secretary requested all Councils to send a note giving inputs as desired by the Commerce & Industry Minister.

Prior to the meeting with CIM the Executive Director of the Council attended a Meeting convened by Mrs. Aditi Das Rout, Trade Advisor, Ministry of Textiles regarding India-South Korea CEPA. During the Meeting Ms. Rout informed that India side has to offer concessions on 3-4 tariff lines on MMF textiles to the Korean side. She suggested that some of the tariff lines of the Korea's Wish List may be brought down to zero tariff level. Executive Director informed the Trade Advisor that the Council vide letter dated 19.09.2018 has already offered two tariff lines (54022010 and 55133100) for consideration from Exclusion List to the Sensitive List and that the Council cannot offer anything beyond that. Ms. Rout requested that data about production, domestic consumption and list of manufacturers may be sent to her to further examine the matter. She said that she will forward a list of 14 tariff lines to the Council for comments which may be furnished immediately.



## MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP CONSTITUTED BY CBIC ON EXPORT PROMOTION AND FACILITATION HELD IN MUMBAI CUSTOMS

The CBIC constituted Working Group on Export Promotion under the Chairmanship of Shri O. P. Dadhich, Chief Commissioner, Delhi Zone, New Delhi along with Shri Nitish K Sinha, Joint Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue and Shri Dipin Singla, IRS Joint Commissioner, OSD, Drawback Division, Department of Revenue and had a Meeting with Officials and selected members of SRTEPC on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 at Mumbai Customs to look into the issues faced by exporters on various aspects. The Chief Commissioner, Mumbai Customs- Zone III, Shri Himanshu Gupta and Ms. Seema Jere Bisht, Commissioner (Import) from JNCH were the other dignitaries present for the Meeting.

Shri Ronak Rughani, Chairman, Shri S. Balaraju, Executive Director, Shri K. Baruah, Joint Director, Ms. Sybil Marques, Asstt. Director and a few member-exporters represented the Council at the Meeting.

The Chairman of the Working Group, Shri Dadhich welcomed and thanked the EPCs and the other guests for attending the meeting and apprised the gathering that the Working Group constituted by CBIC which would be focusing on export promotion and trade facilitation and emphasized on boosting exports through e-commerce. It would also address the trade facilitation barriers faced by Indian exporters by improving the quality of logistics services for exporters. He invited members from other EPCs to present their issues and suggestions.

SRTEPC Chairman put forth the key issues of the Council along with Executive Director, S. Balaraju to the Working Group. Issues raised during the Meeting were suitably replied by Shri Dadhich and Shri Nitish Sinha.

### Council's Input :

#### (A) Procedural issues at Customs & DGFT

- Mandatory requirement to mention Unique Quantity Code (UQC) in "Sq. Mtr." for fabrics on invoice .
- Delay in receiving pending Duty Drawback claims when drawback scrolls are generated and exporters claims not released in their bank accounts.
- Retention period of export documents.
- Condonation for error committed while filing Declaration of intent under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS).

#### (B) Issues related to IGST/GST/ITC

- Delay in the refund process of IGST/ GST claims.
- Refund of IGST/ GST on Capital Goods.
- Refund of Input tax credit availed on input services.
- Delay in ITC refund on exports by paying IGST.
- Proper guidelines for GST return filing & reduction in the documentation.
- Removal of the Inverted Duty Structure in the MMF textile Segment under the GST.

#### (C) Suggestions on exports related issues

- Increase in the Duty Drawback rates of the MMF Textile.
- Extension of RoSCTL Scheme to MMF Fibres, Yarns and Fabrics.
- Enhance the MEIS rates of the MMF Textile products.
- Modification of South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) rules of origin to make use of yarn and fabrics of Indian origin mandatory for exporting apparel to India.
- To provide adequate MAI grants to EPCs to defend Anti-dumping cases.
- Imposition of Customs Duty on Imports from ASEAN & Increase in Import Duty to 20% on Viscose Staple Fibre (HS Code 5504.1000) & Lyocell Fibre (HS Code 5504.9000) for the protection of domestic.
- Removal of Import Duty on Dissolving Grade (DG) Pulp (HS Code 4702.0000) (Inverted Duty Structure for ASEAN).
- Take suitable measures to protect domestic MMF textiles Segment.
- Stiff competition faced from lower cost textile producing countries mainly China & Indonesia.
- High Banking charges.
- Incentivise Product Development and Modernisation.
- Speedy processing of documents and improvement of infrastructure.
- Fragmented Nature of Industry.
- Increase MAI funds for export promotional programmes.
- Textile Merchant Converter Exporter/Merchant Exporter to be Considered as Manufacturer Exporter.

**(D) Other Procedural Issues raised**

- **Exports of textile goods through Third Party** – The Council's Chairman informed that denial of Indian Banks to clear the payments received from a third party / country in Africa, Middle-East, LAC regions namely, Sudan, Chile, Iran, Afghanistan and Indonesia faced problems in getting remittance in India. Some of the Indian Banks are not processing such payments and insisting for the unnecessary documents for release of payments. It was requested to simplify the payment procedure for receiving payments from third party and recommend the concerned authorities to relax the payment norms for exports in order to facilitate ease of doing business.
- **To improve the infrastructure at Benapole for exporting to Bangladesh and allow export of Viscose Staple Fibre through Wagah border to Pakistan** – Chairman pointed out that export to Bangladesh through Benapole border faced difficulty due to huge congestion at the border. While exports of some items of MMF Textiles to Pakistan was not allowed to be shipped by rail/road through Wagah border but only allowed to be shipped through sea route. This increased the cost and transit time, thus making products uncompetitive as compared to China. It was suggested to improve the infrastructure at Benapole for exporting to Bangladesh and allow export of MMF Textile items through Wagah border to Pakistan.

**(E) Issues raised by members**

- **Unnecessary payment of drawback amount along with interest and penalty charges** – Shri Nitish K Sinha, Joint Secretary, Department of Revenue informed the exporter that once an order is received from the Customs the exporter should go for an appeal and follow-up with the Customs immediately for an early resolution.
- **Non- receipt of GST refunds due to errors on GST Portal while making in GSTR-1** – Shri Nitish K Sinha replied that the exporter may contact their GST Jurisdictional officials for resolving their issue which has been pending since long.

**Closing statements**

The Working Group Committee took a note of all the issues represented and requested the EPCs to submit a brief Note on those issues to the Department so that they would delve into these issues and based on our suggestions, would recommend CBIC for consideration and decision. He further informed the gathering that issues discussed during the Meeting would require study and recommend measures would be adopted to facilitate trade, promote exports and improve compliance in co-ordination with CBIC. Shri Dadhich emphasized that the deliberations held will not mark the end of a discussion on export related issues but hoped that the communication will stimulate new reflections on the concerns of the exporters.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the Chairman of the Working Group.

