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COUNCIL ORGANIZES FIRST EVER EXHIBITION OF TEXTILES (INTEXPO) IN DUBAI, UAE

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC), as part of its Export Promotion Program for the year 2016-17, organized for the first time an exclusive 2-day exhibition of Textiles at Plaza Hall, Radisson Blu Deira Creek Hotel, Dubai, UAE on 19th & 20th February 2017. Nineteen companies participated in the Exhibition organized under the Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme of MOC, Govt. of India. M/s India Trade & Exhibition Centre (ITEC) was appointed as the Event Management Agency to assist in organizing various logistical requirement for the Exhibition.

Shri Anurag Bhushan, Consul General of India of the Indian Consulate in Dubai inaugurating the INTEXPO in Dubai, UAE

Participants & Display of Products

Nineteen member-companies – representing 16 companies from SRTEPC, two from AEPC and participation of National Jute Board itself, showcased a wide array of products like suiting, shirting, dress fabrics, made-ups, yarn and apparels of different varieties.

Inauguration

The Exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Anurag Bhushan, Consul General of India of the Indian Consulate in Dubai in the presence of visiting Buyers, local Dignitaries, Mr. Rahul Srivastava, Consul of CGI and Media persons.

Buyer-Seller Meetings during the Exhibition

Select Business Meetings on a one-to-one basis was also organized for participating member companies during the two-day event. These specially arranged meetings were organized by the Professional Event Management Agency (India Trade & Exhibition Centre {ITEC}) on the basis of the product-profile of the participating Indian companies. Besides these pre-fixed meetings, the exhibition was also open to the UAE Buyers for the two days of the Exhibition.

Response at the Exhibition

The Exhibition & Buyer-Seller Meets in Dubai attracted around 90 textile exporters/agents, wholesalers and other concerned with the textile Industry & Trade. Most of the participants appeared to be successful in establishing good potential trade-contacts. According to the initial feedback received from the participating companies, an estimated amount of Rs.5.20 crores was generated during the INTEXPO in UAE. A few participants even reported for being able to book some spot trial orders valuing around Rs.2.59 crores.

Publicity & Media Coverage

INTEXPO, UAE was extensively publicized by the Event Management Agency through Ads. In some of the local leading Dailies, telemarketing, mass emailing, direct invitation by letters/Exhibition Flyers, and personal contacts with those Buyers considered bigger in the market.

After the Inauguration, Shri Anurag Bhushan, Consul General of India interacted with the Media, and briefed them about the capability of India - as a sourcing centre for Global Buyers to buying their requirements of textiles, besides providing the details of the show & its participants.

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TAIWAN PAVILION @ TECHNOTEX-2017

TAIWAN FASHION plus FUNCTION

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Editor: **V. ANIL KUMAR**

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Dear Member,

I am very happy to be amongst you to continue to serve the Council as its Chairman. Looking back at my journey with MMF textiles, this is a great honour and privilege for me. I express my profound gratitude to the members of the Committee of Administration for reposing their trust and confidence in me. It shall be my endeavor always, to address the problems of the members from all sections and voice their concerns with the various authorities and strive to resolve the same insistently. I welcome your suggestions/views and will respond to the same in a time-bound manner. I look forward to the continued participation of all the members in all the activities of the Council.

I take this opportunity to place on record our appreciation to Shri Anil Rajvanshi, the outgoing Chairman for the commendable and sincere work put in by him during his tenure and look forward to his continued involvement in all the activities of the Council.

On the export front things are improving with Country's merchandise exports having registered a double-digit growth in the month of February 2017 and analysts believe that it could be the highest growth witnessed in about five years. It is also reported that improved international demand is one of reasons for the positive trend. I hope that this continues for the last month of the financial year and we can if not achieve the target at least go close to the mark. We are encouraged by the initiatives taken by the Government in announcing special packages for apparel in June 2016 and for made-ups in Dec. 2016. The industry is also benefitting from Government initiatives like the expanded MEIS, Interest subvention for pre and post shipment credit, Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS), Pradhan Mantri Paridhan Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMPRY) and Scheme of Rebate of State Levies (RoSL), Integrated Skill Development Scheme for enhancing its growth and competitiveness.

Exports of Indian MMF textiles during April- Dec. 2016-17 has shown a decline of 11 per cent compared to the same period last year. The continued decline across all the segments viz. Fibre (12%), Yarn (11%), Fabrics(15%) and Made-ups (4%) is a matter of concern. In the wake of spurts in global demand a policy stimulus for the entire Textile sector is needed. We are hopeful that much more initiatives will be forthcoming for the Powerloom and in the Annual Trade Policy fronts which will give the much-needed boost to exports for the growth of the Textile sector in the Country. Continued policy support is the need of the hour for a labour intensive sector like Textiles in the wake of various distortions in global and domestic market.

Friends, as envisaged the roll out of Goods & Services Taxes (GST) is progressing as planned by the Government and the GST Council in its recent meeting decided that GST will be applicable from 1st July 2017. The Officers are working on the fitment rates and have finalized a four-tier tax structure viz. 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent besides nil rate. The GST Council has also cleared a Union Commerce

Department proposal for the nil rate to be applied for goods and services going to special economic zones. We need to be adequately prepared to face the challenges emerging from this land mark indirect tax reform, which would ultimately benefit the industry and the nation leading to increased GDP thereby enhancing the demand for goods and services across the board. I am certain this uniform tax regime across the value chain will bring positive changes in the textiles sector.

I am glad to mention that Council's first ever Exhibition of Textiles – INTEXPO in Dubai organized on 19th & 20th February 2017 received positive response from the UAE buyers. UAE tops as the leading market for MMF textiles. I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to Mr. Anurag Bhushan, Consul General of the Consulate General of India in Dubai for inaugurating the Exhibition and interact with the participants. I am also grateful to the Consul, Mr. Rahul Srivastava and his officials at the Consulate as well as the Embassy of India, Abu Dhabi for their support and help in organizing a successful Exhibition in Dubai.

