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The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles
Export Promotion Council

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Inauguration of SRTEPC's Regional Office in Coimbatore and Seminar on 'Emerging Scope for Man-made Fibre Textiles – Growth & Future Sustainability'

With the objective of increasing its footprint across the Southern States of India, SRTEPC opened its Regional Office in the



Dr. Kavita Gupta, Textile Commissioner inaugurating the new SRTEPC Regional Office in Coimbatore in the presence of Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Chairman, SRTEPC; Shri Ronak Rughani, Vice Chairman, SRTEPC and other members of the Committee of Administration.

premises of SIMA (The Southern India Mills Association) in Coimbatore on 16th March 2018 in the presence of Dr. Kavita Gupta, IAS, Textile Commissioner who was the Chief Guest for the inauguration ceremony.

Seminar:

The opening of the office was preceded by a Seminar organized by the Council on 'Emerging Scope for Man-made Fibre Textiles – Growth & Future Sustainability'.

Dr. K. Selvaraju, Secretary General, SIMA set the tone for the day by welcoming, SIMA Chairman, Shri P. Nataraj, SIMA Past

Chairman, Shri Senthilkumar, SRTEPC Chairman Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Vice Chairman, Shri Ronak Rughani, and Convener Shri Anil Rajvanshi to the dais and requested Shri P. Nataraj, Chairman, SIMA to present bouquets to them. He also extended the same courtesy to past Chairmen, Shri Sanjeev Saran Shri Rakesh Mehra and ED, Shri S. Balaraju, while welcoming the members of the Committee of Administration, Shri Pankaj Tibrewal, Shri Subhash Chand Goyal, Shri Rajesh Kumar Modi, Shri Sailesh Goenka and invitees to the COA, Shri Aziz Valiullah and Shri A.N. Desai (ex Director BITRA) and all the participants to the Seminar.

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Dr. Kavita Gupta addressing the press at the Opening of the SRTEPC Office and the Seminar held on the occasion. Also seen in picture from left to right Shri P. Nataraj, Chairman, Southern India Mills Association (SIMA) and Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Chairman, SRTEPC

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Dear Member,

The financial year 2017-18 ended on a bright note with exports in general and MMF textiles in particular showing the resilience to sustain despite all adversities. The initial challenge posed by the implementation of GST seems to have been tackled successfully by the exporting community. However, the matter concerning refund for IGST to exporters needs to be dealt with immediately for desired remedies. The recent reports suggest that export growth has been steady and is expected to pick up in the coming months. As per the latest date received from the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India for the period April-January 2017-18, exports of MMF textiles have witnessed a growth of 4% growth as compared to the same period of last year. It is once again noteworthy that all the segments of the MMF textiles viz., fabrics, made-ups, yarn and fibre has registered positive growth in the period which is an encouraging sign.

Friends, it gives me immense pleasure to inform you that the Council has succeeded in resolving most of the cases concerning our members such as reference to receiving refund from the Office of the Additional DGFT, Mumbai regarding pending Import Licence Application Fee which was due to the member since 2008, getting remittance in INR instead of Dollar from Bank of America, issuance of Unique Identification Numbers (UID Numbers) against applications under Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) with the Ministry of Textiles, GOI, etc.

A matter that requires our immediate attention is that majority of our members are facing difficulty in getting the IGST refund. The Council has been striving very hard for obtaining the refund of our fellow members since it has blocked their working capital. We have been receiving messages from most of the Custom houses that majority of IGST are pending due to the errors committed by the exporters which needs to be rectified and hence the delay in receiving their IGST refunds claims. Friends, this issue of IGST refunds has also been pursued aggressively by this Council with the Government and I would now like to inform you that you will be getting this also very soon. I am glad that the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs has sanctioned Rs 12,639 crore GST refund to exporters. Out of the total Rs 12,639 crore sanctioned to exporters, Rs 7,632 crore is on account of payment of Integrated GST (IGST) on exports under the GST regime, while the rest of the amount of Rs 5,007 crore has been cleared as refunds for input tax credit (ITC).

As you are aware, every year the Council submits its proposals to the Government on the All Industry Rates of Duty Drawback based on inputs received from the members. The Ministry of



Finance, Government of India has sought the views/suggestions from the Council on the Duty Drawback Rates for the year 2018. I would request all our members to send to the Council the required data and documentary evidences at the earliest so that the Council can send a detailed consolidated proposal to the Ministry for consideration in formulating the All Industry Rates of Duty Drawback for Man Made Fibre Textile items. I look forward to receiving the support and cooperation from all our members in this matter.

The announcement of the E-way bill operations from 1st April 2018 has eased norms for e-way bill generation by simplifying the procedure for movement of goods under the Goods and Services Tax regime, giving more relief to exporters. Latest sources have reported that the e-way bill system has started with a good start due to the exemptions given by the Government. As you may be aware, E-way Bill is compulsory for inter-state movement of goods throughout the nation from 1st April 2018. E-way Bill is also compulsory for intra-state movement for Karnataka from 1st April 2018 and for Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh from 15th April 2018. The introduction of the intra-state roll-out of e-way bill system is a welcome step and is expected to smoothen trade and industry. I am sure our Member-exporters have been receiving information including Government Notifications on E-way Bill and are being updated in this regard.

I am also glad to inform that the Council has initiated online services for Members whereby they can register their Membership as well as renew their membership by filling forms online. This will substantially save their valuable time and will be convenient as they can do the same from their respective office or home. I hope that exporters now take advantage of this New service provision of this Council to renew their membership and encourage new companies to join the Council. I would also like to request our distinguished members once again to renew their membership with this Council to enable us serve them better. I look forward to your continued support for strengthening the Council's membership by bringing more and more Members into the fold and strengthen our unity.

Yours sincerely,

SRI NARAIN AGGARWAL
CHAIRMAN

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council

Egypt

Textile exports down 4% during January 2018

Exports of the Egyptian textile sector decreased 4 percent during the first month of 2018, recording US\$62 million, compared to US\$64 million in January 2017.

Egypt adopts a strategy to become a center for textile manufacturing during the upcoming years through the issuance of industrial lands to expand the construction of textile and already made clothes' factories.

Ministry of Industry and Foreign Trade constructed two cities for textile in Badr City during 2017, in addition to building the largest textile and clothing city in Egypt, in cooperation with a Chinese company, on a land of 3.1 million square meters located in Sadat City.

It is believed that the Ministry is working on improving the national components to be able to replace the imported products with Egyptian ones and to raise the quality of textile in the coming years.

Generally, the strategy of regulating the imports and supporting the exports led to an 11 percent increase in the Egyptian exports in 2017, reaching US\$22.4 billion. It also targets to increase the exports to US\$25 billion in 2018.

Source : www.egypttoday.com

USA

Duty free access to Rwandan textile imports suspended

The United States plans to suspend duty-free access to Rwandan textile imports as the latter has refused to lower trade barriers for US-made clothing and shoes. The suspension applies to all apparel products from Rwanda eligible under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) in 60 days.

It is reported that the office of the US Trade Representative (USTR) last year began an 'out-of-cycle' review to determine the eligibility of Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda to keep their trade benefits under the AGOA, which was signed in 2000.

The USTR's review followed a complaint by the US textile industry over a decision by the three east African nations to ban import of used clothing and shoes they say are decimating local textile and apparel industries.

It is believed that the ban would impose significant economic hardships in the US apparel industry.

The United States exported US\$330,000 worth of textiles and apparel to Rwanda in 2016 and imported similar goods worth US\$460,000.

Source : Fibre2fashion

Textile and apparel imports up 7.26% in the first two months of 2018

The import of textiles and apparel by the United States increased by 7.26 per cent to US\$17.943 billion in the first two months of 2018, compared to imports valued at US\$16.729 billion in January-February 2017. With 36.63 per cent share, China was the largest supplier of textiles and clothing to the US during the year, followed by Vietnam with 11.53 per cent.

Apparel constituted the bulk of the textiles and garments imports made by the US in January-February 2017, and were valued at US\$13.588 billion, while non-apparel imports accounted for the remaining US\$4.354 billion.

Segment-wise, among the top ten apparel suppliers to the US, exports from Cambodia showed double-digit growth of 14.75 per cent year-on-year. On the other hand, imports from Indonesia and Sri Lanka registered a decline of 0.70 per cent and 5.66 per cent respectively, compared to the same period of the previous year.

In the non-apparel category, among the top ten suppliers, exports from Vietnam, China and Italy shot up by 106.64 per cent, 31.34 per cent and 29.84 per cent year-on-year to US\$110.823 million, US\$2.041 billion and US\$93.287 million, respectively. Imports from Mexico and Turkey too grew by 18.20 per cent and 14.57 per cent.

Of the total US textile and apparel imports of US\$17.943 billion during the period under review, cotton products were worth US\$8.018 billion, while man-made fibre products accounted for US\$9.049 billion, followed by US\$485.626 million of wool products and US\$390.063 million of products from silk and vegetable fibres.

In 2016, the US textile and apparel imports had increased by 1.27 per cent year-on-year to US\$105.992 billion, with apparel alone accounting for US\$80.286 billion.

Source : Fibre2fashion

China

MMF production up by 5%; exports too on a rise by 3% during 2017

The production of man-made fibre (MMF) in China increased by 5 per cent year-on-year to 49.20 million tons last year. Of this, polyester production was 39.34 million tons. MMF output is likely to grow at the same pace of 5 per cent this year and is expected to cross 50 million tons.

Among various MMF, acrylic production was down 1 per cent last year. However, production of polypropylene increased by 16.2 per

cent, nylon 8.8 per cent, spandex 8 per cent, rayon filament 7.5 per cent, rayon staple fibre 3.7 per cent and acetate 2.6 per cent.

In terms of average price during the year, purified terephthalic acid (PTA) rose 12 per cent over 2016 to 5,173 yuan/ton. Likewise, the price of ethylene glycol (EG) shot up by 31 per cent to 7,087 yuan/ton. The average price of fibre and yarn of 167 decitex/48 FDY increased 15 per cent to 8,736 yuan/ton.

As a result of growth in both production and average price, the total pretax profit of MMF producers increased 38 per cent to 44.5 billion yuan, accounting for 51 per cent of total profit of fibre and textile manufacturing in China during the year.

Another reason for increase in earnings was capital investment of 133 billion yuan made by MMF industry in fixed assets.

MMF exports too grew by 3 per cent during the year to 4.04 million tons.

Source : Fibre2fashion

Economic growth stable at 6.8%

China's economic growth held steady in the quarter ending in March, buoyed by investment and rapid growth in e-commerce amid mounting trade tensions with Washington. The world's second-largest economy expanded by 6.8 percent over a year earlier, in line with the quarter ending in December and down slightly from 2017's full-year expansion of 6.9 percent. It was above the official 2018 target of "around 6.5 percent." Forecasters are expecting growth to cool this year as Beijing tries to rein in rising debt by tightening controls to cool a boom in real estate sales and bank lending.

The ruling Communist Party is in the midst of a marathon effort to steer the country to slower, more sustainable growth based on domestic consumption and reduce reliance on trade and investment. A potential looming threat is President Donald Trump's threat to raise duties on up to US\$150 billion of Chinese goods in a dispute over Beijing's technology policy. Beijing has issued its own list of U.S. goods for possible retaliation.

The country's trade balance swung to a rare deficit in March as exports contracted 2.7 percent. The country relies less on trade than it did a decade ago but export industries still support millions of jobs. In a positive sign for efforts to encourage consumer spending, retail sales rose 9.8 percent, up from December's 9.4 percent growth, according to the National Bureau of Statistics.

E-commerce sales surged 35.4 percent, up 3.3 percent from the previous quarter. Investment in factories, real estate and other fixed assets rose 7.5 percent, up from 2017's 7.2 percent growth. Factory output rose 6.8 percent over a year earlier.

Source : The Financial Express

Vietnam

Textile and garment sector to see bright prospects in 2018 with export turnover up 13.3% in the first quarter of 2018

Vietnam's garment-textile export turnover reached nearly US\$8 billion in 2018 first quarter, a year-on-year rise of 13.3 per cent and it is believed that the sector will see bright prospects this year. The country has an export target of US\$35 billion this year and figures are anticipated to be better than last year's.

The number of orders is likely to witness a substantial increase this year, especially for large-scale businesses.

A report by a Vietnamese news agency has quoted that the Chairman of the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS) has said that the domestic enterprises have invested in new technology to increase productivity and competitiveness

Vietnam at present annually exports more than US\$3 billion worth of yarn, US\$1 billion worth of fabric and US\$400 million worth of garment accessories.

Some big enterprises such as Phong Phu Joint Stock Company and Garment-10 Joint Stock Company are planning to export using online platforms.

Source : Fibre2fashion

Textile and garment exports at US\$7.339 billion in the first quarter of 2018

Vietnam earned US\$7.339 billion from textile and garment exports in the first quarter of 2018. Of this, yarn exports accounted for US\$914.257 million while fabric and garment exports were valued at US\$6.425 billion.

Fabric and garment exports from Vietnam increased at 14.9 per cent year-on-year to US\$6.425 billion during January-March 2018. Of this, the US alone accounted for nearly half or US\$3.036 billion, followed by Japan and South Korea with exports to these countries valued at US\$855.437 million and US\$708.599 million, respectively.

Vietnam also exported 337,009 tons of yarn, registering a growth of 14.2 per cent year-on-year by volume. This was valued at US\$914.257 million, up 17.3 per cent. Of this, China imported around 52 per cent or US\$478.171 million, followed by US\$34.424 million by India.

On the other hand, Vietnam imported 408,814 tons of cotton and 231,838 tons of yarn, valued at \$740.361 million and \$522.935 million, respectively, during the three-month period under review. Fabric imports during the period were valued at \$2.665 billion.

Thus, Vietnam's total spending on import of cotton, yarn and fabric amounted to \$3.928 billion, which is more than half of the value of its exports.