INFO SRTEPC ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF					
Sr. No.	Advertisement	One issue	Three issues	Six issues	Twelve issues
1.	Advertisement Inside Half page (B/W)	4000	11000	21000	40000
2.	Inside full page (B&W)	8000	22000	42000	80000
3.	Inside half page (colour)	5000	12000	30000	65000
4.	Inside full page (colour)	9000	25000	48000	85000
5.	Front Inside Page( Colour)	10000	27500	50000	90000
6.	Back inside Page( Colour)	15000	42500	80000	150000
7.	Back cover Page ( Colour)	20000	55000	105000	200000

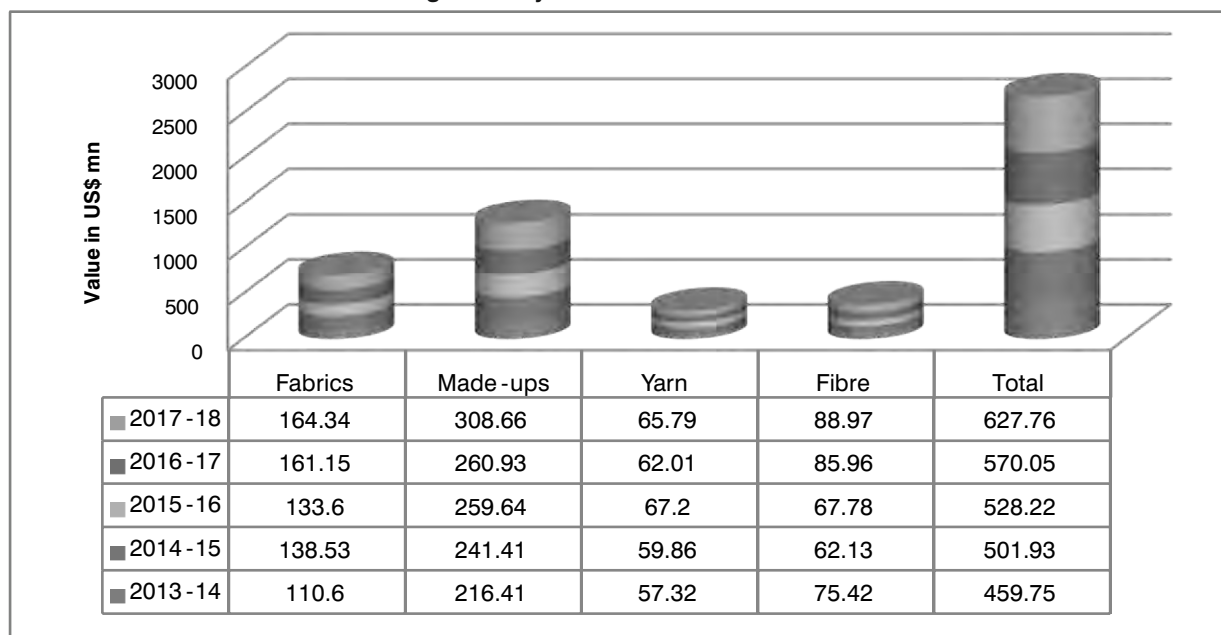
**Technical Specifications**

Full page area : 11" L x 8.5" W (Maximum)

Half page area : 5.5" L x 8.5" W (Maximum)

Continued from page 20

**Exports of Indian MMF Textiles to the USA during last five years**



Source : DGCI&S

**US has emerged as the leading market for Indian MMF textiles exports during 2017-18.** Exports of Indian MMF textiles to USA have been steadily growing at a significant rate over the last five years to reach an all time high of US\$ 627.76 mn during 2017-18. Made-ups were the dominant items in the export basket with a share of nearly 49%, followed by fabrics 26%, fibre 14% and yarn 11%.

Below are the 10 Manmade fibre yarns imported by USA in 2018 in which India's share is insignificant.

SI No.	HS Code	Product Description	USA's imports from India (in US\$ '000)	USA's imports from World (in US\$ '000)	India's % share in 2018
			Value in 2018	Value in 2018	
1	540245	Filament yarn of nylon or other polyamides, incl. monofilament of < 67 decitex, single, untwisted . . .	0	62,312	0.00
2	540211	High-tenacity filament yarn of aramids (excluding sewing thread and yarn put up for retail . . .	0	137,425	0.00
3	540412	Polypropylene monofilament of >= 67 decitex and with a cross sectional dimension of <= 1 mm . . .	0	3,083	0.00
4	540333	Filament yarn of cellulose acetate, incl. monofilament of < 67 decitex, single	0	2,106	0.00
5	550999	Yarn containing predominantly, but < 85% synthetic staple fibres by weight, other than that . . .	0	4,949	0.00
6	550942	Multiple "folded" or cabled yarn containing >= 85% synthetic staple fibres by weight . .	0	3,367	0.00
7	550969	Yarn containing predominantly, but < 85% acrylic or modacrylic staple fibres by weight, other . . .	0	3,137	0.00
8	550992	Yarn containing predominantly, but < 85% synthetic staple fibres by weight, mixed . .	0	2,577	0.00
9	560490	Textile yarn, strip and the like of heading 5404 and 5405, impregnated, coated, covered or . . .	0	12,350	0.00
10	540249	Synthetic filament yarn, incl. synthetic monofilament of < 67 decitex, single, untwisted . .	1	30,590	0.00

SOURCE: ITC Trade map

Below are the 10 Manmade fibre fabrics imported by USA in 2018 in which India's share is insignificant

SI No.	HS Code	Product Description	USA's imports from India (in US\$ '000)	USA's imports from World (in US\$ '000)	India's % share in 2018
			Value in 2018	Value in 2018	
1	551341	Plain woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% polyester staple fibres , . . .	0	3,183	0.00
2	551641	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% artificial staple fibres by weight, . . .	0	2,451	0.00
3	600536	Unbleached or bleached warp knit fabrics of synthetic fibres "incl. those	31	59,173	0.05
4	600537	Dyed warp knit fabrics of synthetic fibres "incl. those made on galloon knitting, . . .	53	92,458	0.06
5	540244	Synthetic filament elastomeric yarn, single, untwisted or with a twist of	55	30,306	0.18
6	540741	Woven fabrics of yarn containing >= 85% by weight of filaments of nylon or	10	5,411	0.18
7	551299	Woven fabrics containing >= 85% synthetic staple fibres by weight, dyed, ..	26	11,855	0.22
8	551321	Plain woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% polyester staple fibres ...	24	8,197	0.29
9	551229	Woven fabrics containing >= 85% acrylic or modacrylic staple fibres by weight, dyed, ..	104	34,021	0.31
10	551614	Woven fabrics containing >= 85% artificial staple fibres by weight, printed	51	12,555	0.41

SOURCE: ITC Trade map

Below are the 10 Manmade fibre Made-ups imported by USA in 2018 in which India's share is substantial.