Continuing its tradition of organizing events in the Africa region, this year also Council organized INTEXPO events in Ethiopia and Kenya from 6-10 March 2017. I wish to thank all the Member exporters who participated in these events. I express my sincere gratitude to Sh. Anurag Srivastava Ambassador of India to Ethiopia and Smt. Suchitra Durai, High Commissioner of India to Kenya for inaugurating the events in these countries. I also place on record our thanks to all the support given by the Embassy officials in both Kenya and Ethiopia.

The Council has also planned an extensive Export Promotional Programme for the year 2017-18. The prominent among them is Textiles India 2017, the first ever mega trade event depicting India's strength in textiles realm to be organized by the Ministry of Textiles during 30th June – 2nd July 2017 in Gandhinagar. Friends, I seek your wholehearted co-operation and participation in these Programmes of the Council and help us to project India as a reliable sourcing destination of MMF textiles.

I wish to mention that Membership is one of the important pillars for sustaining the Council's activities. May I call upon all our members to come forward and renew their membership for 2017-18 and strengthen the Council to enhance its activities for promotion of MMF Textiles exports and growth.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

SRI NARAIN AGGARWAL
CHAIRMAN
The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council

UK

Exports of textiles and clothing up by 7.05% in 2016

Exports of apparel and textiles from the UK have increased by 7.05 per cent to £9.1 billion in 2016, compared to exports of £8.5 billion in 2015. The European Union was the biggest market for UK's textiles and apparel, accounting for 74 per cent of all UK textile and apparel exports.

UK's textile and apparel exports have grown over the last five years. During 2012-2016, apparel exports alone have risen by 41 per cent to £6.2 billion, up £1.8 billion. This rise in exports is due to a number of reasons including an increased interest in heritage UK manufacturing, the creativity of British fashion designers as well as the importance of the UK as a key apparel trading hub.

UK apparel and textile exports to the EU rose from £4.9 million in 2012 to £6.7 billion in 2016, representing an increase of £1.8 billion or 36 per cent.

Meanwhile, the UK trade deficit, which reflects the difference between imports and exports, increased to £15.4 billion in 2016, up from £15 billion in 2015. This figure represents an increase in the value of imports from £23.4 billion in 2015 to £24.5 billion in 2016.

Source : Fibre2fashion

PAKISTAN

Textile and clothing exports drop in January

Pakistan's textile and clothing exports fell 1.30 per cent to US$1.064 billion in January on a year-on-year basis. The fall in exports was mainly driven by value-added products.

Last year, the government announced a textile policy that gave a 4pc rebate on the exports of readymade garments on a 10pc incremental increase over the preceding year. The rebate was 2pc and 1pc on the incremental increase in the exports of home textiles and fabric, respectively. No support was announced on raw material or yarn exports.

Under this policy, the government paid Rs2.5bn to exporters in the last fiscal year. Jan 15, 2017 onwards, the government not only increased the rebate to 7pc for readymade garments, but also allowed cash support of 4pc on yarn and grey cloth under the Rs180bn package announced by the prime minister.

Product-wise details show that the exports of readymade garments fell 3.60pc while those of knitwear dropped 3.44pc in January. Exports of bedwear went up 2.17pc, but those of towels fell 1.36pc.

Exports of made-up articles, excluding towels, witnessed negative growth of 13.36pc while those of tents, canvas and tarpaulin grew 39.37pc.

Exports of raw cotton also recorded a year-on-year decline of 49.77pc. Art, silk and synthetic textile exports declined 14.11pc.

One reason for the fall in exports of value-added textile products is that Pakistan's preferential access to the European Union under the GSP-Plus scheme did not boost the country's exports owing to a slump in demand in the 28-nation bloc.

In the seven months to January, the value of exported textile and clothing products fell 1.54pc year-on-year to US$7.224bn. One of the reasons cited for the textile package was the need for countering the rising cost of production. The package will be effective from January 2017 to June 2018.

Overall export proceeds in July-Jan fell 3.21pc to US$11.685 bn.

Source : Dawn.com

CHINA

Textile and clothing exports up 10.2% in January 2017

Exports of textiles and garments from China resumed growth in the first month of 2017. In terms of RMB, exports grew 10.2 per cent year-on-year to 165.58 billion yuan. Category-wise, textile exports inched up 11.2 per cent to 66.41 billion yuan while clothing exports increased 9.5 per cent to 99.27 billion yuan.

During the month, China imported about 174,300 tons of cotton yarn. This takes the total cotton yarn imported in the first five months of the ongoing Chinese cotton season beginning September 1 to 849,500 tons, which is a decrease of 5.54 per cent year-on-year.

In January 2017, China's cotton imports amounted to 114,900 tons at an average import price of $1,799/ton. The average price rose by $4 or 0.2 per cent compared to the average price of December 2016. However, the average price was up 8.5 per cent compared to January 2016. In the first five months of the cotton season, China's total cotton imports stood at 41.51 million tons, down 9.9 per cent year-on-year.

Country-wise, the US was the top cotton supplier to China in January 2017, followed by India.

Source : Fibre2fashion

BANGLADESH

Requests for duty free access to US and Brazil

Bangladeshi RMG products currently do not have duty-free access to US and Brazil, even though these two countries enjoy duty-free access for the cotton they export to Bangladesh for its apparel industry. Moreover, the US suspended Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) facilities for Bangladesh in June 2013.

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) in a letter sent to the US ambassador to Bangladesh in recently has requested for duty-free access to the US for Bangladeshi RMG products made from cotton imported from the US.