In 2017, Vietnam earned \$29.631 billion from textile and garment exports. Of this, yarn exports accounted for \$3.593 billion while fabric and garment exports contributed the remaining \$26.038 billion.

For the current year, Vietnam expects to earn \$33 billion in textile and apparel exports.

Source : Fibre2fashion

Bangladesh

Exports of garment up by 9.11% in the first nine months of 2017-18

Readymade garment exports from Bangladesh increased by 9.11 per cent in the first nine months of current fiscal 2017-18 to US\$22.834 billion compared to exports of US\$20.928 billion in the corresponding months of the previous year. The percentage increase in garment exports during July-March 2017-18 was higher than 6.33 per cent growth in overall exports from Bangladesh during the same period.

Category-wise, knitwear exports rose 11.61 per cent to US\$11.321 billion in the first nine months of fiscal 2017-18, as against exports of US\$10.143 billion during the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, as per the data. Germany was the largest importer accounting for US\$2.420 billion of all knitwear exported from Bangladesh, followed by the United Kingdom with imports of goods valued at US\$1.444 billion.

Likewise, exports of woven apparel increased 6.75 per cent to US\$11.513 billion during the period under review, compared to exports of US\$10.785 billion during July-March 2016-17. The US was the largest importer with US\$2.915 billion worth of woven clothing supplied by Bangladesh. Germany and the United Kingdom procured woven apparel valued at US\$1.784 billion and US\$1.402 billion, respectively.

Woven and knitted apparel and clothing accessories' exports together accounted for 83.18 per cent of US\$27.451 billion worth of total exports made by Bangladesh during the nine-month period.

In the previous fiscal that ended on June 30, 2017, garment exports from Bangladesh had increased 0.2 per cent year-on-year to US\$28.149 billion. The South Asian country has set the target of achieving US\$30.160 billion during the current financial year.

Source : Fibre2fashion

ATTENTION : MEMBERS

Renewal of Membership for the year 2018-19

Kindly refer to the Council's letter No. Secy/Mem/2037 dated 21st March 2018 and the Subscription memo along with the Circular in this regard.

As already informed, non-payment of Membership Subscription will lead to discontinuation of Membership as well as cancellation of the Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) issued to you.

In view of the above, members who have not yet sent the renewal fee are requested to send the Membership Subscription Fee for the year 2018-19 at the earliest.

The annual membership fee is as follows :

For SSI Units : Rs. 8,201/- (including GST charge @ 18%)

For others : Rs. 12,331/- (including GST charge @ 18%)

We would also like to inform members that the Council has made arrangements for online renewal of membership as well as online issuance of RCMC w.e.f. 1st April 2018. Members may renew their membership online through Council's website www.srtepc.in. Please note that your company IEC code is your user code and you click on 'forgot password', you will receive your login details on your registered e-mail id, which will enable you to access your RCMC account online.

Dates for filing GST returns announced

The Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) has announced the dates for filing GST returns for first three months of new fiscal. As the government scrapped GSTR-2 and GSTR-3 last year and extended the deadline for GSTR-3B filing, only GSTR-1 was left unnotified. GSTR-1 is the monthly outward supply return made by a business. It is divided into two categories: Businesses above 1.5 crore turnover and Businesses with turnover up to 1.5 crores.

The deadlines for filing GSTR-1 are :Form GSTR-1 on a quarterly basis: For filing GSTR-1 returns from April 2018 to June 2018, the deadline is July 31.

Form GSTR-1 on a monthly basis: For GSTR-1 returns from April is May 31, for May is June 10 and for June is July 10.

Besides notifying deadlines for filing GSTR-1, the government has also extended the deadline for filing GSTR-6 and TRAN-2. GSTR-6 is a monthly return filed by an input service distributor and TRAN-2 is filed for claiming deemed credit. The deadlines for filing these two have been extended from March 31 to May 31 and June 30 respectively.

The GST Council is currently deliberating on making the returns filing system simpler. While it was hoping to do it before the start of the next fiscal, the Council later decided to consult the IT department and tax experts before bringing in new process into the system.

Source : The Financial Express

Government preparing exporters on phasing out of subsidies

India has begun sensitising exporters of the threat arising out of the US challenge to the export promotion schemes at the World Trade Organization. Washington has argued that these schemes are actually export subsidies not allowed under the WTO rules.

In a meeting with industry and academicians recently, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade reviewed existing export promotion schemes and the likely alternative programmes as the government prepares to address US' concerns through consultation.

The US has challenged practically almost the entire of India's export programmes at the WTO, claiming they harm American workers. Pegging the quantum of subsidies at US\$7 billion, the US has dragged India to WTO for violating commitments under the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM) in five of its most used export promotion schemes—the export-oriented

units scheme and sector-specific schemes including electronics hardware technology parks scheme, merchandise exports from India scheme, export promotion capital goods scheme, special economic zones and duty-free import authorisation scheme.

The agreement envisages the eventual phasing out of export subsidies and provides eight years for graduating countries (least developed and developing), which cross the US\$1,000 mark at 1990 exchange rate to phase out export subsidies. India had crossed this threshold in 2015 and it became known when the WTO Secretariat produced its calculations in 2017.

Government data shows that in 2016-17, Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) had the highest number of scrips issued among the other export promotion schemes, which is 66.5%, followed by EPCG with 9.6% and Advance Authorisation Scheme with 9.5%. Scrips are incentives that can be used to pay duties.

Source : The Economic Times

Government sanctions 80% of GST refund claims to exporters

The government has sanctioned GST refunds worth about Rs 12,700 crore or 80 per cent of the eligible claims of exporters.

The Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) had organised refund facilitation camps in field offices between March 15-31 to assist exporters in filling up refund claim forms and correct errors.

With regard to those exporters who claimed refund of their input tax, the CBEC has sanctioned about Rs 5,000 crore, out of Rs 6,900 crore due till February end.

About Rs 2,800 crore worth eligible refunds are pending which will also be cleared soon.

Besides, states have issued refunds to the tune of Rs 2,500 crore to exporters who paid State GST (SGST).

The CBEC had late last year started refunds for exporters of goods who paid Integrated GST (IGST) and have claimed refund based on shipping bill by filling up Table 6A. While for those businesses making zero rated supplies or those wanting to claim input credit, have to fill Form RFD-01A.

Ever since the roll out of GST, exporters have been complaining that delay in GST refunds has blocked their working capital.

The revenue department, on the other hand, has argued that there are discrepancies in forms submitted by exporters with the customs department and those with the GST Network (GSTN).

Last month, the Prime Minister's Office stepped in and held meeting with finance and commerce ministry officials to discuss ways to fast track clearance.

An analysis of GSTN data shows that in a large number of cases, the refund claimed by an exporter is higher than the GST paid by him and consequently, the claims filed by exporters were not forwarded to Customs by GSTN.

It is believed that the refund facilitation camp has helped exporters in revising their claim forms

Source : The Economic Times

Digital initiatives to ease exports

The Union Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation Minister, Shri Suresh Prabhu, launched the digital initiatives by the Export Inspection Council (EIC) for ease of exports.

EIC, the official export certification body of the government of India, has launched the Digital India Initiative flagship project to keep pace with the changing dynamics of the world.

In keeping with the aim of credible inspection and certification and to strengthen the confidence regarding Indian produce, three portals have been developed to reduce transaction time and cost in a transparent manner. The portals not only facilitate ease of export but also play an important role in the Go Green initiative by reducing paper usage and saving millions of trees.

One lab one assessment portal provides a unified approach to all stakeholders like accreditation bodies, regulators and laboratories by bringing them together on a common platform. Simplified procedures for granting joint certification and joint decisions help in reducing cost, time and multiplicity of assessment.

The Export Alert Monitoring portal monitors non-compliances raised by importing countries. The portal will enable monitoring of alerts and action taken by multiple organisations involved in the initial certification of food safety and bio-security, besides analysing the trends and understanding the trade barriers to reduce the alerts and enhance export trade.

EIC has worked towards building analytical capability for the country by making available accredited Proficiency Testing (PT) providers at Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai by reducing dependency on foreign PT providers and ease of access.

Source : www.eximin.net

India and Iran sign MoU to set up expert group on trade remedy measures

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has given its ex post facto approval to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Iran on the establishment of an expert group on trade remedy measures to promote cooperation in areas of mutual interest. The MoU was signed on February 17, 2018 during the visit of the President of Iran.

The MoU will promote cooperation between the two countries in the area of trade remedies such as exchange of information, capacity building activities, cooperation in investigations related to anti-dumping and countervailing duty, etc., said a release.

Source : www.eximin.net

Government sets up IT Grievance Redressal Mechanism to address GST related difficulties

The Government has decided to put in place an IT Grievance Redressal Mechanism to address the difficulties faced by a section of taxpayers owing to technical glitches on the GST portal. In this regard, the GST Council has delegated powers to an IT Grievance Redressal Committee to approve and recommend to the GSTN the steps to be taken to redress the grievance and provide relief to the taxpayer. The relief could be in the nature of allowing filing of any form or return prescribed in law or amending any form or return already filed. However, where the problem relates to the individual taxpayer, due to localised issues such as non-availability of internet connectivity or failure of power supply, this mechanism shall not be available.

The mechanism inter alia envisages that taxpayers shall make an application to the field officers or the nodal officers where there was a demonstrable glitch on the Common Portal in relation to an identified issue, due to which the due process as envisaged in law could not be completed on the Common Portal. The IT Grievance Redressal committee shall examine and approve the solutions as may be necessary for an identified issue.

The circular that was issued also seeks to address the problems faced by the taxpayers who could not complete the process of filing of TRAN-1 by due date, due to IT glitch such that the process of digitally signing/validating TRAN-1 could not be completed. The taxpayer would be allowed to complete the process of filing such TRAN 1, stuck due to IT glitches, by April 30, 2018 and the process of completing filing of GSTR 3B which could not be filed for such TRAN 1 shall be completed by May 31, 2018.

The last date for filing of TRAN 1 is not being extended in general and only the taxpayers who have been identified in terms of the circular issued in this regard shall be allowed to complete the process of filing TRAN-1.

The decision relating to filing of TRAN-1 shall benefit 17,573 taxpayers who shall consequently be able to avail Rs 2,582.98 crore as CGST credit and Rs 1,112.77 crore as SGST credit.

Source : www.eximin.net

India-EU talks to strengthen trade ties

India is looking for greater market access in the European Union for items such as textiles and leather and seeking 'data secure' status to the country in Brussels where negotiators from both sides are making a last-ditch effort to re-start the stalled Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations.

It is believed that with the US adopting an aggressive posture against its trade partners, including the EU, the bloc may be in a more flexible mood this time round. It could be a last political effort by both sides to save the free trade talks.

The India-EU FTA talks, formally called the Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA), were officially kicked off in 2007, but saw several ups and downs with disagreements over market access issues.

In 2013, the BTIA talks reached a complete standstill as the EU was unhappy with India's offers for items such as wines and spirits and automobiles as well as financial services and retail. India, on its part, wanted more market access for key manufacturing items, grant of 'data secure' status that would bring more off-shore business to its companies and greater flexibility in H1-B visa rules.

However, this time things could be a little different. The EU, and also to some extent India, have been on the receiving side of the abrasive trade measures of the Donald Trump-regime in the US. Hard positions may see some softening.

The Indian industry, especially the textiles and garments sector, is eager that India formalises the BTIA with the EU soon as its competitors such as Bangladesh and Vietnam enjoy preferential tariffs in the region.

Two-way trade between India and the EU is well balanced with India's exports to the region in 2016-17 at US\$47 billion and imports at US\$42 billion. The EU accounts for about 17 per cent of India's total exports.

Source : Business Line

Export growth rate at a six year high of 9.8%

India's goods export growth in the year 2017-18 is seen at a six-year high of 9.8% despite exporters complaining about the GST refund problem. India's merchandise export is seen growing to 9.8% from 5.2% in the year 2016-17, making it highest since 2012-13.

While the goods export performed well, the gap between the exports and imports, increased too from 28.5% from 2017 to US\$13.7 billion in the month of March taking yearly deficit to a whopping US\$87.2 billion from US\$47.7 billion a year ago. Imports increased by 20% to US\$456.6 billion. The decline in exports in March was due to a higher base in the same month last year.

The Good and Services Tax (GST), which was implemented in July last year, subsumes all the indirect taxes that businesses used to pay the central authorities and state authorities separately. Under this scheme, companies were given claim refunds for the taxes they had paid while buying raw materials for their businesses.

However, among many things, including technical glitches, made it difficult for authorities to reimburse the input tax credit refund on time causing capital deficit or liquidity problems to exporters.

Source: Financial Express

GST refund issues to be taken up with the Finance Ministry assures Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry

Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Suresh Prabhu has assured exporters of taking up the issue of GST refund with the Finance Ministry. Exporters are claiming that over 60 per cent of their refunds are still stuck with the government. Shri Prabhu also said the government is taking all steps to further boost the country's exports.

He exuded confidence that exports during 2018-19 would be better than the previous year. India's exports dipped after a gap of four months in March but finished 2017-18 with a healthy rise of 9.78 per cent to US\$ 302.84 billion.

Exporters raised issues related with GST refund, increasing logistics costs and inadequate infrastructure at ports. The government has sanctioned GST refunds to exporters to the tune of Rs 17,616 crore till March. Of this, Rs 9,604 crore is on account of integrated GST refund and another Rs 5,510 crore on account of refund on input credit.

Besides, another Rs 34,000 crore has been refunded on account of duty drawback and Rebate of State Levies (ROSL).