SI No.	HS Code	Product Description	USA's imports from India (in US\$ '000)	USA's imports from World (in US\$ '000)	India's % share in 2018
			Value in 2018	Value in 2018	
1	630622	Tents of synthetic fibres (excluding umbrella and play tents)	80	434,324	0.02
2	630312	Curtains, incl. drapes, and interior blinds, curtain or bed valances of synthetic fibres, knitted . . .	64	24,103	0.27
3	630392	Curtains, incl. drapes, and interior blinds, curtain or bed valances of synthetic fibres (excluding . . .	6,026	1,212,831	0.50
4	630222	Printed bedlinen of man-made fibres (excluding knitted or crocheted)	1,103	221,763	0.50
5	630293	Toilet linen and kitchen linen of man-made fibres (excluding floorcloths, polishing cloths, . . .	904	87,566	1.03
6	630790	Made-up articles of textile materials, incl. dress patterns, n.e.s.	92,584	4,324,591	2.14
7	631090	Used or new rags, scrap twine, cordage, rope and cables and worn-out articles thereof, of textile . . .	756	31,410	2.41
8	630140	Blankets and travelling rugs of synthetic fibres (excluding electric, table covers, bedspreads . . .	24,776	925,559	2.68
9	630253	Table linen of man-made fibres (excluding knitted or crocheted)	6,466	233,877	2.76
10	630232	Bedlinen of man-made fibres (excluding printed, knitted or crocheted)	14,407	468,700	3.07

SOURCE: ITC Trade map



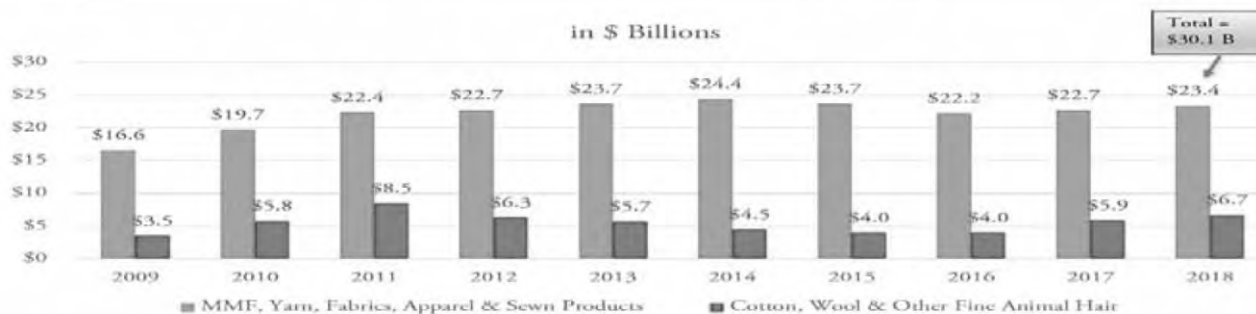
Therefore, there is huge potential and opportunity for exporting MMF textiles viz., MMF yarns, fabrics and made-ups to the US market. This is more so due to the ongoing trade war between the US and China whereby US has imposed additional duties on most of the textiles coming from China and vice-versa that has opened up opportunities for the Indian exporters. This is the right time to tap the US market and establish our foothold in this important market.

**Key Facts about the U.S. Textile Industry**

The USA is the fourth largest exporter of textile-related products in the world which amounted to \$30 billion in 2018. The U.S. textile industry supply chain—from textile fibers to apparel and other sewn products — employed 545,500 workers in 2018. Excluding raw cotton and wool, half of U.S. textile supply chain exports went to Western Hemisphere free trade partners in 2018. The U.S. textile industry supplies more than 8,000 different textile products to the U.S. military.

It is the world leader in textile research and development, with the U.S. textile complex developing next generation textile materials such as conductive fabric with antistatic properties, electronic textiles that can monitor heart rate and other vital signs, antimicrobial fibers, life-saving body armor, and new fabrics that adapt to the climate to make the wearer warmer or cooler. USA has invested \$22.8 billion in new textiles plants and equipment from 2006 to 2017. Recently U.S. manufacturers have opened new facilities throughout the textile production chain, including recycling facilities to convert textile and other waste to new textile uses and resins.

## Exports of Fiber, Textiles & Apparel



Sources: U.S. Dept. of Commerce and U.S. Int'l Trade Commission. Man-made fibers in Textile & Apparel data.

**Export Promotional Initiative of SRTEPC**

In view of the emerging opportunities and growing scope for Indian textiles and apparels and particularly for MMF textiles exports in the US market, the Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) is organizing participation of Indian textile companies, as the lead Council, in the “TEXWORLD USA” which is scheduled from 22 to 24 July 2019 in New York City. SRTEPC appeals to all its member-exporters to participate in the event and take advantage of this excellent opportunity. All the necessary assistance for participating in the event including subsidized booth rates, hotels, visa, flight, etc. will be provided by the Council. Council may be contacted for further details in this regard.

## **SCHEME FOR REBATE OF STATE AND CENTRAL LEVIES AND TAXES (RoSCTL)**

### **Introduction**

Recently, a new scheme known as Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) on export of garments and made-ups had been notified by the Ministry of textiles vide Notification No. 14/26/2016-IT (Vol II) dated 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2019, w.e.f. 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

ROSCTL has replaced the earlier Scheme of Rebate of State Levies (RoSL) that was introduced by the government to boost employment generation in the labour intensive textiles and apparel sector by Remission of State Levies through rebate mechanism in the year 2016. This Scheme was available only on exports of Garments and Made ups. The rates of RoSCTL Scheme are notified as Schedules 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the notification.



### **ADDITIONS IN THE FOREIGN TRADE POLICY (FTP) 2015-20 BY DGFT**

Vide Notification No. 59/2015-20 dated 29th March, 2019, DGFT had added the following new sub-para (c) in the para 4.01 pertaining to Schemes under FTP 2015-20 to give effect to the Ministry of Textiles Notification No. 14/26/2016-IT (Vol II) dated 07<sup>th</sup> March, .2019 regarding the Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies.

***“ (c) Scheme for Rebate on State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL), as notified by the Ministry of Textiles on 07.03.2019, and implemented by the DGFT.”***

### **ADDITIONS IN THE HANDBOOK OF PROCEDURES (HBP)2015-20 BY DGFT**

Additions have been made in Para 4.95 (Procedure to apply for the Scheme for RoSCTL and Para 4.96 (Recovery Mechanism) in HBP 2015-20 of Chapter 4 pertaining to Duty Exemption Remission Schemes by DGFT vide Public Notice No. 83/2015-20 dated 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

**Please have a glance at the following Procedure & Mechanism of RoSCTL**

### **PROCEDURE TO APPLY FOR RoSCTL SCHEME**

#### **Claiming rebate under RoSCTL on exports**

- ✓ An application shall be filed online, using digital signature, on DGFT website at <http://dgft.gov.in> with RA concerned in ANF4 R.
- ✓ Relevant shipping bills shall be linked with the online application by the exporter/ applicant.
- ✓ There would be no requirement of linking eBRCs for applying for RoSCTL.
- ✓ Maximum 50 shipping bills would be allowed to be attached in one single application by the exporter in the online module.