A similar proposal was sent to the Brazilian government via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently.

Bangladesh is the second largest importer of cotton in the world; the country imported 6.1 million bales of cotton last year. There are 430 textile mills in Bangladesh with a spindle capacity of 11.50 million.

Bangladesh has long been importing cotton from the US to make apparel for export and hence they firmly believe that US exports of cotton will grow significantly if apparel products made of the US cotton receive favourable treatment in terms of tariff in accessing the US market, the BGMEA president said in the letter.

If the US government extended duty-free market access for Bangladeshi RMG products made from US produced cotton, it would create a win-win situation for bilateral trade between the two countries.

The US is the single largest export destination for Bangladeshi products, especially apparel. According to BGMEA data, in July-December of the 2016-17 fiscal year, Bangladesh earned US$2.56bn, a 9.11% decline from the US$2.81bn earnings during the same period in 2015-16.

However, in the 2015-16 fiscal year, export to the US saw a 6.36% growth, amounting to US$5.62bn, compared to the $5.28bn earnings in the 2014-15 fiscal year.

Brazil also has high potential for Bangladeshi apparel products, but their import duty is high, ranging from 30% to 35%, said the BGMEA letter sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Bangladesh needs to find a way to secure duty-free access to the Brazilian market and the Brazilian government should consider providing duty-free access for Bangladeshi apparel products made from Brazillian cotton exported to Bangladesh.

In July-December of 2016-17 fiscal year, Bangladesh earned US$41m from garment exports to Brazil compared to US$75m in the same period a year earlier. In FY2015-16, total RMG exports to Brazil reached US$120m.

The BGMEA argued that providing duty free access for Bangladeshi apparel products made from Brazilian cotton exported to Bangladesh would prove profitable for both Bangladesh and Brazil in terms of trade.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

USA

Sales of garments up 3% in 2016

Apparel sales across women, men and children grew by 3 per cent in the US in 2016, to reach $218.7 billion. Changing consumer needs and an evolving retail marketplace were the drivers behind the apparel industry's overall sales performance last year. The industry had positive overall performance with growth in most categories.

The apparel industry of the US has struggled to exceed 3 per cent sales growth since 2013, as significant gains in select consumer and retail segments were offset by declines in others.

The growth of online shopping, which was underscored during and immediately following the holiday season, was one of the most highlighted retail shifts of 2016. In 2011 online represented only 11 per cent of total US men’s, women’s, and children’s apparel sales, but in 2016 that number rose to 19 per cent.

Dresses retained their rank as one of the top performing categories in overall sales and growth with 5 per cent growth to reach $15.6 billion. Last year was also a positive one for jeans, another critical category for apparel, which finally rebounded in 2016 to align with the industry's 3 per cent growth rate, reaching $15.3 billion in sales.

Source : Fibre2fashion

ZIMBABWE

Textile industry reeling under clothing material rebate

The Zimbabwean Government could be losing millions of dollars in revenue through a clothing material rebate granted to local manufacturers two years ago, amid revelations that players in the industry were importing locally available material. The development is threatening to further destroy Zimbabwe's clothing and textile industry.

Rebate on the clothing and textile industry granted by Government in 2015 sought to allow more than 50 manufacturers to import textile materials duty-free and tax-free and help revive the ailing clothing industry.

It has since emerged that manufacturers are importing tonnes of fabric, including fabrics produced locally, such as fabrics for protective clothing and T-shirts, which they should be buying from local producers to support the industry.

As a result of the rebate, some of the clothing manufacturers have since replaced or offered alternative cheap poly-cotton material for protective clothing against 100 percent Zimbabwean fabric.

Source : Herald

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SHRI SRI NARAIN AGGARWAL ELECTED SRTEPC CHAIRMAN

Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Managing Director of Prafful Group of Industries, Surat has taken charge as the next Chairman of The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) at the 509th Meeting of the Committee of Administration held in Udaipur for a period of two years.

Shri Aggarwal has more than 30 years of experience in the textile field having been looking after the operational and financial aspect of the Prafful Group and is the main co-ordinator for implementing of new projects of the group.

Under his workmanship and guidance the group has established a Process House with latest machines of dyeing and printing at Sachin; Embroidery Unit capable of creation of latest designs of embroidery for Indian as well as overseas market at Sachin; wholesale, retail and export business of all types of textile fabrics of latest fashion under the brand name 'Prafful' and a manufacturing unit of nylon filament yarn at Panoli, Ankleshwar.

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

Shri Aggarwal is also involved in various social and trade activities in Surat.

Exports not yet recovered

Even as global economy looks to be on a rather bumpy ride, Indian exports, which are mainly dependent on the US, China and Europe have still not recovered, according to a research report.

The report further states that although India's merchandise export growth turned decisively positive last September after nearly two years of contraction there is a wide variance for these exports by destination.

India's exports to the US, Eurozone and Japan however jumped by 1.2% according to the report. Exports to G3 (US, Eurozone and Japan) rose by 1.2% y-o-y in January after rising by 1.9% in 2016. In contrast, exports to all other regions combined are still contracting, falling by 8.1% y-o-y in January after a 3.6% decline in 2016.

According to the report the recent rise in the export orders index of the manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) to 50.7 in February from 49.8 in January suggests this turnaround in exports growth should continue over the near term. However, data on exports by destination suggest the demand recovery is not yet broad-based.

Source : The Economic Times

Textile Ministry reviews the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP)

The Textile Ministry is reviewing the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) after a report found that the scheme failed to achieve its objectives and special purpose vehicles of the parks violated norms as non-textiles units were operating from inside the parks. Also there are many loopholes in the scheme which needs to be rectified, according to a senior Textiles Ministry official.