Source : The Financial Express

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

DGFT

S. No	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No. 58/ 2015- 2020	23.03.2018	Amendment in Para 2.31 of FTP 2015- 20	The Central Government incorporates Para 2.31(III) under FTP 2015- 20.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/NOT/NOT17/Notification%2058(e).pdf
(2)	Notification No. 55/ 2015- 2020	23.03.2018	Amendments to FTP 2015-20 - Extension to IGST and compensation Cess exemption under EOU Scheme till 01.10.2018.	Exemption from Integrated Tax and Compensation Cess under EOU Scheme under Para 6.01(d)(ii) of FTP 2015-20 is extended upto 01.10.2018.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/NOT/NOT17/Noti%2055%20english.pdf
(3)	Notification No. 54/ 2015- 2020	22.03.2018	Amendments to FTP 2015-2020 - Extension of IGST and Compensation Cess exemption under Advance Authorisation and EPCG Scheme till 01.10.2018.	1) Exemption from Integrated Tax and Compensation Cess under Advance Authorization Scheme under Para 4.14 of FTP 2015-20 is extended upto 01.10.2018. 2) Exemption from Integrated Tax and Compensation Cess under EPCG Scheme under Para 5.01 (a) of FTP 2015-20 is extended upto 01.10.2018.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/NOT/NOT17/NOTIFICATION%2054%20english.pdf
(4)	Public Notice No. 67/2015-2020	22.03.2018	Processing of Merchandise Exports from India Scheme applications for SEZs Exports.	Amendments are made in Paragraph 3.01(c) and Paragraph 3.01(d) of Hand Book of Procedures 2015- 2020	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/PN/PN17/PN%2067%20english.pdf
(5)	Trade Notice No.2/2018-19	11.04.2018	Launch of facility to check status of Importer Exporter Code (IEC) application made to DGFT	The facility to check status of Import Export Code application can be accessed from DGFT website using Online Application → IEC → Know your IEC Status or directly from http://164.100.128.145:8100/iecStatusReport/ .	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/TN/TN18/Trade%20notice%2002.pdf
(6)	Trade Notice No.1/2018-19	04.04.2018	Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC) Monitoring System for Advance/EPCG Authorisations.	To facilitate smooth clearance and eliminate exporter's problems with regard to the EODC, DGFT has informed about an EODC Monitoring System for Advance/ Export Promotion Capital Goods Authorisations which is developed by DGFT.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/TN/TN18/TRADE%20NOTICE%201.pdf
(7)	Trade Notice No.26/2017-18	23.03.2018	Processing of MEIS applications under FTP 2015-20 in terms of Public Notice 62 dated 16.02.2018	DGFT has reiterated that it is doing away with the requirement of matching of the description of the export product.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/TN/TN17/trade%20noticen%2026.pdf

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

CBEC – CUSTOMS

S. No	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No. 42/2018-Cus (T)	06.04.2018	Seeks to rescind notification nos. 7/2018-Customs, 8/2018-Customs, 19/2018-Customs & 20/2018-Customs dtd 2.2.2018	The Govt. hereby rescinds the notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) as specified in column (2) of the Table.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-tarr2018/cs42-2018.pdf
(2)	Notification No. 41/2018-Cus (T)	06.04.2018	Seeks to amend notification Nos.11/2018-Customs, 12/2018-Customs, 13/2018-Customs and 21/2018-Customs, dated 02.02.2018	Amendments made in the notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) specified in column (2) of the Table.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-tarr2018/cs41-2018.pdf

S. No	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(3)	Notification No. 35/2018-Cus (T)	28.03.2018	Seeks to amend various Customs exemption Notifications to exempt integrated tax and goods and services tax compensation cess on import of goods under Advance Authorisation/EPCG Schemes till 01.10.2018.	Amendments made in the Notifications to exempt integrated tax and goods and services tax compensation cess on import of goods under Advance Authorisation/EPCG Schemes till 01.10.2018.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-tarr2018/cs35-2018.pdf
(4)	Notification No. 34/2018-Cus (T)	27.03.2018	Seeks to Amend notification No 69/2011- Customs, dated the 29th July, 2011	Amendments in the rates given in Notification No. 69/2011- Customs dated 29.07.2011 regarding exemption to specific goods when imported into India from Japan w.e.f. 1.4.2018.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-tarr2018/cs34-2018.pdf
(5)	Notification No. 33/2018-Cus (T)	23.03.2018	Seeks to amend Notification No 52/2003- Customs dated 31.03.2003 for extending exemption from IGST and Compensation Cess to EOUs on imports till 01.10.2018.	In the opening paragraph, in the proviso, for the figures, letters and words "1st day of April, 2018", the figures, letters and words "2nd day of October, 2018" shall be substituted.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-tarr2018/cs33-2018.pdf;jsessionid=818C7B30B90AB18EE4B07AA4217CA2B
(6)	Notification No. 31/2018-Cus (NT)	05.04.2018	Exchange Rates Notification No.31/2018-Custom(NT) dated 5.4.2018	CBEC notifies the exchange rate of conversion of each of the foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice versa relating to import and export of goods. w.e.f. 06.04.2018..	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-nt2018/csnt31-2018.pdf
(7)	Notification No. 28/2018-Cus (NT)	28.03.2018	Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Amendment Regulations, 2018.	Amendments made in Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration & Processing) Regulations, 2010.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-nt2018/csnt28-2018.pdf
(8)	Notification No. 27/2018-Cus (NT)	28.03.2018	Appointment of customs airports as international courier terminals	CBEC has appointed the following customs airports as international courier terminals:	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-nt2018/csnt27-2018.pdf
(9)	Notification No. 25/2018-Cus (NT)	28.03.2018	"Amendment to Notification No. 64/94-Customs (N.T) dated 21st November,1994	Provisions are substituted	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-nt2018/csnt25-2018.pdf
(10)	Notification No. 21/2018-Cus (NT)	19.03.2018	Declaration of Vijayawada Airport as Customs Airport; amendment of Notification No. 61/94(NT)- CUSTOMS dt. 21.11,1994.	In the said notification, amendments made in the Table, (a) against serial number 2and (b) after serial number 15.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-nt2018/csnt21-2018.pdf
(11)	Notification No. 20/2018-Cus (ADD)	10.04.2018	Seeks to impose definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of fish net or fishing nets originating from China or Bangladesh.	Anti-dumping duty imposed on imports of fishnet or fishing nets originating in or exported from China or Bangladesh falling under Sub- Heading No. 56081110.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cs-add2018/csadd20-2018.pdf
(12)	Circular No. 08/2018	23.03.2018	Refund of IGST on Export-Extension of date in SB005 alternate mechanism cases & clarifications in other cases	Keeping in view the difficulties likely to be faced by the exporters in case SB005 are allowed to be corrected through officer interface for Shipping Bills filed up to 31.12.17, it has been decided to extend this facility to those shipping bills filed till 28.02.2018.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2018/circ08-2018cs.pdf

CBEC – CENTRAL EXCISE					
S. No	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No.20/2018-Central Excise	06.04.2018	Seeks to rescind notification nos. 7/2018-Central excise and 8/2018-Central excise, both dated 2.2.2018 all dated 06.04.2018.	Government rescinds the notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) as specified in column (2) of the Table.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cx-tarr2018/ce20-2018.pdf
(2)	Notification No.16/2018-Central Excise	06.04.2018	Seeks to amend notification Nos.11/2017-Central excise dated 30th June, 2017, 10/2018-Central excise 11/2018-Central excise, 12/2018-Central excise and 13/2018-Central excise, 2.2.2018	Government hereby amends the notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) specified in column (2) of the Table.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-act/notifications/notfns-2018/cx-tarr2018/ce19-2018.pdf

MUMBAI CUSTOMS

S. No	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 61/2018	09.04.2018	Clarification on issues related to furnishing of Bond/Letter of Undertaking for exports by Mumbai Customs	Sub-para (c), (d) and (e) of para 2 of the Circular No. 8/8/2017-GST dated 04.10.2017 regarding clarification on issues related to furnishing of Bond/UT for export are replaced.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/writereaddata/images/publicnotice/GST_Standing_Order_(1)2.pdf
(2)	Public Notice No. 55/2018	29.03.2018	Declaration of working days on 29th, 30th & 31st of march, 2018.	It is informed that New Customs House will remain open on 29th, 30th and 31st march, 2018 for import/ export transactions/ clearances.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/writereaddata/images/publicnotice/GB.pdf
(3)	Public Notice No. 53/2018	26.03.2018	Refund of IGST on Export-Extension of date in SB005 alternate mechanism cases & clarifications in other cases	CBEC vide Circular No.5/2018-Customs dated 23.02.2018 provided for an alternative mechanism with officer interface to resolve invoice mismatch cases (SB005) for shipping bills filed till 31.12.2017.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/writereaddata/images/publicnotice/Bill_of_entry_pending_for_assessment.pdf
(4)	Public Notice No. 52/2018	26.03.2018	Extension of Validity of Biometric Custom Passes of Custom Brokers and their employees expiring on 31.03.2018	Facility of entry into Custom Offices/area on production of proof of submission of applications for renewal of Custom Passes along with any other valid photo identity document is extended till 30.06. 2018 for the passes whose validity was earlier allowed upto 31.03.2018.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/writereaddata/images/publicnotice/PN_52.pdf
(5)	Public Notice No. 49/2018	23.03.2018	Mandatory Implementation of e-SANCHIT – Extension of Deadline	Board has decided to postpone the mandatory implementation of e-SANCHIT to 01.04.2018.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/writereaddata/images/publicnotice/Public_Notice_Export-I.pdf
(6)	Public Notice No. 48/2018	22.03.2018	Mandatory Implementation of e -SANCHIT –Extension of Deadline	Board has decided to postpone the mandatory implementation of e -SANCHIT to 01.04.2018.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/writereaddata/images/publicnotice/Public_Notice_Export-II.pdf
(7)	Public Notice No. 41/2018	12.03.2018	To bring clarity and to sensitize the trade on issue of IGST Refund.	A Flyer on 'Refund of Integrated Tax paid on account of Zero rated supplies' which is readily available on http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/Refund_zero_rated_supplies.pdf .	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/writereaddata/images/publicnotice/PN_NACIN_(2).pdf

SAHAR AIR CARGO CUSTOMS

S. No	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice no. 61/2018	05.04.2018	Use and Removal of DEPB Scrip	The duty credit in DEPB is being used in piece meal manner despite the duty credit availability in the DEPB scrip.	http://accumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2018/PublicNotice61_2018.pdf
(2)	Public Notice no. 59/2018	28.03.2018	Working days on 29.03.2018, 30.03.2018 and 31.03.2018	Customs informed that the O/o Commissioner Exports will remain open on 29th, 30th & 31st March, 2018 and all the sections would be functioning as regular.	http://accumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2018/PN_59_2018.pdf
(3)	Public Notice no. 58/2018	28.03.2018	All sections/departments in Import Commissionerate open on 29.03.18 and 30.03.18	All the sections/ departments in the Commissionerate of Import, Zone- III (ACC) will remain open on 29th March, 2018 and 30th March, 2018.	http://accumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2018/PN_58_2018.pdf
(4)	Public Notice no. 57/2018		Extension of deadline for mandatory uploading of supporting documents under SWIFT	Board has decided to postpone the mandatory implementation of e-SANCHIT to 01st April, 2018.	http://accumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2018/PN_57_2018.pdf

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU CUSTOM HOUSE

S. No	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice no. 59/2018	13.04.2018	Procedure (revised) to be followed for scanning of DPD containers selected for scanning	Revised procedure is being devised for facilitating scanning and allow DPD facility for containers selected for scanning.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_059.pdf
(2)	Public Notice no. 57/2018	10.04.2018	Procedure in relation to delivery of DPD containers from port terminals of JNCH to CFSs, if not cleared beyond prescribed 48 Hours period and under certain other circumstances, Designation of CFSs	It has been decided that Port Terminals in the following situations should henceforth transfer the container to any CFS as nominated by the shipping line instead of the designated CFS: 1)Consignment is not cleared within 48 hours from port terminal in respect of DPD Clients (RMS Facilitated); 2) Damaged containers or those with tampered seals;	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_057.pdf
(3)	Public Notice no. 56/2018	29.03.2018	Compliance of Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016	Important provisions of said "Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016" in relation to import and export are given in the Public Notice No.56/2018.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_056.pdf
(4)	Public Notice no. 54/2018	31.03.2018	Mandatory implementation of e-SANCHIT w.e.f. 01.04.2018	From 01.04.2018, ICEGATE system would disallow the filing of a bill of entry unless it is filed with the IRN Nos. evidencing that supporting documents have been first uploaded using e-SANCHIT.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_054.pdf
(5)	Public Notice no. 53/2018	30.03.2018	Procedure to be followed for obtaining unique DPD code to DPD importers	JNCH has highlighted Public Notices regarding the procedure for registration of DPD clients at Terminals.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_053.pdf
(6)	Public Notice no. 50/2018	26.03.2018	Refund of IGST on Export-Invoice mis-match Cases – Alternative Mechanism with Officer Interface	Exporters have to e-mail the prescribed concordance table indicating mapping between GST invoices and corresponding shipping bill invoices in support of refund claim to the Deputy Commissioner of Customs, Drawback, NS-II, JNCH.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_050.pdf
(7)	Public Notice no. 49/2018	26.03.2018	Procedure to be followed for "one time default intimation" to Shipping Lines by DPD importers at JNCH	DPD importers are required to send "one time default intimation" to csla@bombaychamber.com endorsing a copy to Direct Port Delivery (DPD) Cell.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_049.pdf

S. No	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(8)	Public Notice no. 48/2018	23.03.2018	EGM related errors – Amendment of No. of container mismatch & container no. mismatch in EGM filed at Inland Container Depot	JNCH has now been decided that exporters should scan and send soft copies of documents so that the documents can be scrutinized at EGM Coordination Cell at JNCH and errors can be removed.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_048.pdf
(9)	Public Notice no. 47/2018	23.03.2018	Amendment in the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Programme Circular No. 33/2016 dated 22/7/2016	Members are requested to file application with Nodal Officer-AEO, O/o Chief Commissioner of JNCH with a copy of the same to AEO Programme Manager, Directorate of International Customs, New Delhi – 110001.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_047.pdf
(10)	Public Notice no. 43/2018	19.03.2018	EGM related errors – Amendment of No. of container mismatch & container no. mismatch in EGM filed at ICDS	It has been observed that there been proper coordination between ICDS, Gateway Port and shipping lines, such errors would not have come into existence.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/FN_043.pdf
(11)	Public Notice no. 42/2018	16.03.2018	Constitution of “Environment Protection Unit” at JNCH	Environment Protection Unit (EPU) will function in Nhava Sheva-III Commissionerate as part of SIIB-Imports and will co-ordinate with other Commissionerates of JNCH.	http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2018/PN_042.pdf