## Facility of Split Scrips

- ✓ Provisions of para 3.09 of the HBP shall apply mutatis mutandis (You may kindly refer to para 3.09 of the HBP for more details).

## Filing of application in the Jurisdictional RA for RoSCTL

- ✓ The Jurisdictional Regional Authority (RA) for filing application under the RoSCTL would be as per the para 3.06 (b) of HBP.
- ✓ Applicants must ensure that they are applying only to the concerned Jurisdictional RA, as per para 3.06 (b) of the HBP 2015-20 for getting the scrip.
- ✓ Applicant shall submit a declaration to that effect while applying for the scrip online.
- ✓ Limitation imposed in para 3.06 (a) regarding choosing a RA at the beginning of financial year and maintaining the same RA for all applications in that Financial year shall not apply.

## Making an online application regarding Choice of Port of Registration for RoSCTL Scrips

- ✓ Shipments from EDI Ports and Non-EDI Ports cannot be clubbed in one application.
- ✓ Applicant can chose the Port of registration for EDI enabled ports from any one of the ports from where export is made.
- ✓ In case of exports through non-EDI port, the port of registration shall be the relevant non-EDI port of exports. Accordingly, separate application shall be filed for each non-EDI port
- ✓ DGFT online system shall electronically process the online applications and scrip shall be issued based on a system based approval and check mechanism.
- ✓ After system based approval, scrips will be issued by RAs without cross verifying EDI Shipping Bill details.
- ✓ The Scrip would be delivered by hand or by post, based on the option selected by the applicant while applying online.

## Port of Registration of Scrips issued under RoSCTL

- ✓ Duty Credit Scrip (including splits) shall be issued with a single port of registration which shall be any one of the EDI ports from where export is made.
- ✓ In case of shipments from Non EDI ports, the Duty Credit Scrip (including splits) under RoSCTL shall be issued with a single port of registration which shall be the port of export.
- ✓ Duty credit scrip needs to be registered at the port mentioned on the scrip. This is to be done prior to allowing usage of duty credit.
- ✓ Once registered at EDI port, scrip can be automatically used at any EDI port for import and at any manual port under Telegraphic Release Advise (TRA) procedure.
- ✓ In case port of registration is a manual port, TRA shall be required for imports at any other port.

## Validity period and Revalidation

- ✓ Duty Credit Scrip shall be valid for a period of 24 months from the date of issue and must be valid on the date on which actual debit of duty is made.
- ✓ Revalidation of Duty Credit Scrip shall not be permitted unless covered under paragraph 2.20 (c) of HBP.

## Last date of filing of application for Duty Credit Scrips

- ✓ The application will have to be filed within one year of the date of uploading of the shipping bills from ICEGATE to DGFT server.
- ✓ After this period, no application can be filed and the shipping bills would be time barred.



- ✓ There is no provision of late cut under RoSCTL.
- ✓ The Scheme is valid for exports made upto 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020 only.

### Processing of Non EDI Shipping bills at RA

- ✓ In case of Non EDI shipping bills concerned RA shall verify the details entered by the exporter from the original shipping bills before grant of scrip.
- ✓ A duplicate scrip may be issued under the RoSCTL, under the provisions of the para 2.24 of the Handbook of Procedures 2015-20.
- ✓ All exporters are eligible for making a claim under the RoSCTL, except the entities/IEC which are in the Denied Entity List of the DGFT

### RECOVERY MECHANISM OF RoSCTL

- Record of shipping bills and other documents related to export is required to be maintained by the applicant for a period of 3 years from the date of issuance of scrip for post issue scrutiny and recovery purposes.
- Licensing Authority may call such documents in original at anytime within 3 years. In case an applicant fails to submit the original documents on demand by Licensing Authority, the applicant shall be liable to refund the rebate granted along with interest at the rate prescribed under Section 28AA of Customs Act 1962, from the date of issuance of scrip.
- There can be instances, where based on the application of the exporter, amount more than the eligible amount has been issued under RoSCTL; in such cases, concerned RA will examine the relevant scrip's electronic records and in case, an excess claim/excess disbursement is taken note of by the RA, the RA would request the firm to explain the discrepancy.
- In case an excess grant of rebate is established, the applicant shall refund the excess claim with interest as prescribed in paragraph 3.19 of FTP.
- In case an applicant fails to refund the excess claim as stipulated above or does not respond to any communication by RA within 30 days of receipt of such communication, RA will initiate action as per FT (D&R) Act and Rules.
- Rebate allowed is subject to receipt of sale proceeds within time allowed under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 failing which such rebate shall be deemed never to have been allowed.
- Action under the FT (D&R) Act may be taken by the Regional Authorities for repayment of erroneous or excess paid RoSCTL.
- The exporter is also required to return any over-payment of rebate issued through the scrips arising from miscalculation. Where there is repayment, recovery or return, interest shall also be paid by exporter @ 15% per annum calculated from the date of debit of the scrip till the date of repayment.
- In case the exporter returns the un-utilized scrips, no interest will be charged, however, penalty may be imposed under an Adjudication order on the grounds of mis-declaration or fraudulent practice.

*Source:*

*O/o DGFT, CBIC and Ministry of Textiles*



*Continued from page 1*

Prompt assistance and support provided by Shri Satbir Singh, Second Secretary, especially in matters relating to arranging “Note Verbale” to obtain visa by Indian participants, printing of Exhibitors Catalogue & Posters, visit of Buyers to India Pavilion is noteworthy.

#### **Objectives:**

The objectives for organizing participation of Indian companies in Morocco Fashion & Tex Fair are as follows:

- ✓ To help existing Indian exporters penetrate into the Moroccan market deeper, besides introducing new exporters with the same.
- ✓ To help interactions between the Indian exhibiting companies and Moroccan buyers in forging long-term trade relationships.
- ✓ To explore possibilities for doing business.
- ✓ To impress upon buyers about the capabilities of the Indian Synthetic and Rayon Textile Industry, and create a positive image.
- ✓ To give opportunity to buyers to see what India has to offer in textiles under one roof.
- ✓ To forge close co-operation between the Council and Indian Embassy to make better promotional efforts and increase in exports.

#### **Display of Products :**

All SRTEPC member-companies showcased an array of textile items, which they developed to specifically cater to the requirement of Moroccan buyers.

Products displayed at India Pavilion included suitings, shirtings, dress fabrics, home textiles, made ups, and different varieties of yarn, including fashion accessories. The display drew appreciation from visiting buyers and dignitaries, which helped the Council in creating the right image and a conducive atmosphere for negotiating business by visiting buyers in the India Pavilion.