The report by Wazir Advisors to the Ministry has cited various reasons, including high rentals in some parks, changes in other government schemes or regulations, lack of marketing efforts, no special benefits available for investors in parks, poor accessibility and challenges for units in SEZ Parks, for the scheme failing to attain its objectives.

The report has recommended that a new scheme 'Mega Textile Parks' be launched with parks having minimum land size of 1,000 acres, and infrastructure support in the form of readymade factory sheds, warehouse, incubation centres and testing labs, with express connectivity to seaports and airports.

The implementing agencies for the new scheme should be entrepreneurs-led SPV (special purpose vehicle), industry associations or state government either through their institutions or in PPP mode, said the report on review of the SITP scheme.

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani had recently informed the Parliament that the Ministry was examining complaints against certain SPVs of textile parks sanctioned under the SITP for violation of guidelines.

She had said that show cause notices to at least four SPVs, namely the Vraj Integrated Textile Park; GILT Textile Park; Surat Super Yarn; and EIGMEF Apparel Park, had been issued for violation of norms.

The Textiles Ministry has also cancelled several projects after the SPVs were found flouting the SITP's guidelines. These include Bharat Fabtex & Corporate Park Pvt Ltd; Vaigai HiTech weaving Park; Shri Dhairyashil Mane Textile Park Co-op Society Limited; Hyderabad Hi-tech Weaving Park; Edison Integrated Textiles Park; Shri Lakshmi Cotsyn Ltd; Wada Textile Park; Kapila Textile Park; Rajasthan Texmart Textile park; Soham Textile Park; Shri Laxminarayan Textile Park; and SLS Textile Park, Tamil Nadu.

The Government has sought response of Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd. (IL&FS) which was the Project Management Consultant (PMC) for Vraj Integrated Textile Park which is owned by the Chiripal Group based in Gujarat regarding violation of guidelines/criteria of the Scheme for integrated Textile Parks (SITP) by the Special Purposes Vehicle (SPV) of the said Park.

It has been reported that based on the response of IL&FS, the SPV and PMC have been directed to get those non-textile units which were not part of the approved project of Vraj Integrated Textile Park relocated outside the textile park area sanctioned under the SITP.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

India to face trade hurdles under Trump regime

The 2017 Trade Policy Agenda unveiled by the Trump administration indicates that it is not going to be easy for India to do business with the Trump regime. The serious troubles lie ahead on trade and investment fronts. This document ominously states that the US will come down on India's export subsidy programmes, and push for a stricter regime for intellectual property rights and patents.

The document sees a general trend of tariff increases in India, which reflects an active pursuit of import substitution policies.

The document states that the US will engage India bilaterally to commit to a phase-out of its export subsidy programmes to the extent that they benefit the textile and apparel sector.

The new US government has asked India to announce the subsidies it offers to some of its agricultural produce in advance and not after a bumper harvest.

The report also states that India's trade and regulatory policies have "inhibited" the real growth potential of the bilateral trade that rose to US$109 billion in 2015 from US$4.8 billion in 1980. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, it says, could provide an impetus to the creation of a "common internal market that significantly lowers transaction costs."

While agreeing that India's reforms on IPR are encouraging, the document says India's new National Intellectual Property Rights Policy should protect US innovations.

As per sources, the US will "come down heavily" on India and other countries with which it has trade surplus. The US has registered its biggest monthly trade deficit in nearly five years of US$48.5 billion.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

Commerce Ministry studying report to revamp DGFT

The Global consulting firm Frost & Sullivan has carried out a study to revamp the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) with a view to making it a vibrant body for promoting trade.

The DGFT which is under the Commerce Ministry deals with matters related to exports and imports.

The move assumes significance as India is aiming to increase its share in the global trade to 3.5 per cent from the current 2 per cent by 2020.

According to experts, the country needs a vibrant organisation to promote its trade interests.

Prior to 1991, the DGFT was known as the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports. Till 1991, it has been involved in the regulation and promotion of foreign trade.

DGFT is responsible for formulating and implementing the foreign trade policy with the main objective of promoting India's exports. It also issues scrips/ authorisation to exporters and monitors their corresponding obligations through a network of 36 regional offices.

India's annual merchandise trade stood at around US$750 billion.

Source : The Economic Times

WPI for textiles up 0.2% in February 2017

India's annual rate of inflation, based on monthly wholesale price index (WPI), increased to 6.55 per cent for February 2017 over corresponding month of the previous year. The index for textiles sub-group rose by 0.2 per cent to 142.6 in February from 142.3 in January 2017 due to higher price of tyre cord fabric (4 per cent) and man-made fabric (2 per cent).

Build up inflation rate in the financial year 2016-17 so far stood at 5.82 per cent compared to a build up rate of minus 1.14 per cent in the same period of the 2015-16. Annual rate of inflation was 5.25 per cent for January 2017 and minus 0.85 per cent in February 2016.

The index for manufactured products (weight 64.97 per cent) for February, 2017 remained unchanged at its previous month's level of 158.8. The index for textiles sub-group rose by 0.2 per cent to 142.6 from 142.3 for the previous month due to higher price of tyre cord fabric (4 per cent) and man-made fabric (2 per cent). However, the price of jute sacking cloth and jute sacking bag (1 per cent each) declined.

The Government of India has taken a number of measures to control inflation. The steps taken, inter alia, include, (i) increased allocation for Price Stabilization Fund in the budget 2017-18 to check volatility of prices of essential commodities, in particular of pulses; (ii) created buffer stock of pulses through domestic procurement and imports; (iii) announced higher Minimum Support Prices so as to incentivise production; (iv) issued advisory to States/UTs to take strict action against hoarding and black marketing under the Essential Commodities Act 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980; (v) imposed 20 per cent duty on export of sugar; and (vi) reduced import duty on potatoes, wheat and palm oil.