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

S. No	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	RBI/2017-18/143	23.03.2018	Implementation of UNSCR 2397 (2017), pertaining to Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK)	Copy is enclosed of the ‘Order’ issued by Ministry of External Affairs dated 05.03.2018, published in the Gazette of India on implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2397 (2017) on Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.	https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/notification/PDFs/143NT230320181C1661738B5642DBA88E1373A6DE4333.PDF

GST RELATED NOTIFICATIONS

CENTRAL TAX NOTIFICATIONS

<https://cbec-gst.gov.in/central-tax-notifications.html>

Notification No. & Date	Subject
20/2018-Central Tax ,dt. 28-03-2018	Extension of due date for filing of application for refund under section 55 by notified agencies
19/2018-Central Tax ,dt. 28-03-2018	Extension of date for filing the return in FORM GSTR-6
18/2018-Central Tax ,dt. 28-03-2018	Seeks to prescribe the due dates for furnishing of FORM GSTR-1 for those taxpayers with aggregate turnover of more than Rs. 1.5 crores
17/2018-Central Tax ,dt. 28-03-2018	Seeks to prescribe the due date for quarterly furnishing of FORM GSTR-1 for those taxpayers with aggregate turnover of upto Rs.1.5 crore
16/2018-Central Tax ,dt. 23-03-2018	Seeks to prescribe the due dates for filing FORM GSTR-3B for the months of April to June, 2018
15/2018-Central Tax ,dt. 23-03-2018	Notifies the date from which E-Way Bill Rules shall come into force
14/2018-Central Tax ,dt. 23-03-2018	Amending the CGST Rules, 2017(Third Amendment Rules, 2018).

CENTRAL TAX (RATE) NOTIFICATIONS

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

Notification No. & Date	Subject
10/2018-Central Tax (Rate) ,dt. 23-03-2018	Seeks to exempt payment of tax under section 9(4) of the CGST Act, 2017 till 30.06.2018.

INTEGRATED TAX (RATE) NOTIFICATIONS

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

Notification No. & Date	Subject
11/2018-Integrated Tax (Rate) ,dt. 23-03-2018	Seeks to exempt payment of tax under section 5(4) of the IGST Act, 2017 till 30.06.2018.

UNION TERRITORY TAX NOTIFICATIONS

<http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/gst/union-territory-tax-notfns-2017>

Notification No. & Date	Subject
06/2018-Union Territory Tax,dt. 31-03-2018	Notification regarding E-way Bill in Union Territory of Lakshadweep.
05/2018-Union Territory Tax,dt. 31-03-2018	Notification regarding E-way Bill in Union Territory of Daman and Diu.
04/2018-Union Territory Tax,dt. 31-03-2018	Notification regarding E-way Bill in Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
03/2018-Union Territory Tax,dt. 31-03-2018	Notification regarding E-way Bill in Union Territory of Chandigarh
02/2018-Union Territory Tax,dt. 31-03-2018	Notification regarding E-way Bill in Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

UNION TERRITORY TAX (RATE) NOTIFICATIONS

<http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/gst/union-territory-tax-notfns-2017>

Notification No. & Date	Subject
10/2018-Union Territory tax(rate), dt. 23-03-2018	Seeks to exempt payment of tax under section 7(4) of the UT GST Act, 2017 till 30.06.2018.

CENTRAL TAX CIRCULARS

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

Circular No.	Date	Subject
43/2018	13-04-2018	Clarifying the issues arising in refund to UIN.
42/2018	13-04-2018	Clarifying the procedure for recovery of arrears under the existing law and reversal of inadmissible input tax credit.
41/2018	13-04-2018	Clarifying the procedure for interception of conveyances for inspection of goods in movement, and detention, release and confiscation of such goods and conveyances.
40/2018	6-4-2018	Clarification on issues related to furnishing of Bond/Letter of Undertaking for exports
39/2018	3-4-2018	Setting up of an IT Grievance Redressal Mechanism to address the grievances of taxpayers due to technical glitches on GST Portal
38/2018	26-03-2018	Clarifications on issues related to Job Work

CGST ORDERS

<http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/gst/cgst-order-idx-2017>

Circular No.	Date	Subject
Order-01/2018-GST	28-03-2018	Extension of date for submitting the statement in FORM GST TRAN-2 under rule 117(4)(b)(iii) of the Central Goods and Service Tax Rules, 2017

Increasing financial stress on the Man-made fibre textile segment in India

Industry and services sector account for a major proportion of restructured loans of the banking sector. As these sectors have a relatively higher share of total bank credit, the trends in restructuring of loans to these sectors make a bigger impact on the health of the banking sector. Within the industrial sector, a few sub-sectors, namely; Iron & Steel, Textile, Infrastructure, Power generation and Telecommunications have become a cause of concern in recent times.

The total borrowings by companies in textile industry have shown some increase in borrowings during 2016 -17. Credit deployed by banks to the Man-made textiles segment during April – February period of the current financial year (2017-18) has witnessed a growth of 18.1% and as on February 16, 2018 total outstanding is Rs. 241 billion of total Rs. 2045 billion in the textile industry. The details are given below.

Segment-wise (Textile Industry) Deployment of Gross Bank Credit

(Rs. Billion)

Sr. No.	Industry	Outstanding as on			Variation	
		Feb.17, 2017	Mar.31, 2017	Feb.16, 2018	Feb.16, 2018 / Feb.17, 2017 (Year –on-Year)	Feb.16, 2018 / Mar.31, 2017 (Financial Year)
					%	%
1	Textiles	1903	1963	2054	7.9	4.6
1.1	Cotton Textiles	924	964	1033	11.8	7.2
1.2	Jute Textiles	21	23	22	6.6	- 3.6
1.3	Man-Made Textiles	196	204	241	23.1	18.1
1.4	Other Textiles	763	773	758	-0.6	-1.8

SOURCE: Financial Stability Report, RBI

INFO SRTEPC - ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF					
Advertisement		One issue (₹)	Three issues (₹)	Six issues (₹)	Twelve issues (₹)
1	Inside Half Page (B/W)	4000	11000	21000	40000
2	Inside Full Page (B&W)	8000	22000	42000	80000
3	Front Inside Page (Colour)	10000	27500	50000	90000
4	Back Inside Page (Colour)	15000	42500	80000	150000
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Appreciation Letters from members of SRTEPC



Index of Industrial Production (IIP)

(April-February 2017-18)

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) in the month of February 2018 was higher by 7.1% over the index of February 2017.
- The cumulative overall growth of IIP during April-February 2017-18 registered a growth of 4.3% as compared to the same period of the previous year.
- **The Index of Industrial Production for the month of February 2018 for the Textiles Sector increased by 2.2 % as compared to February 2017.** There has been a cumulative decline of 0.2% in Textiles Sector during April-February 2017-18 over the corresponding period of 2016-17.
- The Index of Industrial Production for wearing apparel for February 2018 dropped by 4.7% and a fall of 9.9% during the period April-February 2017-18 over the corresponding period of the previous year.
- The Index of Industrial Production for the manufacturing sector has increased by 8.7% during the month of February 2018 while there was a cumulative growth of 4.6% during the period of April-February 2017-18 over the corresponding period of the previous year.

The Statement below gives the Quick Estimates of growth rate of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) at 2 digit level of the National Industrial Classification (NIC-2008) for the period of April-February 2017-18, along with the cumulative growth rates over corresponding period of the previous year:

Industry code	Description	Percentage growth				
		April 2016	January 2018	February 2018	Apr-February 2017-18	Apr-February 2016-17
13	Textiles	3.4	2.7	2.2	-0.2	0.7
14	Wearing apparel	1.0	-10.7	-4.7	-9.9	-1.4
10-32	Manufacturing	-3.1	8.7	8.7	4.6	-0.3
	General	-0.8	7.5	7.1	4.3	0.4

Source : Ministry of Statistics & Programme (MOSPI) www.mospi.nic.in

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A Tribute to our Past Chairman, Shri Sanjeev Saran (May 2001 to April 2003) & (January 2006 to December 2009)

Shri Sanjeev Saran was born in Bhopal. A Hons graduate in Chemistry with Post Graduation in Economics, he also obtained various management degrees from International Institutes. Shri Sanjeev ji is the Managing Director of REAL Group of Companies that is a supply chain management and sourcing company (Buying House) in the entire Asia Pacific region for many European brands and big ticket importers. Reeti Exim sources products across the entire value chain from fibre to garments and made-ups helping many Indian companies establish their presence in Europe. His company was a pioneer in exports of many products in the Europe region.

Having cut his teeth in the world of textiles, Sanjeev ji has over 38 years of varied experience, mainly in the area of man-made fibre textiles, of which 25 years have been in international textile trade & exports. He has travelled extensively across the world for business and possesses an in-depth understanding of the trends, movements and dynamics of the Global Textile Industry. He also has worked abroad in UK, Italy etc

Shri Sanjeev ji dons many hats with respect to the textile world. He also serves as the Managing Director/ Director in many international groups like Drummond Group PLC UK, Chargeurs Interlinings, which is part of one of the world's biggest Textile Groups in the world, based out of France. In addition Sanjeev ji is a Director on the board of international companies like Armatex Ltd., V.F.C Ltd. which are based out of the United Kingdom.

Very early in his career he decided to put to use his considerable skills as textiles stalwart for the benefit of the industry. Sanjeev ji has served as a Director on the board of Directors of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd (ECGC) and was a member of the board of Governors of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), India. There too he left his footprints, and started a new degree called 'Fashion Communication', which now is one of most sought after courses.

His foresight and vision saw him become one of the first promoters of Textile Technology parks in India. He has played a major role in developing the Palladium Textile Park near Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. His objective was to help India in for growth in Textiles in the 'Post Quota' regime. Sanjeev ji was a member on the board of the Powerloom Development & Export Promotion Council (PDEXCIL), for many years.

Shri Sanjeev Saran with a distinguished academic background in Economics has served at senior levels of many public limited companies. However, for all of those associated with the Manmade Fibre Textile Industry, Sanjeev ji will always be remembered and cherished for the work done by him as Chairman, SRTEPC in two different tenures. Easily one of the most popular Chairmen of the Council, he first served

Continued on page 25



Growing exports of value added Manmade fibre textile products to generate more employment and more foreign exchange for India

By Shri Rakesh Mehra, Past Chairman, SRTEPC

The World Market of Man Made Fibre Textiles (excluding garments) presently is at US\$ 175 bn. With a market share of just 3.5% as against China's 34% India has ample scope for improvement. Starting with the disbanding of the quota regime from January 2005, our share was expected to increase manifold, but this has not happened. Over the years and at every forum the claims have been loud and clear that India will take China's share, be it on account of abolition of Quotas or Wage hikes in China. The fact is that we have stagnated at around 1/10th of China's share over the last 6-7 years. Taking over just 10% of China's market will double our exports to US\$ 12 bn.

Table: 01 Man-made fibre (MMF) Textiles exports by India and China during last 5 years

Value in US\$ bn.

Country	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	% in World Export in 2016
World	178.12	187.04	192.94	179.78	173.18	100.00
China	51.17	56.50	61.17	60.69	59.38	34.29
India	5.24	6.20	6.30	5.79	5.85	3.38

Source: ITC, UN Contrade

A closer analysis of the numbers shows that India has not captured the available opportunity at the bottom of the Textiles Value Chain- Fabrics, Made ups and Garments. Our MMF Fabric Exports have been US\$2.11 bn, while MMF Garments Exports have been US\$ 4.21 bn. This is the weakest link in the value chain.

Table: 02 Export of Fabrics by China and India during last 3 years

Value in US\$ bn.

Market	2014	2015	2016
World	79.75	76.71	73.76
China	34.33	35.19	34.19
India	2.49	2.40	2.11

Source: ITC, UN Contrade

Table: 03 Export of Garments made from MMF by India and China during last 3 years

Value in US\$ bn.

Country	2014	2015	2016
World	182.15	170.25	169.52
China	78.28	73.50	64.83
India	3.48	3.97	4.21

Source: ITC, UN Contrade

The Expert Committee on Textile Policy as well as National Textile Policy 2000 has also identified the areas such as weaving, processing, garmenting and Technical Textiles as the weakest links in the entire value chain and suggested for focused development of these areas. Though investments have come in these segments with launching of TUFs, SITP, Skill Development, IPDS, special package for garment

and made-ups, sectoral schemes such as PowerTex, Handloom, Handicraft Schemes, etc., these are not adequate to convert the raw-materials into finished products.+

Thus, Fabric and Garment segments in the value chain need to be looked into for the much needed increase in the export of Man Made Fibre Textiles out of India.

Table: 04 Export of Yarns by China and India during last 3 years

Value in US\$ bn.

Market	2014	2015	2016
World	49.52	43.53	42.03
China	6.69	6.17	6.39
India	1.98	1.71	1.67

Source: ITC, UN Contrade

The Export of Man Made Fibre Yarn is 1/4th of China’s while Man Made Fabric and Garments is 1/15th Of China’s. This means China is converting its yarn into value added products. The goal for us too should be to convert more yarn into Fabrics and Garments. India has large capacities of Fibre and Yarn production and every incremental kilo of yarn converted to Fabric and Garments will increase the export of Value added products and also create more employment. The efforts of all the Stake Holders and the Government should be directed towards this goal. There are various challenges which need to be addressed.