#### **Preparation for Member- Exhibitors :**

The Council assisted participating member-companies on the following to make their visit to the Fair more effective & fruitful:

- ✓ Helped participants by providing them Visa Recommendatory Letter and copy of “Note Verbale” from the Embassy of India to obtain visa expeditiously
- ✓ Arranged hotel accommodations

- ✓ A 'Dossier on Morocco’ providing detailed market inputs, useful tips on doing business along with a database of buyers of textiles in Morocco, etc., was compiled and the same was given to the participating member companies.
- ✓ Service of a common pool of Interpreters was arranged to help Indian participants to ensure effective discussion with visiting buyers.
- ✓ Participants were helped on various requirements like transportations airport to hotel, and hotel to the venue of the Fair and return, lunch, etc. during the Fair

#### **Publicity & Promotion :**

Though the event was extensively publicized by the Organisers, SRTEPC also advertised the participation of Indian companies in the Fair by releasing Ads in Le Economist, Organiser's Fair Guide and SRTEPC Exhibitors Catalogue.

#### **Response at the Exhibition :**

“India Pavilion” at Morocco Fashion & Tex was visited by buyers/traders of textiles, representatives of garment manufacturing companies, agents, etc. for interacting with their Indian counterparts at the Fair for exploring the possibilities of sourcing their requirements of textiles from India. Almost all participants were able to develop potential trade contacts, while some participants also negotiated business deals with their buyers during the Fair. As for the outcome of the Fair, though many were not willing to provide details of their business deals, which they transacted with their customers during the Fair, however, based on their post-exhibition feedbacks, it was reported that an estimated amount of Rs.36.00 crores was negotiated during the Fair. No wonder, it was also observed that a few participants could book some trial orders.

#### **Visit of Russian Delegation to India Pavilion :**

A 5-Member Delegation led by Ms. Viktoriia Krivoruchko, Director from Russian Association of participants of the Fashion Industry (RAFI) -representing Russia visited the SRTEPC's Buyer's Lounge and discussed about their interest for doing business with India. The Delegates were suitably briefed by the visiting SRTEPC representative about the Council's forthcoming Flagship programme – “Source India” being held in Mumbai, from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019. They were also invited to visit the mega Show of Indian Textiles for discussing business with their Indian counterparts during the Fair.

Senior Officials including Mr. Abdelaziz MAZID, Director from Moroccan Association of Textile and Clothing Industries (AMITH), which is the biggest Textile Trade Body in Morocco, visited the India Pavilion. In this regard, since none of the participating

Indian companies was producers/exporters of Polyester Staple Fibre and Acrylic Yarn, Mr. Maghfour, therefore, expressed his strong desire to the representative of the Council to explore the possibilities of identifying some leading Indian suppliers of the said products for their sourcing from India.

**Highlights of Moroccan Textile Market :**

- ✓ Morocco is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO).
- ✓ Morocco is one of the most dynamic countries in the African continent, and it offers several advantages for conducting international business. It has, therefore, become a popular destination for companies to start their operations.
- ✓ Casablanca, the “**Trade & Distribution Centre**” of Morocco, is the Gateway of North Africa to Europe.
- ✓ Morocco has positioned itself as a Regional Hub for business at the crossroads of North America, Europe and the Middle East.
- ✓ As import of fabrics for converting into garments for export is exempt from tax, Morocco imports a high volume of fabrics for export of apparels. Morocco has, therefore, become an important supplier of apparels via the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to both EU and the USA.
- ✓ Morocco is a growing market of Indian MMF textiles, and during 2017-18, exports of Indian MMF textiles were to the tune of USD64.60 million. Yarn is the main product of exports with 77% followed by Made-ups 11%, Fabrics 9% and Fibre 3%.
- ✓ Though Morocco imported around USD 1.7 bn of MMF textiles from the global market during 2017, India's share in its total import of MMF textiles was a meager USD 0.07 billion (4%). Hence, there is a tremendous scope for expanding the current trade of Indian MMF textiles to this market. India's main competitors in this market are China, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia.
- ✓ Moroccan Government has pursued an ambitious economic reform programme over the past 20 years, which was supported by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, that led to its economic stability.
- ✓ The Kingdom signed Free Trade Agreement with USA and Europe.

- ✓ Morocco's Textile & Clothing market valued nearly US\$ 3353.09 million as per its total imports in 2017. Indian share in Morocco's total imports is around 4.17% -- amounting to US\$ 139.95 million.

Total imports of textiles & clothing	: US\$ 3353.09 Million (2017)
Leading suppliers	: China, India, Italy, France, Spain, etc.
Share of India	: 4.17% (US\$ 139.95 Million)
India's share of Man-made filaments	: 3.66%
India's share of Cotton, cotton yarn/fabrics	: 5.57%
India's share of Silk and silk products	: 0.71%
India's share of Articles of apparel, accessories, knit or crochet	: 7.85%
India's share of Articles of apparel, accessories, not knit or crochet	: 5.58%

Morocco has become an important supplier of ready-to-wear via the Free Trade Agreements both with EU and the USA. 85% of the sector comprises of small and medium sized enterprises, which make Morocco a very flexible environment for placing orders according to the fashion and trade settings.

**Conclusion:**

The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of Indian participation in Morocco Fashion & Tex, which was organized by the Council after a gap of 4 years, has renewed the existing contacts between traders of the two countries, and further expanded the current scope of enhancing India's trade with Morocco. The Fair has also created the right atmosphere for a new era of further co-operation between traders and Industries of Manmade Fibre textiles in India and Morocco. Indian exports of synthetic and rayon textiles to Morocco, which amounted to USD 64.60 million annually at present, is expected to see a remarkable growth in the coming years.