Source : Fibre2fashion

Indian economic growth could push US exports

India's economic growth and indirect taxation reforms could support more US exports to the country in future, it has been reported.

The first such report under the Trump administration gives an indication of the policies of the new US government with other countries of the world including India.

The report indicates that the Trump administration is optimistic of the reforms started by India.

It is reported that while these reforms are encouraging, there has also been a general trend of tariff increases in India, which reflects an active pursuit of import substitution policies, adding that in 2017, the US will press India to make meaningful progress in relation to these ambitious goals.

Among other actions, the report said, USTR will follow through with work plans agreed to during the October 2016 US India Trade Policy Forum (TPF), which will include convening digital video conferences and in-person meetings on intellectual property rights, promoting investment in manufacturing, agriculture, and trade in goods and services.

Taking note of the balance of trade in favour of India, the report refers to the multi-fold increase in bilateral trade between the two countries.

Two-way US-India trade in goods and services in 1980 was only USD 4.8 billion; it grew to an estimated USD 9 billion in 2015 (latest data available for goods and services trade) - an annual growth rate over this period of better than nine percent, it said.

At the same time, the report rued that the existing Indian trade and regulatory policies have inhibited an even more robust trade and investment relationship.

Source : The Economic Times

Exports witnesses double digit growth in February 2017

India's merchandise exports registered double-digit growth in February due to 47% rise in engineering goods and improved international demand. Some analysts say it could be the highest growth witnessed in about five years.

Exports swelled by 17.48% in February to US$24.5 billion but a steeper increase in imports at 21% widened the trade deficit to US$8.8 billion — from US$6.5 billion in the year-ago period.

This is the sixth consecutive month of an increase in exports this year but double digits were last seen in June 2014.

The month saw 23 of 30 exporting sectors, led by iron ore, registering more exports.

However, a 147% spike in gold imports pushed total imports to US$33.3 billion. Exports of gems and jewellery are expected to be higher in the next few months.

The pace of growth in non-oil, non-gold imports firmed up to 5%, from 4% in the previous month, indicating strengthening domestic demand. Oil imports saw a 60% spike to US$7.6 billion while non-oil imports were up 13.6% at US$25.7 billion.

India's robust export numbers have come in a month when Chinese exports fell 1.3% and it reported a rare trade deficit.

US President Mr. Donald Trump's 'America First' policies have clouded the outlook for global trade.

India exported US$245.4 billion of goods in the first 11 months of 2016-17, up 2.5% from a year ago, while imports declined 3.7% in the same period to US$340.7 billion, leaving a deficit of US$95.3 billion.

Revival in growth of services exports in January had been outweighed by an even faster expansion in services imports, as a result of which, the surplus shrank for the ninth month in a row, by 10% year-on-year.

Source : The Economic Times

₹ 600 crore Export Infrastructure Scheme launched by the Government

The government launched a ₹ 600-crore scheme - Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) for developing export linked infrastructure in states with a view to promoting outbound shipments.

Launched by the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Minister, Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman the TIES seeks to bridge the infrastructure gap and provide forward and backward linkages to units engaged in trade activities.

The scheme, to be implemented from April 1, would have a budgetary allocation of Rs 600 crore for three years with an annual outlay of Rs 200 crore.

Five per cent of the grant approved would be used for appraisal, review and monitoring. It will be implemented from 2017-18 till 2019-20.

It is reported that the Scheme is going to be on participative basis and the focus is not just to create infrastructure and leave it, but make sure that it is professionally run and sustained.

An inter-ministerial empowered committee for sanctioning and monitoring of the project was set up for the scheme. It will be headed by the commerce secretary.

Ms Sitharaman has said that the Government is definitely asking for a clear definition and linkage with export industries (for the projects).

The Commerce Secretary Ms. Rita Teaotia said some of the biggest cost, the exporters tend to incur is on account of absence of dedicated infrastructure, whether it is testing or handling facilities or cold storages at ports.

The TIES would focus on projects like customs checkpoints, last mile connectivity, border haats and integrated check posts.

It is believed that the idea of this scheme is to address those gaps in infrastructure which are not addressed by any other scheme. It will help to ensure smoother movement of export cargo and also ensure quality standards and certification.

Unlike Assistance to States for Development of Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) Scheme, which was funded by the Centre, the cost of projects under TIES would be equally shared between the Centre and the states.

However, for north-eastern and the Himalayan region states, the Centre may bear 80 per cent of the cost.

Under the scheme, priority would be given to the projects involving significant contribution by the implementing agency and bank financing for achieving financial closure.

The other salient features of the scheme includes promotion of leveraging of funds from other sources including bank financing; no recurring costs of the land to be included; and operating & maintenance costs to be met through pay and use charges.

The central and state agencies, including Export Promotion Councils, Commodities Boards, SEZ authorities and apex trade bodies recognised under the EXIM policy of government; are eligible for financial support under this scheme.

Source : The Economic Times

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INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION (IIP)
(APRIL-JANUARY 2016-17)

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) in the month of January 2017 was higher by 2.7% over the index of January 2016.
- The cumulative overall growth of IIP registered a growth of 0.6% during the period April-January 2016-17 as compared to the same period of the previous year.
- The Index of Industrial Production for the month of January 2017 for Textiles Sector declined by 0.3% as compared to January 2016. The cumulative growth in Textiles Sector during April-January 2016-17 over the corresponding period of 2015-16 has been 1.2%.
- The index of Industrial production for the manufacturing sector has increased by 2.3% during the month of January 2017 while there was a cumulative decline of 0.2% during the period of April-January 2016-17 over the corresponding period of the previous year.