1. The cost of raw materials- Polyester Staple Fibre, Viscose Staple Fibre and Acrylic Staple Fibre are higher in India when compared to competitor countries. The structure of the Staple Fibre Industry in India allows them to charge import parity prices which also include Anti dumping duties in some cases. Such prices are not always Free Market prices based on the dynamics of Demand and Supply. We have world class plants to manufacture Fibres; protection by way of High Custom and Anti Dumping Duties should be discouraged. These only serve a handful of the stakeholders in the Value chain at the cost of the downstream industry.
2. Worldwide Man Made Fibre Textiles constitute 70% of the Total Textiles Trade, whereas in India this share is restricted to 30%. Taxes/ Duty Neutrality is the only way going forward to bridge this mis- match. Let the consumer decide the blend and not the Fiscal Levies. The distortion in GST rates is also restricting Export Growth of Made ups and Garments made of MMF Fabrics. The Weaving, Garmenting and Made ups are stand alone units in the decentralised sector. In the present GST regime the weavers are burdened with accumulated input GST credit which is not refundable in the Domestic sale. Thus this is cost in case of delivery to the decentralised Made Ups and Garment Industry and there is no simple mechanism to neutralise such accumulated input taxes.
3. The Government must enter into Free Trade Pacts with major markets like the European Union, USA, Canada and Britain for the export of MMF Garments and Fabrics out of India. Competing countries like Bangladesh, Vietnam and others enjoy the benefits of such FTP’s. The growth achieved by these countries is to a large extent the result of such bilateral agreements.
4. The Weaving and Garment Industry must take advantage of subsidies being offered by the government to expand capacities and adopt the latest technologies.
5. The Stakeholders along the value chain must work in close partnership to take on the World. Indian Yarn Manufacturers are making quality yarns that is being exported and efforts must be made with the upstream value added manufacturers to consume more of it within India. Similarly quality fabric is being made in India and being exported to the top most brands in America and Europe. More of such Fabric should be converted into Garments. At the Council we may attempt to bring all the stake holders together and deliberate.
6. The weaving Industry must engage with Designers in the western world to understand better the requirements of their markets. Sportswear and Technical Textiles is another segment that has substantial growth potential.
7. All Manufacturers must be very competitive in this intense market environment. We need to ensure that all inputs are available at the lowest rates and also process efficiencies are achieved. Each Country in the World is aspiring for growth and this is making competition all the more severe. The Indian Government too is under pressure to phase out Subsidies/Incentives by the end of 2018 on account of the WTO regulations

I am sure that with the concerted effort of all the stake holders, the export of MMF Textiles will only grow manifold in the coming years.

All The Best!!



Super Gold Suitings Private Limited, Bhilwara, Rajasthan

To dream a dream, plan for the dream, and then watch your dream turn into reality. You can see your future right before your eyes. The days when your energy isn't up to par, your enthusiasm is a little low, your ambition isn't pushing you forward and your attitude isn't on the positive side, use your goal plan to see how far you've come. Take the time to visualize exactly where you're headed.

What is success? The Managing Director of Super Gold Suitings Private Limited, Shri. Shyam Sundar Chandak, thinks it is a mix of having a flair for the thing that you are doing and a sense of purpose. Where you came from isn't important, all that matters is where you are going.

A Successful Leader always has the optimism and ability to work in a team, along with patience, competitiveness and discipline. Shri Shyam Sundar Chandak has all the qualities and always dreamt of creating a company in which he can put all his efforts, innovations and labour. He fulfilled his dream on 24th of July 2001, when he established Super Gold Suitings Private Limited with a team of 40 workers, trading principally in cloth. However the company did a turnover of Rs.2.50 Crores.

Shri Chandak was joined by his son Shri Manish Chandak, company's second director. Soon after completing his MBA from Sikkim Manipal University he joined the family business of his father in 2001. Enthusiastic by nature, Shri Manish along with his father built the business from scratch.

In 2011, company started manufacturing suiting and shirting by putting up a spinning unit for manufacturing polyester yarn. In year 2016 company came into its own, by setting up a Denim manufacturing plant, which is the 6th one in Rajasthan. Super Gold Suitings Private Limited now exports to other countries of the world like Egypt, Colombia and many more, making it a truly global player. Such a meteoric rise has rarely been witnessed in the annals of the Indian Textile Industry, especially in the MSME sector. Super Gold has in place quality control measures as well as an extensive marketing strategy by which they have been able to penetrate overseas markets, generate employment to 400 plus workers and achieving a turnover of RS.245 crores. Theirs has indeed been a spectacular success story from a turnover of Rs.2.50 crore only 17 years back.

Not only has the company fulfilled its economic objectives, but they have also been a model Corporate by investing in environment friendly practices. They have Effluent Treatment Plant, which helps to reuse water thus supports conservation of the most precious natural resource in the world.

Super Gold Suitings Pvt. Ltd. is the 1st Denim Unit to Sign an MOU of Rs.100 Crore with Government of Rajasthan under Resurgent Rajasthan scheme. The company manufactures Denim Fabric by using the latest technology and state of art machinery for their processing unit as well. The company plans to install more weaving machines, to increase production and to be a vertically integrated textile unit.

Super Gold today manufactures 19 million metres of High End Cotton Denim Fabric in addition to the 1800 tons of Lycra Texturizing Yarn. The company has put in the resources to produce 7.2 million metres of over- dyeing fabric and 10 million metres of Synthetic Fabric.

Super Gold's extensive manufacturing facilities include 2 indigo sheet dyeing machines, 3 direct warping machines, 1 mercersing range, 1 singing machine, 2 denim finishing machines, 84 air jet weaving machines and 3 texturizing machines

The company's philosophy mirrors the statement made by the beloved 'Father of our Nation' Mahatma Gandhi, who said that 'Customer is our God'. The founders and the employees practice this adage each day of their lives, that the ability to satisfy your customers to gain customer loyalty is the single most critical determinant of your success and growing your business.

Both Shri Shyam Chandak and Shri Manish Chandak believe that a company should have a mission as well as vision. It is their Vision and Mission statement that has helped Super Gold to achieve its goals and growth. A combination of their mission and vision statements constitutes their company's vales and reason for existence.

All the credit for the success of Super Gold Suitings Pvt. Ltd. goes to Shri Shyam Sundar Chandak, whose toil of sweat and blood, coupled with his unflinching enthusiasm and devotion has enabled them to achieve all their dreams.

Continued from page 21

for the period May 2001 to April 2003. During his first stint Sanjeev ji organized participation by Council's members in 15 international exhibitions in countries as diverse as Mexico, Tanzania, Kenya, Colombia, Brazil, Bangladesh, Australia, Poland, Indonesia, Taiwan, Vietnam, Algeria and Morocco. In addition to these exhibitions, 5 Buyer Seller Meets were organized during his tenure to Syria, Saudi Arabia, New Zealand, Hungary and Czech Republic. The Market expansion was taken up by him as a mission and opened many new markets for the benefit of the members.

Sanjeev ji believed in building and developing strong relationships with stakeholders involved with the MMFT industry. His initiatives included organizing visits to the Council by Secretary -Textiles, a Japanese Trade Delegation and meeting with the Director General of the British Wool Textile Trading Company for the benefit of our member exporters. This was in addition to the meetings organized with DGFT, Parliamentary Sub-Committee, High Power Committee on Exim Policy, Jt. Secretary (Exports) in order to place the issues and problems of our members with the Govt. bodies. In his first tenure Sanjeev ji also organized Trade Delegations to Asia Pacific, Tunisia, Mauritius and Saudi Arabia. He was the youngest elected chairman during his time and was the first professional to assume the office as SRTEPC Chairman.

The betterment of the Council's members and staff was always uppermost on his mind as he organized Seminars, Workshops and Training Programs in the areas of Trends in International Marketing, Changing Scenario in the marketing of Manmade Textiles, Program to improve managerial effectiveness, Strategies to boost the exports of MMF Textiles, Strategies to boost exports from Coimbatore, Bhilwara, Ludhiana and similar such programs. He also started the process of de centralization and spread the Council's presence Pan India.

After a gap of four years he once again assumed responsibility as Chairman of the Council from December 2006 to January 2009. He upped the ante by organizing participation in 16 exhibitions during his second term to countries such as Egypt, Romania, Argentina, Chile, South Africa, Russia, Malaysia, New Delhi, Turkey, Benin, Yemen, Bangladesh, Bangalore, Brazil and Syria. In addition he organized Trade Delegations to Greece, Egypt, UAE, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Kazakhstan, Russia and Japan. Once again the market development and enhancement of the product basket for exports, was done with passion and perfection. During this period the SRTEPC came into the forefront was one of most trusted and leading councils in India .He always lead from the front, and obviously his multiproduct and huge international exposure came in very handy for the Council.

Sanjeev ji organized visits/meetings with Jt. Secretary, MOT, Duty Drawback Committee, DGFT, Export Commissioner and Textile Commissioner on the various issues and problems faced by our member exporters. Sanjeev ji organized Seminars on various topics such as Foreign Trade Policy & Product Development, Forex Risk Management, Forward Contracts, Hedging, Factoring, ECGS Schemes, Customs & Excise, Export Assistance Schemes etc.He was instrumental to get the right Drawbacks, by working very closely and with the authorities. He served for almost 28 yrs as a COA elected member of SRTEPC.

Sanjeev ji launched a Product Development Project in Surat at the hands of the HMOT in the year 2007 and was instrumental in bringing out the Coffee Table Book that was considered to be the Bible of the Manmade Fibre Textile Industry. For this work, the persons who were Ministers during that period were full of praise. Having worked with the biggest brands in Europe he was responsible for bringing out some of the most aesthetically appealing and informative marketing collaterals during his tenure.

Potential for Man-made fibre textiles in the EU – growing exports and emerging opportunities

The European Union is a unique economic and political union between 28 European countries. The European Union is the largest trade block in the world. It is the world's biggest trader, accounting for 16.5% of the world's imports and exports. Among EU countries they have Free trade and EU is committed to liberalising world trade as well. Economic growth in the European Union (EU) is increasingly solid, both in terms of its pace and composition. The European economy has entered its fifth year of recovery, which is now reaching all EU Member States.

Consumers sentiment has improved significantly over the last year. Growth expectations have brightened and broadened. Private consumption remains the main driver of growth. The prospects of investment becoming a second pillar of growth are also good, as a recovery in investment continues to benefit from very favorable financing conditions and improvements in corporate profitability. The recovery of credit to the private sector is proceeding. Moreover, the global recovery should increasingly lend support to trade.

India – EU trade

The EU is India's largest trading partner with 13.5% of India's overall trade between 2015 and 2016, ahead of China (10.8%) and the United States (9.3%). India is the EU's 9th largest trading partner with 2.2% of the EU's overall trade.

Textile Industry of EU

The textile and clothing (T&C) sector is an important part of the European manufacturing industry, playing a crucial role in the economy and social well-being in many regions of Europe. According to data there are around 185 000 companies in the industry employing 1.7 million people and generating a turnover of EUR 166 billion. The sector accounts for a 3% share of value added and a 6% share of employment in total manufacturing in Europe. The sector in the EU is based around small businesses. Companies with less than 50 employees account for more than 90% of the workforce and produce almost 60% of the value added.

T & C sector has been subject to a series of radical transformations over recent decades in EU, due to a combination of technological changes, the evolution of production costs, the emergence of important international competitors, and the elimination of imports quotas after 2004. Companies have improved their competitiveness by reducing or ceasing the mass production of simple products, and concentrating instead on a wider variety of products with higher value-added. European producers are world leaders in markets for technical/industrial textiles and non-wovens (industrial filters, hygiene products, products for the automotive and medical sectors, etc.), as well as for high-quality garments with a high design content. The conventional textile products which require more manpower than capital are almost reduced in the entire which is why there are opportunities emerging in this conventional textiles segment in EU.

Net Importer of Textile and Clothing (T&C)

EU is a top market for textiles and fashion due to high rate of consumption and per capita.

Sl. No.	Countries	Euro/ per annum
1	Luxemburg	1200
2	Austria & UK	1000
3	Italy	900
4	Denmark, Finland & Sweden	800
5	Netherlands, Belgium, Germany & Cyprus	700
6	France	600
7	Ireland, Spain & Portugal	500
8	Slovenia & Estonia	400
9	Czech Republic, Latvia, Poland and Slovakia	200
10	Hungary	100

SOURCE: European Commission

EU (28) is a net importer of Textile and clothing products. During 2017 EU (28) imported US\$ 262.34 billion of T&C products from world whereas its total exports of T&C were US\$ 199.91 billion with a net deficit of US\$ 62.43 billion.