*Continued on page 41*



**MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

**DGFT**

S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
1)	Notification No. 59/2015-20	29.3.2019	Addition of provision related to Scheme for Rebate of State & Central Taxes & Levies notified by Ministry of Textiles	DGFT has inserted a new sub-para (c) in para 4.01 pertaining to Schemes under FTP 2015-20 to give effect to the Ministry of Textiles Notification No. 14/26/2016-IT (Vol II) dated 07.03.2019 regarding the Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies – <b>”(c) Scheme for Rebate on State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL), as notified by the Ministry of Textiles on 07.03.2019, and implemented by the DGFT.”</b>	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Notification%20No.%2059%20dt.%2029.09.2019-English.pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Notification%20No.%2059%20dt.%2029.09.2019-English.pdf</a>
2)	Notification No. 57/2015-20	20.3.2019	Amendment to Extension of IGST& Compensation Cess exemption under Advance authorization, EPCG & EOU Scheme upto 31.3.2020	DGFT has made amendments in FTP 2015-20. These amendments is with regards to extension of exemption from Integrated Goods and Service Tax & Compensation Cess under Advance Authorisation, EPCG and EOU Schemes upto 31.3.2020. The amendments in the Notification will have an effect in Para 4.14 (Details of Duties exempted), Para 5.01 (a) (EPCH Scheme) & Para 6.01 (d) (ii) (Export and Import of Goods) under FTP 2015-2020.	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Notification%20No.%2057%20English.pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Notification%20No.%2057%20English.pdf</a>
3)	Public Notice No. 3/2015-20	11.4.2019	Extension of validity of Pre-Shipment Inspection Agencies (PSIAs)	Validity of the PSIAs as listed in the Appendix 2G of A&ANF, whose validity expires on or before 30.06.2019, is extended up to 30.06.2019.	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20Notice-03%20%28English%29_0.pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20Notice-03%20%28English%29_0.pdf</a>
4)	Public Notice No. 2/2015-20	05.04.2019	Amendment in Appendix 2- K of Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-2020.	Scale of Fee for application for reimbursement of benefits under Transport and Marketing Assistance (TMA) notified.	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20notice%2002.pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20notice%2002.pdf</a>
5)	Public Notice No. 84/2015-20	3.4.2019	Amendments in HBP 2015-20 consequent to the introduction of a procedure thereby doing away with physical copy of MEIS/SEIS scrips issued with EDI ports	DGFT has added following provisions in Para 3.08 in the HBP, 2015-20. which reads as, <b>“3.08 (c) However, for all MEIS/SEIS scrips issued on or after 10.04.2019 (except for MEIS/SEIS issued with port of registration as one of the Non EDI or SEZ ports),Telegraphic Release Advice (TRA) facility from EDI ports to non EDI and SEZ ports would not be available.”</b>	<a href="https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20Notice%20No.%2084%20dt.%2003.04.2019%20english.pdf">https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20Notice%20No.%2084%20dt.%2003.04.2019%20english.pdf</a>
6)	Public Notice No. 83/2015-20	29.3.2019	Addition of provisions under HBP for implementation of the ROSCTL, as notified by the Ministry of Textiles for issuance of scrip for ROSCTL under a MEIS type mechanism	DGFT has added para 4.95 & 4.96 in the HBP 2015-20 of Chapter 4 pertaining to Duty Exemption Remission Schemes. Added paras pertain to <b>Procedure to apply for the Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) and the Recovery Mechanism.</b>	<a href="https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20Notice%20No.%2083%20dt.%2029.09.2019-English.pdf">https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20Notice%20No.%2083%20dt.%2029.09.2019-English.pdf</a>



S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
7)	Public Notice No. 80/2015-20	22.3.2019	Amendment in Para 2.54 of BP 2015-20	DGFT amends sub-para (v) (ii) of Para 2.54 of HBP 2015-20 & extends the deadline to install & operationalize Radiation Portal Monitors & Container Scanners by 30.6.2019.	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20Notice%20No.%2080%20dated%20%2022.03.2019%20eng.pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20Notice%20No.%2080%20dated%20%2022.03.2019%20eng.pdf</a>
8)	Trade Notice No. 5/2019-20	15.4.2019	Requirement of documents for online IEC application — modification	DGFT has clarified about the modification with regards to documents required for online IEC application.	<a href="https://www.dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Trade%20Notice%20No.%2005%20dated%2015.04.2019.pdf">https://www.dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Trade%20Notice%20No.%2005%20dated%2015.04.2019.pdf</a>
9)	Trade Notice No. 4/2019-20	12.4.2019	Applications for Recognition as Pre-Shipment Inspection Agencies	Applicants who are currently enlisted as PSIA in Appendix 2G & those who wish to apply for enlistment as PSIA's under Appendix 2G must submit a physical copy of the application in ANF 2L form by 15.5.2019.	<a href="https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Trade%20Notice%2004%20Import_0.pdf">https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Trade%20Notice%2004%20Import_0.pdf</a>
10)	Trade Notice No. 3/2019-20	3.4.2019	Discontinuation of issue of physical copy of MEIS/SEIS scrips for EDI ports w.e.f. 10.4.2019	DGFT has discontinued the issuance of physical copy of MEIS / SEIS scrips for EDI ports only w.e.f. 10.4.2019 to improve ease of doing business.	<a href="https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Trade%20Notice%20%No.%2003%20dt.%2003.04.2019.pdf">https://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/Trade%20Notice%20%No.%2003%20dt.%2003.04.2019.pdf</a>
11)	Trade Notice No. 51/2018-19	29.3.2019	Online filing, processing & system based approval of MEIS applications in respect of SEZ Shipping Bills	DGFT has informed about the activation of online filing, processing and system based approval of MEIS applications in respect of Special Economic Zones (SEZ) shipping bills w.e.f. 8.4.2019 to facilitate the initiative of 'Ease of doing business'.	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/trade%20notice%2051_0.pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/trade%20notice%2051_0.pdf</a>
12)	Policy Circular No. 22/2015-20	29.3.2019	EPCG Scheme- Applicability of amendment to Para 5.10 (c) of HBP 2015-20 (Mid –Term Review)	It is clarified that the amendment to the para 5.10(c) of HBP 2015-20 shall be applicable to third party exports made on or after 05.12.2017. Third party exports which have been made prior to 05.12.2017 will be governed by the provisions of the relevant policy/procedure.	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/EPCG%20p%2022.pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/sites/default/files/EPCG%20p%2022.pdf</a>

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

**CBIC - CUSTOMS**

S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
1)	Notification No. 11/2019-Customs	29.3.2019	CBIC postpones implementation of increased customs duty on specified imports originating in USA from 1.4.2019 to 2.5.2019	CBIC has postponed the implementation of increased customs duty on specified imports originating in USA from 01.04.2019 to 02.05.2019.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs11-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs11-2019.pdf</a>
2)	Notification No. 10/2019-Customs	28.3.2019	CBIC amends Notification No.69/2011- Customs dated 29.7.2011	CBIC has extended deeper tariff concessions to imports of specified goods from Japan under India-Japan CEPA (IJCEPA) w.e.f. 1.4.2019.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs10-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs10-2019.pdf</a>