The Statement below gives the Quick Estimates of growth rate of the Index of Industrial Production (II)) at 2 digit level of the National Industrial Classification (NIC-2004) for the period of April-January 2016-17, along with the cumulative growth rates over corresponding month/period of the previous year:

Industry code	Description	Percentage growth				
		April 2016	Dec'16	Jan'17	Apr-Jan 2016-17	Apr-Dec 2016-17
17	Textiles	3.4	-6.6	-0.3	1.2	1.4
18	Wearing apparel	1	-8.1	9.5	-2.6	-4.2
15-36	Manufacturing	-3.1	-2.0	2.3	-0.2	-0.5
	General	-0.8	-0.4	2.7	0.6	0.3

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

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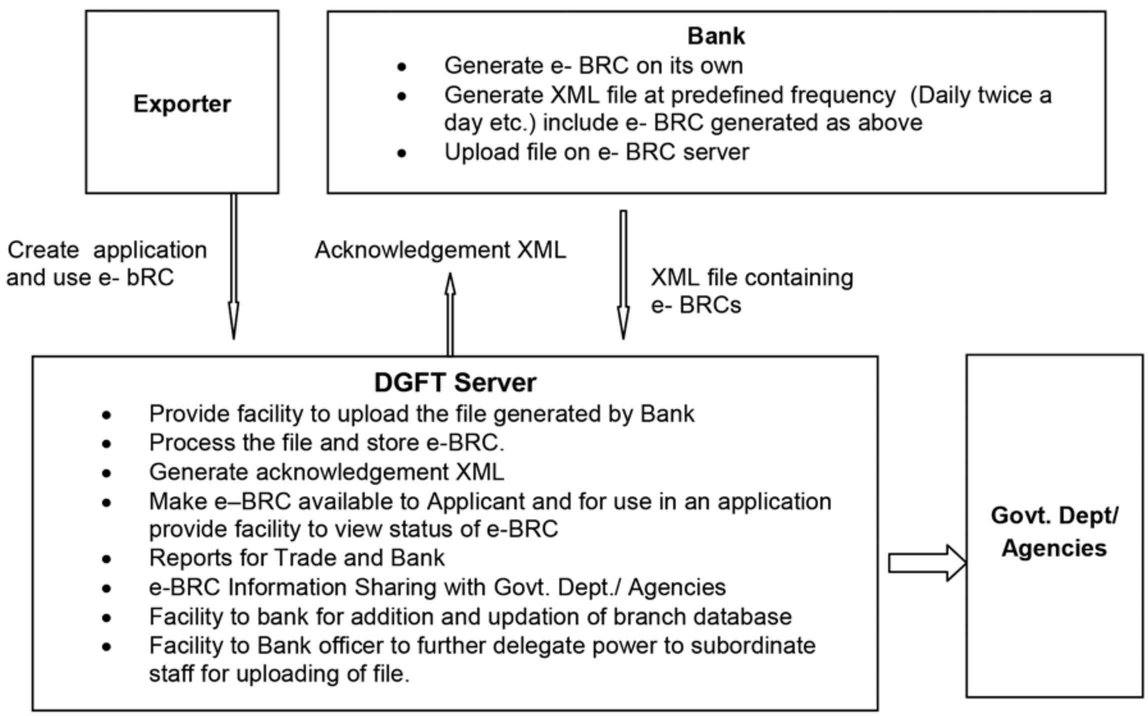
BANK REALISATION CERTIFICATE (BRC) - FAQS

Bank Realisation Certificate (BRC) is issued by Banks based on realisation of payment against export by an Exporter. Any firm applying for benefits under Foreign Trade Policy is required to furnish valid BRC as a proof of realisation of payment against exports made

The e-BRC initiative leads to electronic transmission of foreign exchange realisation certificate from the banks to the DGFT's server on a daily basis. With the launch of this facility, there is minimum human interface between the Ministry and the exporting community for grant of benefits. It establishes seamless electronic data interchange (EDI) connectivity among banks and exporters.

❖ **e-BRC: Bank Realisation Certificate issued in electronic format**



Q1. Where can one find detailed step by step instruction on filing an application?

- Please follow the given link for the details required for filing an application: http://dgftebrc.nic.in/ebrcmodule.htm

Q2. How do know if a BRC is e- BRC or manual BRC?

- From 17.08.2012, banks had started transmitting all BRC data electronically to DGFT, which is called '**e-BRC'.**
- BRC issued in physical forms by bank before 17.08.2012 is termed **manual BRCs.**
- The status of the BRC can be checked on **DGFT website (dgft.gov.in)**
- All BRCs irrespective of date of realization with BRC date **on or after 17.08.2012 are eBRCs**.

Q3. Is it mandatory for the Shipping Bills to be EDI, if BRC is 'e- BRC' ?

- No. Even non- EDI Shipping Bills can be linked to eBRC.

Q4. Once after adding Shipping bill to the repository, is it required to add it again?

- No. Once the Shipping Bill is added to the Repository, it is available for utilization. You can view it by going to the shipping bill repository.

Q5. Can exporters use their Shipping bill in multiple Schemes?

- Yes. However, exporters are not allowed to use it in the same scheme twice but can use the same shipping bill in any other eligible scheme.

Q6. Who will enter the details of Commission, Insurance, and Freight in the application?

- Details of values of Commission, Insurance and Freight are to be entered by the exporters while making applications under various DGFT schemes.

Q7. What happens if banks have reported BRC which is less than total realized value?

- The 'e-BRC' value reported by bank reflects total realized value. If a bank has erroneously transmitted less than total realized value after deducting components like Freight, Insurance or Commission, exporters should get it corrected from the bank.