European Union (EU 28)'s imports of Textile and Clothing from world during last five years

Value in US\$ Thousand

Chapter	Product Description	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
50	Silk	990,833	948,093	767,925	705,793	680,932
51	Wool, fine or coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn and woven fabric	5,343,542	5,478,668	4,666,661	4,702,301	5,005,548
52	Cotton	8,275,786	8,149,916	6,638,257	6,496,004	6,827,176
53	Other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn and woven fabrics of paper yarn	994,629	1,084,980	977,080	983,612	975,048
54	Man-made filaments; strip and the like of man-made textile materials	11,329,870	12,196,590	10,666,246	10,389,649	11,639,221
55	Man-made staple fibres	9,624,225	9,978,831	8,561,765	8,293,191	8,761,804
56	Wadding, felt and nonwovens; special yarns; twine, cordage, ropes and cables and articles thereof	8,301,006	8,780,564	7,802,827	7,832,927	8,785,823
57	Carpets and other textile floor coverings	5,500,333	5,942,952	5,279,841	5,369,233	5,709,746
58	Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics; lace; tapestries; trimmings; embroidery	2,715,485	2,855,592	2,519,076	2,612,652	2,780,706
59	Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics; textile articles of a kind suitable . . .	6,812,849	6,903,041	6,135,961	6,292,133	6,689,209
60	Knitted or crocheted fabrics	4,518,892	4,808,579	4,057,815	4,107,326	4,235,905
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	82,102,299	89,750,070	81,304,220	83,950,935	89,984,175
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	83,742,458	90,990,939	84,486,482	85,444,525	89,994,870
63	Other made-up textile articles; sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags	18,502,881	20,295,183	18,501,717	19,071,630	20,267,381
TOTAL		248,755,088	268,163,998	242,365,873	246,251,911	262,337,544

SOURCE: ITC, UN Comtrade

European Union (EU 28)'s imports of Textile and Clothing from India during last five years

Value in US\$ Thousand

Chapter	Product Description	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
50	Silk	48,830	47,162	38,863	27,893	21,596
51	Wool, fine or coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn and woven fabric	80,185	87,253	77,820	64,576	68,636
52	Cotton	668,728	648,033	496,114	510,156	605,508
53	Other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn and woven fabrics of paper yarn	74,801	84,543	76,348	81,128	63,088
54	Man-made filaments; strip and the like of man-made textile materials	229,067	215,287	209,061	202,554	209,443
55	Man-made staple fibres	305,504	300,169	260,980	269,197	276,336

Value in US\$ Thousand

Chapter	Product Description	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
56	Wadding, felt and nonwovens; special yarns; twine, cordage, ropes and cables and articles thereof	39,007	48,092	58,699	53,242	52,415
57	Carpets and other textile floor coverings	463,098	493,726	440,452	463,316	471,118
58	Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics; lace; tapestries; trimmings; embroidery	97,266	100,106	106,251	127,498	137,833
59	Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics; textile articles of a kind suitable . . .	34,062	46,308	35,161	39,154	41,618
60	Knitted or crocheted fabrics	9,577	10,831	8,413	7,889	11,988
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	3,161,678	3,789,072	3,499,887	3,527,047	3,343,472
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	3,629,063	3,926,819	3,637,498	3,564,032	3,194,458
63	Other made-up textile articles; sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags	1,295,227	1,432,698	1,286,206	1,253,346	1,357,279
TOTAL		10,136,093	11,230,099	10,231,753	10,191,028	9,854,788

SOURCE: ITC, UN Comtrade

In case of MMF textiles, European Union with US\$ 1408.27 million imports contributes 24% in total exports of Indian MMF textiles.

Value in US\$ Thousand

European Union (EU 28)'s imports of MMF textiles from India during last five years						
Sl. No	Product Description	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1		1,362,097	1,437,142	1,321,668	1,326,207	1,408,273
European Union (EU 28)'s imports of MMF textiles from World during last five years						
2		52,553,768	55,670,789	48,994,549	49,063,693	53,026,359

SOURCE: ITC, UN Comtrade

Import of MMF Fabrics by EU from India covered under chapter 54 in 2017

(Value in US\$ Thousand)

Sl. No.	HS Code	Product Description	EU's import from India	EU's import from world	India's % share
1	540233	Textured filament yarn of polyester (excluding that put up for retail sale)	68,312	712471	9.59
2	540211	High-tenacity filament yarn of aramids excluding sewing thread and yarn put up for retail . . .	0	679,187	0.00
3	540220	High-tenacity filament yarn of polyesters (excluding that put up for retail sale)	1,692	624,859	0.27
4	540761	Woven fabrics of yarn containing >= 85% by weight of non-textured polyester fil. .	3,693	619,016	0.60
5	540752	Woven fabrics of yarn containing >= 85% by weight of textured polyester fila . . .	10,546	597,537	1.76
5	540232	Textured filament yarn of nylon or other polyamides, of > 50 tex per . . .	207	516,163	0.04
7	540710	Woven fabrics of high-tenacity yarn, nylon, other polyamides or polyesters, incl. monofilament . . .	4,566	486,986	0.94
8	540219	High-tenacity filament yarn of nylon or other polyamides t . . .	57	464,895	0.01

(Value in US\$ Thousand)

Sl. No.	HS Code	Product Description	EU's import from India	EU's import from world	India's % share
9	540720	Woven fabrics of strip or the like, of synthetic filament, incl. monofilament of \geq 67 decitex . . .	27,465	406,654	6.75
10	540245	Filament yarn of nylon or other polyamides, incl. monofilament of $<$ 67 decitex, . . .	134	356,954	0.04
11	540753	Woven fabrics of yarn containing \geq 85% by weight of textured polyester filaments,	2,204	303,066	0.73
12	540249	Synthetic filament yarn, incl. synthetic monofilament of $<$ 67 decitex, single, . . .	17	302,656	0.01
13	540231	Textured filament yarn of nylon or other polyamides, with a linear density . . .	356	268,524	0.13
14	540244	Synthetic filament elastomeric yarn, single, untwisted or with a twist of \leq 50 turns . . .	73	244,847	0.03
15	540769	Woven fabrics of yarn containing \geq 85% by weight of mixtures of textured . . .	1,785	205,961	0.87
16	540751	Woven fabrics of yarn containing \geq 85% by weight of textured polyester filaments, . . .	993	182,482	0.54
17	540742	Woven fabrics of filament yarn containing \geq 85% nylon or other polyamid. . . .	1,077	176,796	0.61
18	540822	Woven fabrics of yarn containing \geq 85% artificial filament by weight, incl.	507	176,473	0.29
19	540234	Textured synthetic filament yarn of polypropylene (excluding yarn put up . . .	254	174,106	0.15
20	540754	Woven fabrics of yarn containing \geq 85% by weight of textured polyester filaments, t . . .	2,862	166,375	1.72

SOURCE: ITC, UN Comtrade

Import of MMF Fabrics by EU from India in 2017 covered under chapter 55 (Value in US\$ Thousand)

(Value in US\$ Thousand)

Sl. No.	HS Code	Product Description	EU's import from India	EU's import from world	India's % share
1	551219	Woven fabrics containing \geq 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, dyed,	1,829	329,716	0.55
2	551511	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but $<$ 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, mixed . . .	6,155	279,174	2.20
3	551512	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but $<$ 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, mixed . . .	1,480	155,592	0.95
4	551611	Woven fabrics containing \geq 85% artificial staple fibres by weight, unbleached or bleached	121	134,225	0.09
5	551299	Woven fabrics containing \geq 85% synthetic staple fibres by weight, dyed, t . . .	228	132,641	0.17
6	551422	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but $<$ 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, mixed . . .	78	129,944	0.06
7	551311	Plain woven fabrics containing predominantly, but $<$ 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, . . .	378	128,706	0.29
8	551412	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but $<$ 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, mixed . . .	21,426	126,608	16.92
9	551513	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but $<$ 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, mixed . . .	5,641	118,963	4.74
10	551229	Woven fabrics containing \geq 85% acrylic or modacrylic staple fibres .	75	112,871	0.07
11	551614	Woven fabrics containing \geq 85% artificial staple fibres by weight, printed	17	107,075	0.02

(Value in US\$ Thousand)

Sl. No.	HS Code	Product Description	EU's import from India	EU's import from world	India's % share
12	551599	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% synthetic staple fibres, other than those . . .	331	83,938	0.39
13	551612	Woven fabrics containing >= 85% artificial staple fibres by weight, dyed	929	80,484	1.15
14	551519	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, other . . .	1,299	59,896	2.17
15	551211	Woven fabrics containing >= 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, unbleached or bleached	251	59,853	0.42
16	551321	Plain woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, . . .	135	57,056	0.24
17	551622	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% artificial staple fibres, mixed principally . . .	48	45,261	0.11
18	551429	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% synthetic staple fibres by weight, mixed . . .	1,118	42,483	2.63
19	551641	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% artificial staple fibres by weight, mixed . . .	0	41,607	0.00
20	551442	Woven fabrics containing predominantly, but < 85% polyester staple fibres by weight, mixed . . .	0	35,365	0.00

SOURCE: ITC, UN Comtrade

EU's import of MMF Made-ups from India in 2017 covered under chapter 63

(Value in US\$ Thousand)

Sl. No.	HS Code	Product Description	EU's import from India	EU's import from world	India's % share
1	630790	Made-up articles of textile materials, incl. dress patterns, n.e.s.	53,595	3,681,992	1.46
2	630392	Curtains, incl. drapes, and interior blinds, curtain or bed valances of synthetic fibres . . .	7,364	1,182,823	0.62
3	630532	Flexible intermediate bulk containers, for the packing of goods, of synthetic or man-made	356,960	991,667	36.00
4	630140	Blankets and travelling rugs of synthetic fibres (excluding electric, table covers, bedspreads . .	21,699	645,800	3.36
5	630622	Tents of synthetic fibres (excluding umbrella and play tents)	64	613,539	0.01
6	630232	Bedlinen of man-made fibres (excluding printed, knitted or crocheted)	5,945	410,656	1.45
7	630222	Printed bedlinen of man-made fibres (excluding knitted or crocheted)	21,917	392,194	5.59
8	630612	Tarpaulins, awnings and sunblinds of synthetic fibres (excluding flat covers of light fabrics .	517	363,581	0.14
9	630493	Articles for interior furnishing, of synthetic fibres (excluding knitted or crocheted, . . .	6,691	350,407	1.91
10	630533	Sacks and bags, for the packing of goods, of polyethylene or polypropylene strip or the . . .	74,843	306,820	24.39
11	630293	Toilet linen and kitchen linen of man-made fibres (excluding floorcloths, polishing, . . .	2,168	212,879	1.02
12	630312	Curtains, incl. drapes, and interior blinds, curtain or bed valances of synthetic fibres, knitted . .	303	178,283	0.17

(Value in US\$ Thousand)

Sl. No.	HS Code	Product Description	EU's import from India	EU's import from world	India's % share
13	630253	Table linen of man-made fibres (excluding knitted or crocheted)	2,948	174,704	1.69
14	630539	Sacks and bags, for the packing of goods, of man-made textile materials (excluding of . . .	1,874	66,776	2.81

SOURCE: ITC, UN Comtrade

Import Tariffs

The EU is a customs union that provides for free trade among its 28 member states--Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and The United Kingdom. The EU levies a common tariff on imported products entered from non-EU countries. By virtue of the Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union (BLEU), Belgium and Luxembourg are considered a single territory for the purposes of customs and excise. Members of the European Union apply the EU common external tariff (CET) to goods imported from non-EU countries. Import duties are calculated on an ad valorem basis, i.e., expressed as a percentage of the c.i.f. (cost, insurance and freight) value of the imported goods.

Present Import Tariffs are as follows:

Products	HS Code	Tariff Rate Range (%)
MMF, Filaments and yarns	5401-5406/5501-5511	3.8 - 5
Woven Fabrics of MMF	5407-5408/5512-5516	8
Knit Fabric of MMF	60	6.5 - 8
Non Woven Fabric	5603	4.3
Industrial Fabric	59	0 - 8
Home Furnishings including: bed, bath, kitchen linens, etc.	63	0 - 12

A Huge Business Opportunity

European businesses selling in the EU have unrestricted access to nearly 500 million consumers, helping them to stay competitive. The single market is also attractive to foreign investors. Economic integration helps allowing EU countries to continue trading with one another, rather than resorting to protectionist measures that would worsen the crisis.

Free Movement within EU

EU citizens do not need a passport to travel within the Schengen areas, which currently comprises 26 countries:

- all EU countries except Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland, Romania & the UK
- Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway & Switzerland

Although Schengen countries no longer carry out checks at internal borders, they have stepped up checks on the EU's external borders.

To ensure safety in the Schengen area, these countries have also increased police cooperation, in particular through hot pursuit and continued surveillance of suspects moving between countries. The **Schengen Information System** allows the police and customs and national border control authorities to circulate alerts about wanted or missing people or stolen vehicles and documents.

Export Promotional Initiative of SRTEPC

In view of substantial market opportunities in the EU region and scope to increase our exports to the region, this Council is organising participation of India textile companies in a prestigious international textile event in the United Kingdom in October, 2018 known as "TEXFUSION, UK". Participation in this event has been rewarding for the overseas textile companies as per past records available. It is therefore requested to all the companies to participate in big numbers and take maximum benefits of this opportunity initiated by this Council.



Applications are invited from eligible **Manufacturer-exporters of Man-Made Made-ups**, for issuance of Export Performance Certificate (EPC) by the Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) for the purpose of importing eligible item/s as specified in Customs Notification No. 12/2012 dated 17-03-2012 **(As further amended vide Notification No. 50/2017-Customs dated 30th June, 2017)** for use in the manufacture and export of Man-Made Made ups, by them.

Applications will be received by SRTEPC only from the Manufacturer-exporters of Man-Made Made-ups who are registered with The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council. The applications may be addressed to:-

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council,
Resham Bhavan, 78 Veer Nariman Road,
Churchgate, Mumbai – 400 020.

Application for issuance of Export Performance Certificate should contain the details of exports of only **Man-Made Made Ups exported and proceeds realized (FOB value) in Indian Rupees during the (preceding) Financial Year 2017-18 (i.e. from 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018)**.

Please note that details of shipment/s of free samples should not be included in the Statement of Exports as they are not considered as exports for this purpose. **Exporters should therefore furnish the details of physical / actual exports and proceeds realized.**

Applicant Manufacturer-exporters of Man-Made Made-ups are required to give correct and complete information strictly in the prescribed formats duly supported by Certification from Chartered Accountant and self-certified copies of Bank Certificate of Exports and Realisation towards realisation of export proceeds equivalent to the amount of export performance claimed.

A certificate on the Letter Head of the Exporter to the effect that **the export performance claimed and all the Shipping Bills referred in the statement of exports pertain to Man-Made Made-ups only** should also be submitted.

The Council reserves the right to call for any other documents/information that may be relevant and required for this purpose.

Applications should be accompanied by a Cheque or Pay Order / Demand Draft (in the case of outstation exporters) drawn in favour of 'The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council', payable at Mumbai, for an amount at the rates given below (which include GST @18%) towards Application fees/Service charges (which are non refundable).