S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
3)	Notification No. 9/2019- Customs	25.3.2019	Amendment to Notification No.52/2003-Customs dated 31.03.2003 for extending exemption from IGST & compensation cess to EOUs on imports till 31.03.2020	CBIC has extended the date of exemption of Integrated Goods & Service Tax and Compensation Cess upto 31.3.2020 on goods imported by Export Oriented Units (EOUs).	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs09-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs09-2019.pdf</a>
4)	Notification No. 8/2019- Customs	25.3.2019	Seeks to extend the exemption from Integrated Tax and Compensation Cess upto 31.03.2020 on goods imported against AA/EPCG authorizations.	CBIC has extended the date of exemption of Integrated Tax and Compensation Cess on goods imported against AA/ EPCG authorizations upto 31 <sup>st</sup> March, 2020.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs08-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs08-2019.pdf</a>
5)	Notification No. 6/2019- Customs	26.2.2019	Seeks to further amend Notification No. 50/2017- customs dated 30.6.2017 to postpone the implementation of increased customs duty on specified imports originating in USA from 2.3.2019 to 1.4.2019	In the said notification, in the third proviso for the words and figures “2 <sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2019”, the words and figures “1 <sup>st</sup> day of April, 2019” shall be substituted.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs06-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-tarr2019/cs06-2019.pdf</a>
6)	Notification No. 30/2019- Customs (NT)	4.4.2019	Exchange Rates Notification No.30/2019-Custom (NT) dated 04.04.2019	CBIC notifies the exchange rate conversion of foreign currencies into Indian currency relating to import & export of goods w.e.f. 05.04.2019.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt30-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt30-2019.pdf</a>
7)	Notification No. 29/2019- Customs (NT)	1.4.2019	Handling of Cargo, 2019 Customs Areas (Amendment) Regulation	Amendments have been made in the Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009. These regulations shall be called as Handling of Cargo 2019 Customs Areas (Amendment) Regulation.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt29-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt29-2019.pdf</a>
8)	Notification No. 28/2019- Customs (NT)	1.4.2019	Denotification of ICD Kheda	ICD Kheda in the State of Madhya Pradesh is omitted from Notification No.12/97- Customs (NT) dated 2.4.1997.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt28-2019.pdf;jsessionid=6F2B58F3CDAB97C6E0776ABEEA7C62FC">http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt28-2019.pdf;jsessionid=6F2B58F3CDAB97C6E0776ABEEA7C62FC</a>
9)	Notification No. 25/2019- Customs (NT)	25.3.2019	Shipping bill format changes	CBIC amends the Shipping Bill & bill of Export (Forms) Regulations, 2017. These regulations may be called the Shipping Bill and Bill of Export (Forms) Amendment Regulations, 2019.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt25-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt25-2019.pdf</a>
10)	Notification No. 24/2019- Customs (NT)	20.3.2019	Exchange Rates Notification No.24/2019-Custom (NT) dated 20.03.2019	CBIC notifies the exchange rate conversion of foreign currencies into Indian currency relating to import & export of goods w.e.f.21.03.2019.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt24-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt24-2019.pdf</a>



S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
11)	Notification No. 22/2019-Customs (NT)	15.3.2019	Amendment to the Notification No. 63/1994-Customs (N.T) dated 21.11.1994 by notifying Dera Baba Nanak LCS	Dera Baba Nanak is appointed as Land Customs Station for the purpose of clearance of baggage.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt22-2019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cs-nt2019/csnt22-2019.pdf</a>
12)	Circular No. 11/2019	9.4.2019	Phasing out of physical copies of MEIS/SEIS Scrips issued with EDI port as port of registration	CBIC has issued guidelines with regards to the discontinuation of the issuance of physical copies of MEIS/SEIS Duty Credit Scrips issued with EDI port as port of registration.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2019/Circular-No-11-09042019.pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2019/Circular-No-11-09042019.pdf</a>

### CBIC - CENTRAL EXCISE

S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
1)	Notification No. 1/2019- C. Ex.(T)	9.4.2019	Seeks to further amend Notification Nos. 20/2015-Central Excise and No. 21/2015-Central Excise both dated 08.04.2015 to incorporate procedure for utilisation of paperless MEIS and SEIS scrips	Amendments have been made in Notification Nos. 20/2015- Central Excise regarding implementation of MEIS and No. 21/2015-Central Excise regarding implementation of SEIS both dated 08.04.2015 to incorporate procedure for utilization of paperless MEIS and SEIS scrips.	<a href="http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/excise/cx-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cx-tarr2019/ce01-2019(1).pdf">http://www.cbic.gov.in/hdocs-cbec/excise/cx-act/notifications/notfns-2019/cx-tarr2019/ce01-2019(1).pdf</a>

### SAHAR AIR CARGO CUSTOMS

S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
1)	Public Notice No. 5/2019	27.3.2019	Working Day on 31st of March, 2019	All Sections of Export Commissionerate, Air Cargo Complex, Zone-III remained open on 31.3.2019 due to closure of the financial year 2018-19.	<a href="http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2019/public_notice-05-2019.pdf">http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2019/public_notice-05-2019.pdf</a>

### JAWAHARLAL NEHRU CUSTOM HOUSE

S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
1)	Public Notice No. 31/2019	29.3.2019	Working of Sections, Groups & Docks on 30.3.2019 & 31.3.2019	Due to closure of the financial year 2018-19, all field formations under JNCH remained open on 30.3.2019 & 31.3.2019 to facilitate the trade.	<a href="http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2019/PN%2031-2019.pdf">http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2019/PN%2031-2019.pdf</a>
2)	Public Notice No. 30/2019	27.3.2019	Recent initiatives of DPD/RMS Facilitation Centre for trade facilitation	The details of initiatives undertaken by JNCH for ease of doing business have been given in the Public Notice.	<a href="http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2019/PN%2030-2019.pdf">http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2019/PN%2030-2019.pdf</a>
3)	Public Notice No. 29/2019	22.3.2019	Customs Compliance Verification (CCV)	A trade facilitation initiative known as Customs Compliance Verification has been introduced by JNCH which would operate after an importer registers the imported goods even while duty has not been paid or its payment is in process.	<a href="http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2019/pn%2029-2019%20dt.%2022.03.2019.pdf">http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2019/pn%2029-2019%20dt.%2022.03.2019.pdf</a>
4)	Public Notice No. 28/2019	20.3.2019	Standing Operating Procedure consequent to commencement of 'Document Processing Area' in the [arking plaza and gate automation for export & import through NSIC/ NSIGT, GTI & JNPCT	JNCH has issued standing operating procedures to expedite the approval for shifting of containers to buffer yards/ CFSs and as a trade facilitation measure.	<a href="http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2019/PN%2028-2019.pdf">http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2019/PN%2028-2019.pdf</a>



**MUMBAI CUSTOMS**

S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
1)	Public Notice No.18/2019	28.3.2019	Working of Sections & all Groups on 30.3.2019 & 31.3.2019	All Sections under Mumbai Customs, Zone-I remained open on 30.3.2019 & 31.3.2019 to facilitate the trade.	<a href="http://www.mumbaicus.tomszone1.gov.in/write/readdata/images/public/notice/18_1.pdf">http://www.mumbaicus.tomszone1.gov.in/write/readdata/images/public/notice/18_1.pdf</a>

**MINISTRY OF TEXTILES**

**O/o TEXTILE COMMISSIONER**

S.No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
1)	Circular No.8 (2018-19)	19.3.2019	Inclusion of MC-3 B (3) under ATUFS	Cable Corder for Tyre Cords Machine (MC- 3 B (3)) has been included under ATUFS by the Technical Advisory-Cum-Monitoring Committee (TAMC).	<a href="http://storage.unitedwebnetwork.com/files/63/abf1669d3a8fdc74e1e010061b709d1f.pdf">http://storage.unitedwebnetwork.com/files/63/abf1669d3a8fdc74e1e010061b709d1f.pdf</a>

**GST RELATED NOTIFICATIONS**

**CENTRAL TAX NOTIFICATIONS**

(<http://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/gst/central-tax-notfns-2017>)

Notification No./ Date	Subject
18/2019-Central Tax dt. 10.4.2019	Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-7 for the month of March, 2019 from 10.04.2019 to 12.04.2019
17/2019-Central Tax dt. 10.4.2019	Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-1 for taxpayers having aggregate turnover more than Rs. 1.5 crores for the month of March, 2019 from 11.04.2019 to 13.04.2019
16/2019-Central Tax,dt. 29.3.2019	Seeks to make Second Amendment (2019) to CGST Rules.
15/2019-Central Tax,dt. 28.3.2019	Notification to extend the due date for furnishing of FORM GST ITC-04 for the period July 2017 to March 2019 till 30th June 2019 issued.