Q8. What is Multiplication Factor (M.F)**?**

- It is the ratio between the FOB value actually realized and FOB value mentioned on the Shipping Bill.
- Multiplication Factor M = <u>FOB value actually realized in ₹</u>
Shipping Bill FOB in ₹
- Value of M is to be restricted to actual value or 1 whichever is less. It will be rounded off to six decimal places. (Note: Exchange rate to be taken as on Shipping bill date)

Q9. What is Net FOB (FOB excluding commission)?

- It is calculated by excluding commission from the FOB value in Foreign Currency.

Q10. How is Net FOB value calculated from the value realized in foreign Currency?

- It is used to factor correct amount of commission allowable under various schemes.

Based on whether the foreign exchange realization is in CIF, C & F or FOB; net FB is calculated as follows: Following table gives details?

Sr. No.	Type of realized value	Net FOB value actually realized equals
1	If realized value is in CIF	Realized value – (Freight + Insurance+ Commission)
2	If realized value is in C&F	Realized value – (Freight+ Commission)
3	If realized value is in FOB	Realized value - Commission

Q11. What values of Freight, Insurance and Commission are to be filed in the application?

- Freight, Insurance and Commission values should be actual transaction values.

Q12. How Commission is factored under various schemes?

Commission is treated in 2 ways in FTP schemes. Following Para give details of calculation:

- **A-DEPB and Chapter 3 schemes(ANF 3C and ANF 4G)**

For the purpose of calculating entitlement, commission amount is to be restricted to actual value or 12.5% of net FOB value realized; whichever is less. The allowed commission (item wise) will be calculated as per the formula: $C^T = (P/T)*Cp$

C^T allowed commission (item wise), P- Assessed FOB value of item in INR as mentioned in SB

T- Total SB FOB value in INR, CP-Total commission on SB in Foreign Currency

- **B- Advance Authorization and EPCG scheme(ANF 4D, ANF 4F, ANF 4H and ANF 5B)**

For the purpose of calculating entitlement, commission amount is to be excluded.

Q13. How is Realized FOB including commission calculated for DEPB and Chapter 3 Schemes?

Item wise Realized FOB including commission is calculated as

FOB Item FC = [FOB ^{TotalFC} * M+C^{T}]

FOB^{ItemFC} - Item wise Realized FOB including commission

FOB^{TotalFC} - FOB Value in Foreign Currency

M- Multiplication Factor

C^{T} - Allowable commission (item wise)= (Assessed FOB value of Item in INR as mentioned in SB /Total SB value in INR) * FOB Value in Foreign Currency * MF + Allowable commission(item wise)

- Note: Exchange rate applicable is as on LEO (Let Export Order) Date

Q14. What precautions should be taken by the applicant at the time of making a Licensing Application?

- BRC details are correct
- Whenever manual data is updated same is entered correctly. Commission, Insurance and Freight is properly updated against each BRC.

Q15. Can an exporter view all information filed by him on a single screen?

Yes

Q16. Should banks deduct commission from the full realized value?

- No. Banks must mention full amount realized. Exporters must approach banks for restoration of full value.

Q17. How to club exports from different ports?

- **DEPB** - Clubbing of ports not allowed
- **Chapter 3** - Clubbing allowed only in case of EDI Ports
- **DES & EPCG** - Clubbing Port wise is not required as Shipping Bills are clubbed File No. wise and License wise

Q18. Banks claim to have uploaded the data but this is not to be seen in the DGFT website.

- Data w.r.t. eBRC is visible on real time basis at the DGFT website.
- Banks get an automated message on successful upload of eBRC onto DGFT website.
- After this data can be immediately viewed by the exporter at the DGFT website.

Q19. What exchange rate to adopt for calculating the freight and insurance if the data is available in rupees?

- The exchange rate to adopt for calculating the freight and insurance if the data is available in Rupees is INR.

GENERAL QUESTIONS ASKED BY EXPORTERS

Q1. My shipping bill has multiple products, each eligible under different scheme. For claiming benefit under various schemes, I need separate realization value for each product. However, I see a problem here as banks report only one consolidated realization value for each Shipping Bill (even if there are more than one item on a single shipping bill). How this value is to be distributed against multiple products in Shipping Bill for the purpose of making applications under various schemes?

- In case of multiple products on a shipping bill, the FOB value will be proportionately distributed to its product list and multiplication factor applied on it. This can be easily understood through the following illustration:
- Suppose a Shipping Bill contains 3 export products A, B and C with FOB values US $40, US $60 and US $80 respectively (total FOB US $180/-). Now, if the total NFE realised as per e-BRC is US$90/- , then by pro- rata calculation the benefits on 3 products i.e. A, B and C will be calculated on 20 US$, 30 US$ and 40 US$ respectively.

Q2. Shortfall in realization(case 1 Shipping bill contains only one product) I realized less foreign exchange compared to the FOB value declared on the shipping bill. How this shortfall is to be adjusted for the purpose of calculating entitlement under various schemes?

✓ In case of shortfall in foreign exchange realization with respect to the shipping bill FOB value, pro rata distribution of realized foreign exchange against each export item will be made by the system itself. This can be easily understood through the following illustrations:

- Illustration 1 (Single Export Product) – If foreign exchange realization as per e- BRC is US $ 100/- and FOB value mentioned on the Shipping Bill is US$ 80/ - , the benefit would be granted on US $ 80/-.
- Illustration 2 (Single Export Product) If foreign exchange realization as per e- BRC is US $ 100/- and FOB value as mentioned on the Shipping Bill is US $ 120/- , then FTP benefits would be granted on US $ 100/.

Q3. Shortfall in realization (case 2 --Shipping bill contains more than one product). How this shortfall is to be adjusted for the purpose of calculating entitlement under various schemes?