Details of the Processing Fee is given here-below:

(I)	Particulars of Export Performance Certificate	Charges (Rs.)
(a)	Export performance upto Rs. 1 crore (Rs. 2500 + 18% GST)	2,950/-
(b)	Export Performance between Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 10 crore) (Rs. 5000 + 18% GST)	5,900/-
(c)	Export Performance Rs. 10 crore and above (Rs. 10000 + 18% GST)	11,800/-
(d)	Late Fee for submission of Application (Rs. 1000 + 18% GST)	1,180/-
(II)	Particulars of Import Certificate	
	Import Certificate (Rs. 250 + 18% GST)	295/-

The Council will verify the details received from exporters and issue the Export Performance Certificate.

For import of the permissible item/s, exporter should apply to the Council (Head Office at Mumbai) **in the prescribed format (given at Annexure)** on the Letter Head of the Exporter) and submit the original Export Performance Certificate well in advance. The Council after verifying the details will issue the Import Certificate which should be submitted to the Customs authorities at the time of clearance of import consignment.



For every import clearance, the exporter shall obtain an Import Certificate from the Council by submitting a separate application each time. The details of imports against the Import Certificates will be debited to the Export Performance Certificate (original) based on the Bill of Entry submitted by the exporter along with the application for Import Certificate.

As an export promotion measure and to accommodate eligible exporters for smooth operation of the scheme for importing of permissible embellishments under above Notification, it has been decided to issue Import Certificate/s as per the actual requirement of the exporters. The scheme would be operative as follows:

- Exporter can apply for issuance of Import Certificate on the basis of provisional Bill of Entry also. For each Import Certificate, a separate application should be submitted to Head Office of SRTEPC.
- Exporter may obtain any number of Import Certificates which will be debited to Export Performance Certificate, as per existing procedure.
- Exporter shall submit a copy of final Bill of Entry issued by Customs within 30 (Thirty) days from the clearance of the goods from the Customs to Head Office of SRTEPC.
- No add back would however be permitted in Export Performance Certificate for the Import Certificate/s once issued for those Bills of Entry which were provisionally prepared and submitted to SRTEPC for obtaining Import Certificate/s.
- The provisional Bill of Entry (from Private Bonded Warehouses/ Customs) should be self-certified by exporter.

Joint Secretary (Drawback) vide Letter No. 609/218/98-DBK dated 04/05/2000 has clarified that duty free clearance of embellishments from Private Bonded Warehouse is permitted. Exporters, therefore, while seeking imports from the Private Bonded Warehouse should carefully fill Serial No. 8 of application for issuance of Import Certificate, at the time of applying for Import Certificate.

The last date for receipt of the applications for issuance of Export Performance Certificate (EPC) for the Financial Year 2017-2018 is **31st October, 2018**.

Applications received after the last date (i.e. **31st October, 2018**) will however be accepted along with late fees of Rs.1,000/- + applicable GST per application in addition to the normal fees/ charges, as prescribed at Sl. No. 8 above.

Export Performance Certificate issued for the year 2018-19 if unutilized may be surrendered to the Council after 1st April, 2019, for cancellation.

For more detailed information, members are requested to kindly refer to the CIRCULAR available on the Council 's website www.srtepc.in.

Annexure

The List of the items to be imported along with the Condition is as follows :

Sr. No.	Chapter or Heading or Sub-Heading or Tariff Item	Item	Condition
313		(a) Zipper, Fastner and slider (b) Lace (c) Velcro tape (d) Elastic tape,curtain tape and edgeband tape (e) Curtain hook (f) Button and eyelet (g) Tassel (h) Bead and sequin (i) Insert (j) Sample fabric of total length upto 500 Meters imported during one financial year (k) Embroidery Threads [Sr. No. (l) to (o) inserted by Notification No. 21/2013-Cus dated 18th April 2013] (l) Sewing Threads (m) Poly Wadding Materials (n) Quilted Wadding Materials (o) Printed Bags [Sr. No. (p) to (r) inserted by Notification No. 12/2014-Cus dated 11th July 2014] (p) Fusible embroidery motifs or prints (q) Anti-theft devices like labels, tags and sensors (r) Pin bullets for packing, plastic tag bullets, metal tabs, bows, ring and slider and rings	33 (given below)



Condition No.	Conditions
33.	<p>If,-</p> <p>(a) the goods are imported by a manufacturer of handloom made ups or cotton made-ups or man-made made ups for use in the manufacture of said goods for export by that manufacturer and the said manufacturer is registered with the Handloom Export Promotion Council or Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council or Synthetic & Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council as the case may be;</p> <p>(b) the total value of goods imported shall not exceed 5 percent of the FOB value of handloom made ups or 1 percent of the FOB value of cotton made ups or man-made made ups as the case may be, exported during the preceding financial year;</p> <p>(c) the importer produces a certificate from the Handloom Export Promotion Council or Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council or Synthetic & Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council certifying the value of exports made during the financial year mentioned in sub-condition (b), and also the value and quantity of goods already imported under this notification during the current financial year.</p>

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*Conditions apply

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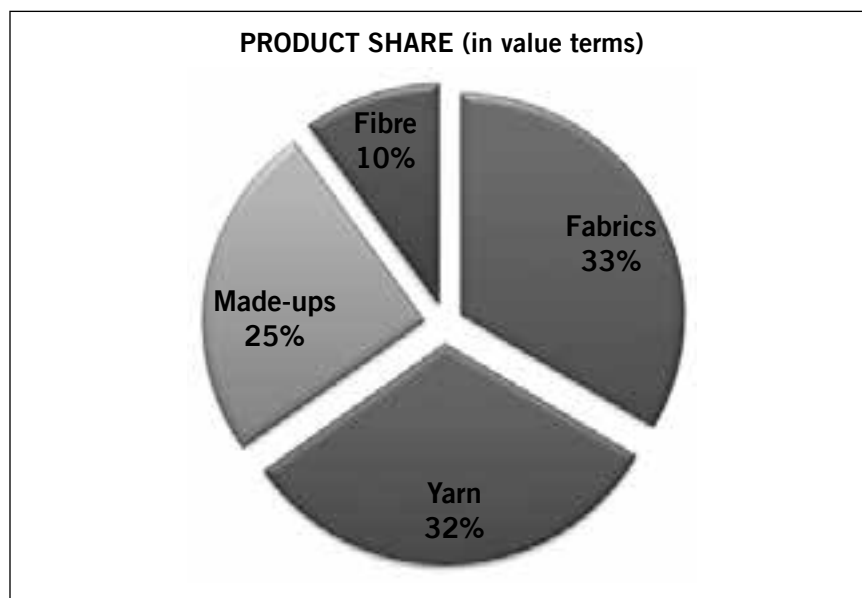


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REVIEW OF INDIA'S MMF TEXTILES EXPORTS FROM APRIL-JANUARY 2017-18

Exports of Indian MMF textiles during April-January 2017-18 were US\$ 4980.03 Million in value terms against US\$ 4786.75 Million, witnessing a growth of 4.04% as compared to the same period of the previous year (SOURCE: MOC)

Product	Unit	in Quantity (Thousand)		% Change Apr- Apr-Jan 2017-18	In Value USD Mn		% Change Apr-Jan 2017-18
		Apr-Jan 2017-18	Apr-Jan 2016-17		Apr-Jan 2017-18	Apr-Jan 2016-17	
Fabrics	Kgs	65040.19	58786.66	10.64	1666.58	1646.53	1.22
	Sqm	1361511.28	1331268.77	2.27			
Yarn	Kgs.	823814.33	843634.65	-2.35	1583.77	1463.12	8.25
Made-ups	Kgs.	253982.00	217664.30	16.69	1233.90	1185.85	4.05
	Nos.	89571.96	116688.22	-23.24			
	Sqm	135.18	78.37	72.49			
Fibre	Kgs.	321149.66	342677.73	-6.28	495.78	491.25	0.92
Total					4980.03	4786.75	4.04



HIGHLIGHTS

- Overall exports in April-January 2017-18 in value terms were US\$ 4980.03 million against US\$ 4786.75 million, witnessing a growth of 4.04% as compared to the same period of the previous year.
- Exports of Fabrics dominated with 33% share followed by Yarn 32%, Made-ups 25% and Fibre 10% in the Indian MMF textile exports.
- Share of the value added segments like fabrics and Made-ups increased to 58% of total exports.
- All the segments witnessed positive growth in exports like Yarn 8.25%, made-ups 4.05%, fabrics 1.22% and fibre 0.92%.
- In the fabrics segment Synthetic Filament Fabrics (US\$ 457.09 Mn) continued to be the top exported product in India's MMF textile exports followed by Polyester Filament Fabrics (US\$ 384.22 Mn) and Polyester Viscose (US\$ 267.74 Mn) during April-January 2017-18.

- Viscose Spun and Nylon Filament Fabrics exports have shown excellent results with 35.56% and 36.89% growth respectively but export of Polyester Spun Fabrics exports have declined by 59.36%.
- In case of MMF yarn exports, Polyester Filament Yarn was the leading item with exports worth US\$ 910.86 Mn followed by Polyester Cotton Yarn (US\$ 139.75 Mn), Polyester Spun Yarn (US\$ 132.42 Mn).
- Nylon Filament Yarns exports have been excellent with over 84.82% growths.
- In Made-ups, exports of Bulk Containers was the leading item with exports worth US\$ 489.01 Mn followed by Shawls/Scarves and Muffler worth US\$ 101.79 Mn and US\$ 98.45 Mn respectively.
- Viscose Staple Fibre (US\$ 239.60 Mn) was the leading item in the MMF category followed by Polyester Staple Fibre (US\$ 208.38 Mn).
- USA was the leading market for Indian MMF textiles during April-January 2017-18 with 31.75% share in total exports followed by Turkey 28.56% and UAE 19.50%
- Leading markets with positive growth were Brazil (29.92%), Pakistan (21.12%), Italy (5.24%) Bangladesh (5.57%), Germany (2.89%), UK (0.35%) and Sri Lanka (0.23%).
- UAE was the main market to which exports declined during April-January 2017-18.
- Bangladesh, UAE and USA were the leading markets for Indian MMF Fabrics during April-January 2017-18 as compared to the same period of last year.
- USA was also leading market for Indian MMF Made-ups and Fibre during the period.
- Key markets for yarn were Turkey and Brazil.
- Made-ups exports to Pakistan showed an impressive growth rate (490.97%).

PRODUCT-WISE EXPORT PERFORMANCE APRIL-JANUARY 2017-18

Value in US\$ Million

Product Description	Apr-Jan 2017-18	Apr-Jan 2016-17	Net Change	% Grw/Dec
FABRICS (WOVEN+NON-WOVEN+KNITTED)				
Synthetic Filament	457.09	396.42	60.67	15.30
Polyester Filament	384.22	396.94	-12.72	-3.20
Polyester Viscose	267.74	267.48	0.26	0.10
Polyester Blended	110.12	158.57	-48.45	-30.55
Viscose Spun	74.03	54.61	19.42	35.56
Viscose Blended	36.75	36.68	0.07	0.19
Synthetic Cotton	36.31	37.23	-0.92	-2.47
Polyester Wool	35.74	38.70	-2.96	-7.65
Polyester Cotton	33.12	33.91	-0.79	-2.33
Nylon Filament	18.33	13.39	4.94	36.89
Polyester Spun	16.20	39.86	-23.66	-59.36
Other Fabrics	196.93	172.74	24.19	14.00
Total Fabrics	1666.58	1646.53	20.05	1.22

Product Description	Apr-Jan 2017-18	Apr-Jan 2016-17	Net Change	% Grw/Dec
YARN				
Polyester Filament	910.86	824.62	86.24	10.46
Polyester Cotton	139.75	133.07	6.68	5.02
Polyester Spun	132.42	124.05	8.37	6.75
Polyester Viscose	117.13	98.65	18.48	18.73
Viscose Spun	63.92	90.50	-26.58	-29.37
Viscose Filament	44.30	41.65	2.65	6.36
Acrylic Spun	37.81	38.76	-0.95	-2.45
Synthetic Spun	31.99	26.23	5.76	21.96
Polyester Wool	22.25	19.33	2.92	15.11
Nylon Filament	15.58	8.43	7.15	84.82
Viscose Cotton	9.51	9.78	-0.27	-2.76
Acrylic Cotton	58.25	48.05	10.20	21.23
Total Yarn	1583.77	1463.12	120.65	8.25
MADE-UPS				
Bulk Containers	489.01	378.31	110.70	29.26
Shawls/Scarves	101.79	121.73	-19.94	-16.38
Muffler	98.45	162.18	-63.73	-39.30
Motifs	65.70	66.76	-1.06	-1.59
Fishing Net	43.30	38.62	4.68	12.12
Blanket	27.45	28.80	-1.35	-4.69
Rope	20.70	33.80	-13.10	-38.76
Bed Linen	17.84	16.89	0.95	5.62
Bedsheet	15.02	13.30	1.72	12.93
Sacks and Bags	13.08	9.89	3.19	32.25
Dress Material	12.45	11.68	0.77	6.59
Furnishing Articles	11.47	8.45	3.02	35.74
Other Made-ups	317.64	295.44	22.20	7.51
Total Fibre	1233.90	1185.85	48.05	4.05
FIBRE				
Viscose Staple	239.60	257.58	-17.98	-6.98
Polyester Staple	208.38	180.60	27.78	15.38
Acrylic Staple	28.56	22.99	5.57	24.23
Other Fibre	19.12	30.08	-10.96	-36.44
Total Fibre	495.66	491.25	4.41	0.90

*Flexible Intermediate Bulk Container (HS Code 63053200)/big bag/bulk bag or Super Sack is a standardized container in large dimensions for storing and transporting dry, flow able products, for example sand, fertilizers , and granules of M, plastics, most often made of thick woven polyethylene or polypropylene, either coated or uncoated. **Other Made-ups include Tents, Sails, Rags, Embroidery (without visible ground) & Accessories.