**CENTRAL TAX (RATE) NOTIFICATIONS**

(<http://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/gst/central-tax-rate-notfns-2017>)

Notification No./ Date	Subject
9/2019-Central Tax (Rate), dt. 29.3.2019	Seeks to amend notification No. 02/2019-Central Tax (Rate) so as to provide for application of Composition rules to persons opting to pay tax under notification no. 2/2019-Central Tax (Rate).

**INTEGRATED TAX (RATE) NOTIFICATIONS**

(<http://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/gst/integrated-tax-rate-2017>)

Notification No./ Date	Subject
8/2019- Integrated Tax (Rate), dt. 29.3.2019	Seeks to amend notification No. 1/2017- Integrated Tax (Rate) so as to notify IGST rate of certain goods as recommended by Goods and Services Tax Council for real estate sector.

**UNION TERRITORY TAX (RATE) NOTIFICATIONS**

(<http://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/gst/union-territory-tax-rate-2017>)

Notification No./ Date	Subject
9/2019-Union Territory tax (Rate), dt. 29-3-2019	Seeks to amend notification No. 02/2019- Union Territory Tax (Rate) so as to provide for application of Composition rules to persons opting to pay tax under notification no. 2/2019 - Union Territory Tax (Rate).

### GST RELATED CIRCULARS/ ORDERS

(<http://www.cbic.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/gst/cgst-circ-idx-2017>)

Circular/ Order No.	Date	Subject
Circular No. 97/2019- CGST	5.4.2019	Circular clarifying issues regarding exercise of option to pay tax under notification No. 2/2019- CT(R) dt 07.03.2019 issued.
Circular No. 96/2019- CGST	28.3.2019	Seeks to clarify issues in respect of transfer of input tax credit in case of death of sole proprietor.
Circular No. 95/2019- CGST	28.3.2019	Seeks to clarify verification for grant of new registration.
Circular No. 94/2019- CGST	28.3.2019	Seeks to clarify certain refund related issues under GST.
Order No. 4/2019 - Central Tax	29.3.2019	To remove difficulty in case of supply of services covered by clause (b) of paragraph 5 of Schedule II of the CGST Act, 2017

### PRESS RELEASES

Ministry	Date	Subject
Ministry of Commerce & Industry	15.4.2019	Government E Marketplace (GeM) Closes FY 2018-19 on a High Note

## SPECIAL FOREX RATES

As part of the basket of services offered to its members SRTEPC has tied up with Thomas Cook (I) Ltd, Forex division to provide foreign exchange for our member exporters travelling overseas to participate in exhibitions through the Council. Given below are the 'special rates' being offered by Thomas Cook to SRTEPC members which you can avail of to source your requirements for Foreign Exchange.

Currency/Product – INR Sale	Cash Rate Proposed*	Forex Card Rate Proposed*
USD	IBR + .25 paisa	IBR + .20 paisa
GBP/EUR	IBR + .35 paisa	IBR + .25 paisa
SGD/AUD/CAD/CHF	IBR + .40 paisa	IBR + .30 paisa
All other Misc currencies	IBR + 1%	IBR + 1%

- \*IBR – Interbank Rate
- \*GST Applicable

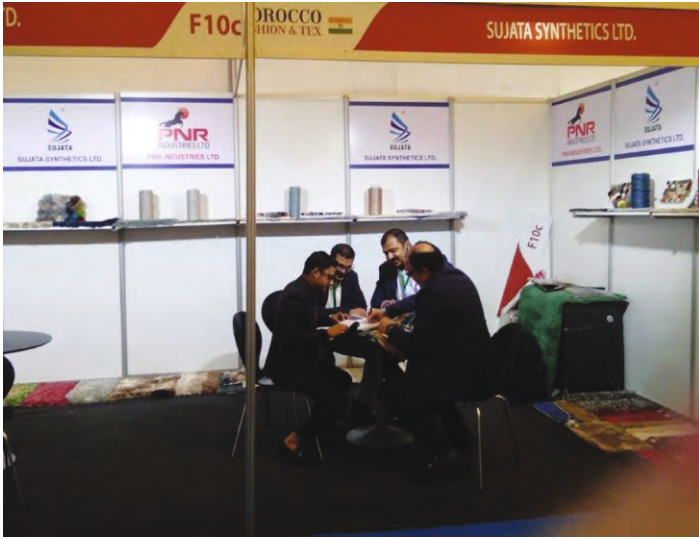
Members who wish to take benefit of this service may kindly contact Mr. Vishal Chhabria of Thomas Cook at Mobile : 9821232266, E-mail : [Vishal.Chhabria@in.thomascook.com](mailto:Vishal.Chhabria@in.thomascook.com)





Continued from page 34

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- Organises Export Promotion Programmes like Trade Fairs/Exhibitions, Buyer-Seller Meets in various overseas markets.
- Organising Reverse Buyer Seller Meets every year by which the overseas buyers are brought to India to discuss business with members
- Provides Grant for Market Access Initiative subsidy towards airfare for participation in promotional programmes like Exhibition/Fairs abroad (Member of the Council for the last year one year is a must)
- Conducts Workshops, Seminars to keep exporters abreast of latest development in policy/procedural matters, international trends, marketing strategies, government schemes, etc.
- Assist the exporters on Import-Export Policy and Procedures
- Resolve their problems about shipping and transport
- Maintain liaison with the Government authorities to convey the requirements of the industry and trade and help to bring about appropriate policy changes.
- Facilitates free display of samples at Council's Trade Centre in Mumbai and Surat frequented by overseas buyers and Trade Delegations
- Resolves problems of members connected with DGFT, Customs/Central Excise, GST, ROSL, Duty Drawback, Banking, ECGC, etc.
- Provides information on the trends for product development and adaptation to suit the overseas market requirements
- Issues export turnover certificates and certificate of origin.
- Visa facilitation to visit specified markets to discuss business with their target customers.
- Publication of Newsletter and regular circulars/letters to keep them aware of the activities of the Council and trade information.
- Collection and dissemination of Industry / Trade statistics to help members make their export strategy for export.
- Dissemination of information on foreign markets/emerging trends and trade enquiries
- Make them aware about different Anti Dumping duties as applicable in respective markets. From time to time also inform them about Sunset Reviews and give them timely information on questionnaire to be filled in, etc.
- Forex updates on WhatsApp.

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