Synthetic Filament: HS Codes 54077200, 54072090, 56031200, 54077400, 54079400, 54079200

LEADING MARKETS

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Jan 2017-18	Apr-Jan 2016-17	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
USA	529.26	476.40	52.86	11.10
TURKEY	475.98	384.29	91.69	23.86
UAE	325.14	482.23	-157.09	-32.58
BANGLADESH	312.00	295.55	16.45	5.57
BRAZIL	278.88	214.65	64.23	29.92
SRI LANKA	137.96	137.65	0.31	0.23
UK	137.05	136.57	0.48	0.35
ITALY	134.83	128.12	6.71	5.24
GERMANY	127.61	124.02	3.59	2.89
PAKISTAN	118.31	97.68	20.63	21.12

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF FABRICS

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Jan 2017-18	Apr-Jan 2016-17	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
BANGLADESH	185.70	160.66	25.04	15.59
UAE	181.03	288.11	-107.08	-37.17
USA	138.72	133.40	5.32	3.99
SRI LANKA	112.24	109.29	2.95	2.70
PAKISTAN	58.75	52.56	6.19	11.78
UK	51.73	54.51	-2.78	-5.10
SAUDI ARABIA	37.91	21.40	16.51	77.15
EGYPT	27.18	28.05	-0.87	-3.10
ITALY	20.94	20.32	0.62	3.05
BELGIUM	16.96	17.27	-0.31	-1.80

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF YARN

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Jan 2017-18	Apr-Jan 2016-17	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
TURKEY	397.48	311.17	86.31	27.74
BRAZIL	259.92	202.08	57.84	28.62
BANGLADESH	79.81	95.05	-15.24	-16.03
EGYPT	72.34	62.88	9.46	15.04
USA	52.23	51.21	1.02	1.99
BELGIUM	36.22	39.33	-3.11	-7.91
PAKISTAN	25.60	23.75	1.85	7.79
ITALY	21.12	21.37	-0.25	-1.17
GERMANY	18.55	17.12	1.43	8.35
SRI LANKA	17.64	19.07	-1.43	-7.50

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF MADE-UPS

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Jan 2017-18	Apr-Jan 2016-17	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
USA	262.76	220.03	42.73	19.42
UAE	128.96	180.68	-51.72	-28.63
GERMANY	84.59	80.92	3.67	4.54
ITALY	76.62	73.57	3.05	4.15
UK	71.10	69.84	1.26	1.80
BELGIUM	24.95	21.81	3.14	14.40
SAUDI ARABIA	24.64	26.51	-1.87	-7.05
PAKISTAN	18.97	3.21	15.76	490.97
SRI LANKA	8.03	8.86	-0.83	-9.37
TURKEY	6.94	7.47	-0.53	-7.10

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF FIBRE

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Jan 2017-18	Apr-Jan 2016-17	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
USA	75.55	71.76	3.79	5.28
TURKEY	60.89	59.12	1.77	2.99
UAE	0.76	2.38	-1.62	-68.07
BANGLADESH	39.67	34.99	4.68	13.38
BRAZIL	9.68	6.48	3.20	49.38
SRI LANKA	0.05	0.43	-0.38	-88.37
UK	2.67	3.05	-0.38	-12.46
ITALY	16.15	12.86	3.29	25.58
GERMANY	12.31	14.02	-1.71	-12.20
PAKISTAN	14.99	18.16	-3.17	-17.46

Continued from page 1

Inauguration of SRTEPC's Regional Office in Coimbatore and Seminar on 'Emerging Scope for Man-made Fibre Textiles – Growth & Future Sustainability'

Shri P. Nataraj, Chairman, SIMA, delivered the welcome address by extending a warm welcome to the delegation from SRTEPC and for joining hands with SIMA to promote MMFT in the South Region. Shri Nataraj said that the writing was clearly visible on the wall for mills in South India to get into MMF production. Lauding the joint efforts of Grasim Industries Ltd and SIMA in creating a successful model in value addition of MMF by getting a large number of weavers and leading textile mills into viscose, he further added “we can convert at least 5 million spindles in South India and an equal value in the downstream sectors into synthetic”.

Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Convener and Immediate Past Chairman, SRTEPC took stage to deliver the key note address. He began by thanking Shri P. Nataraj, Chairman, SIMA, Shri Senthilkumar, Past Chairman SIMA and welcomed all participants to the Seminar. Shri Rajvanshi endorsed the views of Shri P. Nataraj of converting at least 5 million spindles in South India from cotton to MMFT. Citing the MoT's objective of achieving USD 300 billion turnover of the Indian Textile industry, the Convener was of the firm belief that it is MMFT that will pave the way for achieving this growth from the present USD 140 billion. Sharing his reasons with the audience, Shri Rajvanshi said that unlike cotton and other natural fibres, synthetic fibre was not restricted by its production capacity nor was it subject to price fluctuations as is experienced by the cotton industry.

Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, opened his presentation by thanking Shri P. Nataraj, Shri Senthilkumar and Dr. K.Selvaraju for extending support to SRTEPC for opening its Regional Office in their premises. He thanked all the participants for taking time out to attend the seminar. Speaking on the SRTEPC's activities, services and initiatives and its role in Export Promotion as well as the scope for Indian MMFT, Shri Aggarwal said that the Indian Man-made Fiber Industry had massive capacities and there was scope for growth. He added that the sector was vertically integrated and exported to most of the countries in the world. The Chairman, SRTEPC enumerated the products under the purview of the Council that included Polyester, Viscose and Acrylic Fibers as well as different kinds of yarns. Yarn and Fabrics formed the major component of the export basket he said while

setting a target of USD 7.5 billion in exports for the current fiscal.

Shri V. Jaigopal, MD, Madura Coats Pvt Ltd, one of our esteemed members from the South took centre stage for presenting on 'Emerging Potential & Trends in MMF Textiles'. He opened his presentation by saying that he did not wish to provide any data or facts about the MMF industry which are readily available, but would like to use the opportunity to offer pointers or directions in which the future of the industry lies. Shri Jaigopal played a video about a young entrepreneur of Indian origin in USA, rewriting the rules of the game by investing his company's efforts into creating a product and brand 'Silic', t-shirts made out of Polyester that cannot be stained by liquids, which just fall off the surface of the tees.

He proceeded to spell out the game changers of the textile industry, highlighted the fact that the future was 'Synthetic'. He provided examples to explain how the 'game changers' were driving the future of the textile industry. Shri Jaigopal stressed on the importance of an FTA with EU to increase the scope of exports from India, of the reasons for the perception of apparel from Sri Lanka enjoying a better reputation. He finally ended a very innovative presentation by quoting management guru Peter Drucker's words “The best way to predict the future is to create it”.

The last presentation was made by Shri D. Jayaraman, Asst. director at SITRA (The South India Textile Research Association), deputizing for Dr. Prakash Vasudevan, Director, SITRA. SITRA has been doing some phenomenal work in South and they presented on how they can hand hold the change from Natural to Synthetic in their presentation “Perspective of the increasing significance of Man-made Fibre Textiles”. Shri Jayaraman presented data on the falling production of Natural and the increasing production of manmade. He highlighted the reasons for the increase in usage of synthetic and its benefits and the future projection of demand based on global forecasts. He brought out the compulsions for the shift from natural to synthetic clearly specifying the advantages, the cost benefits to be derived and the role of SITRA to make this changeover as smooth and effective as should be.



Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Chairman, SRTEPC speaking at the inauguration and Seminar

Shri Ronak Rughani, Vice Chairman, SRTEPC then gave the Vote of Thanks, drawing on the contents of the presentation and stressing on the need for ‘collaboration’ between all the industry stakeholders to increase the share of MMFT in the global scheme of things. He thanked all the speakers, the Chairman, Past Chairman, Sec. General and staff of SIMA for the excellent organization. The Vice Chairman offered his thanks to the Chairman, Convener, COA members, Past Chairman and ED of SRTEPC, as well as thanked the Press and the participants for their presence to make the Seminar a successful one.

Press Meet

The Seminar was followed by Lunch organized for all participants, where the Chief Guest, Dr. Kavita Gupta, IAS, Textile Commissioner was also present. Soon after lunch, Dr. Kavita Gupta addressed the sizeable section of Press and Media who had assembled



Shri Ronak Rughani, Vice Chairman, SRTEPC proposing the Vote of Thanks at the inauguration and Seminar

in anticipation to record her insights and views. The Textile Commissioner fielded all the questions thrown at her, backed by facts and figures. She reiterated the Govt’s objective of targeting USD 300 billion size of the Indian Textile Industry, up from USD 140 billion presently. Laying her logic before the press she said that the current production of cotton is 6.5 billion kgs and 2.5 billion of synthetic fiber. For the Textile Industry to more than double its size, the production of synthetic fiber should reach 9 billion kgs, since cotton was only expected to go up to 8 billion kg. This is the potential for growth that she envisaged for MMFT.

She emphasized that the two segments should not compete with one another but should complement each other to grow the Indian Industry. Dr. Gupta stressed that the Govt has invested over Rs. 30000 crores across the textile value chain in the past 3 to 4 years under the TUF scheme. On being questioned about the



Shri P. Nataraj, Chairman, SIMA addressing at the inauguration and Seminar.



Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Convener talking to the audience at the Inauguration and Seminar

SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR



Dr. K. Selvaraju,
Secretary General, SIMA



Dr. Jayaraman,
Asst. Director, SITRA



Shri V. Jaigopal,
M.D., Madura Coats Pvt. Ltd.

Govt.'s stand on increasing imports, she was hopeful of a solution in the near future. She also pointed out that the pending claims of Rebate of State Levies will soon be released and of pursuing the Govt on additional funds required for the same. She spoke about the recent Mega Textile Expo organized in Bangalore that brought the entire textile value chain under one roof.

Inauguration of SRTEPC Regional Office

Dr. Kavita Gupta, in the presence of the officials from SRTEPC and SIMA as well as the media persons then proceeded to inaugurate SRTEPC's Regional Office, by cutting the ribbon. She was presented with a bouquet by Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Chairman, SRTEPC and Shri P. Nataraj, Chairman, SIMA. Mr. M. Duraisamy, MD, Surya Cotton Mills and Past Chairman, PDEXCIL declared his intent to become the first member of SRTEPC, post the opening of

this office. He was handed the documents for membership by the Textile Commissioner amongst much applause.

Proposed MOU with SITRA

The SRTEPC Regional Office opening was followed by the COA meeting. The entire delegation of SRTEPC officials then visited the facility of SITRA, where they were given a guided tour to the work being carried out by Dr. Prakash Vasudevan and his team. The impressive campus, the machines and apparatus being used, the passion and commitment of the employees impressed one and all and Chairman Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal and ED, Shri S. Balaraju committed to enter into an MOU with SITRA to take advantage of the various facilities being offered for the benefit of SRTEPC members.



Dr. Kavita Gupta
speaking at the Meeting of the Committee of Administration



View of the audience at the Seminar.

'Govt to allocate ₹900 crore for ROSL benefits'

Textile Commissioner Kavitha Gupta informs of plan to enrol workers under EPFO schemes as a means to look after their welfare

EPFO TO ENRICH WELFARE

47 percent, 120 billion dollars worth of goods are produced in 10 various countries. The government has had a target to be achieved in the next 10 years by 2020, and 2020 is the year for the vision.

Textile Commissioner Kavitha Gupta says that the government will be allocating ₹900 crore for ROSL benefits. The government is also working on the welfare of the workers under EPFO.

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WORLD LEADING

The world is leading in the production of synthetic and rayon textiles. The world is leading in the production of synthetic and rayon textiles.

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இந்தியாவின் மொத்த ஜவுளி வர்த்தகத்தை 300 பில்லியன் டாலராக உயர்த்த இலக்கு

300 பில்லியன் டாலர் வரை உயர்த்த இலக்கு

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Fibre production should increase substantially: Textile Commissioner

Textile Commissioner Kavitha Gupta says that the government will be allocating ₹900 crore for ROSL benefits.

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'Synergy between cotton and synthetic fabrics need of the hour'

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2025-ஆம் ஆண்டுக்குள் ஜவுளி வர்த்தகத்தை 300 பில்லியன் டாலராக அதிகரிக்கத் திட்டம்

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SRTEPC opens regional office

Coimbatore: The Synthetic and Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) has opened its regional office in Coimbatore on Friday at the Southern India Mills Association (SIMA) premises. The Textiles Commissioner, Ms Kavitha Gupta inaugurated the office in presence of SIMA Chairman, M. R. Nataraj. Set up in 1954 to promote exports of Indian made fiber textile products, the SRTEPC has 3,000 members across the country including in textile clusters of Mumbai, Surat, Bhavnagar, Bhilwara, Panipat

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RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP



It is time to renew your membership of the Council for the year 2018-19 and enjoy the benefits provided by SRTEPC to its members.

SRTEPC has lined up participation in International Exhibitions in Hong Kong, Peru, UK, Colombia and Morocco in this year. SRTEPC is also organizing the Reverse Buyer Seller Meet (RBSM) in Surat in the month of September 2018. Nearly 200 buyers from various countries will be visiting the booths of our member exporters to conduct business.

SRTEPC has among others, helped in refund of pending IGST claims, made representations to organizations such as DGFT, EPCG, and Customs etc for refund of drawback claims & resolution of other issues. Initiatives in 2017-18 included representations that resulted in increase of MEIS Incentives & Rates, Validity of Duty Credit Scrips, Restoring Benefits under Export Promotion Schemes, extension of ROSL Scheme and resolution of issues related to implementation of GST including uniform tax rate.

Hurry Up and renew your membership online by visiting www.srtepc.in or alternatively contact Membership Dept. (T: 22 62318282 E: mem@srtepc.in).

Effective from 1st April 2018, the Annual Membership Fee has been revised to **Rs. 12331 (incl of GST)**. For SSI units the renewal fees has been revised to Rs. 8201 (incl. of GST).

If undelivered, return to:

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council

Resham Bhavan, 78, Veer Nariman Road, Mumbai - 400 020.