✓ In case of multiple products on a shipping bill, the FOB value will be proportionately distributed to its product list and multiplication factor applied on it. This can be easily understood through the following illustration:

- Suppose a Shipping Bill contains 3 export products A,B and C with FOB values US $40, US $60 and US $80 respectively (total FOB US $180/-).
- Now, if the total NFE realised as per e-BRC is US$90/-, then by pro-rata calculation the benefits on 3 products i.e. A, B and C will be calculated on 20 US$, 30 US$ and 40 US$ respectively.

Q4. I had an application pending for submission as on 28.09.2012 for DEPB/FMS/MLFPS/ VKGUY but with the resumption of the system on 10.10.2012 the shipping bills attached with earlier applications are not visible.

- A message was displayed on DGFT website advising the applicants to either submit or delete shipping bills from DEPB/Chapter 3 schemes themselves. Such shipping bills which were not deleted by the exporters themselves have been deleted by the system. If they are EDI shipping bills, their status has been made available. All Non-EDI shipping bills may be first attached to the shipping bill repository before they can be utilized in any of the schemes.

Q5. How can I take a print out of eBRC for my use?

- A method also is being worked out for sharing of eBRC is with different agencies.

Q6. Sometimes, I realize forex in parts, necessitating the need for issuance of more than one BRC. Is it allowed?

- Yes. DGFT system can process multiple BRCs issued against a Shipping Bill. Exporter should apply after receiving full payment.

Q7. (i) My buyer released the full amount of $100 to the foreign bank but the foreign bank deducts $10 as its charges and remits $ 90 to Indian bank. What is the correct realization value that should be mentioned by the Indian Bank while issuing the eBRC ?

- $90

(ii) If the bill value is $100 but the AD bank in India receives only $90, what is the correct realisation value that should be mentioned by the Indian Bank while issuing the eBRC ?

- As this is the money actually received in India

Q8. The e-BRC has been uploaded by the bank and is visible and available on the website but when I go to the Shipping Bill to attach BRC, it says “No Record Found”.

- Please check the Shipping Bill Number, Shipping Bill Date and Port Code. It should be identical in BRC as well as in Shipping Bill to enable automatic matching. Even a small I difference may result in Non -Selection of BRC details.
- Example: Shipping Bill No . on shipping bill is 0790173 and on BRC it is NSA1 0790173.
- Note: eBRCs issued prior to 17.08.2012 are not eligible for auto attach to shipping bills. Their details need to be entered manually by the exporter for claim of benefits. Treatment of such eBRC will be like manual BRC. However, to facilitate the data entry, BRC’s between 01.04.2012 to 16.08.2012 reported by the banks will be attached with the

Shipping Bill with the status “Manual”.

Q9. I have EDI Shipping Bill for Drawbacks/Free Shipping Bills. Same I am unable to link to shipping bill repository from customs database. When I enter the same manually in Repository, it shows as Shipping Bill is manually entered in the application.

- Shipping Bill data from Drawback and Free Shipping Bill are currently not being exchanged with customs, hence they need to be entered manually. Since Shipping bills are entered manually for DGFT purposes, their treatment will be like a manual/non -EDI shipping bill.

Q10. I have an EDI Shipping Bill on which I have claimed DEPB. Now I want to claim chapter 3 benefit on that but it is not showing that in customs link.

- You may enter the Shipping Bill details manually and claim Chapter 3 benefits.

Q11. We are unable to add the details of commission, freight and insurance.?

- Check if you have registered with DGFT site.
- Commission, Freight and Insurance data can be updated only by the registered ECOM user of DGFT through ECOM site

Q12. I am unable to fetch data from the repository

- Details from repository for various schemes are selected on the basis of certain predefined criteria like scheme applicability, port, date of exports, shipping bill date etc. as the case may be. Any mismatch will result in non selection of the data from repository.

Q13. The system takes the lesser of the FOB value indicated in the shipping bill or the e-BRC, though shipping bill details of freight and insurance are approximations.

- Net realization value is calculated after deducting freight, insurance and commission from the value indicated in the eBRC. New realization value plus commission is then compared with the shipping bill value and multiplication factor for items shipping bill is calculated. (These are explained in the eBRC FAQ on DGFT site)

Q14. Can I use the same shipping bill for discharge of export obligation against two or more advance licenses?

- Yes.

Q15. What to do when the export obligation is in another currency?

- It is allowed. Exchange rate will be as on LEO date of the shipping bill.

Q16. Will there be any random verification mechanism to ensure exporters mention the actual and correct freight insurance, etc?

- As is the practice for other documents, in random cases, exporters may be requested to produce supporting documents.

Q17. I have already claimed DEPB on an EDI shipping bill earlier now I want to claim other benefit on the same shipping bill but I am unable to load already utilized EDI shipping bill?

- From the Administration menu Select the option“ Link already utilized EDI DEPB Shipping Bill to Repository ” and Select the Shipping Bill to be linked. For further details refer to Help (Q11)

Q18. I have added a Shipping Bill manually to the repository and claimed /not claimed a benefit. Now the shipping bill has been received in EDI mode from Customs but I am unable to add the same?

- From the Administration menu Select the option “Replace manually entered Shipping Bill with EDI Shipping Bill” and Select the Shipping Bill to be linked. For further details refer to Help (Q12 Under heading How to?).

Please follow the given link for entering the e-BRC details for trade in the system:

http://dgftebrc.nic.in:8100/DGFTeBRC/brcIssuedTrade_input.jsp

(The above FAQs are subjected to changes due to issuance of DGFT Public Notices, Circulars and Notifications from time to time).

(Source: DGFT eBRC/ Exim guru/ The Hindu Business Line)

THE US MARKET SHOWS SIGNS OF TURNAROUND IN ITS DEMAND FOR MAN-MADE FIBRE TEXTILE PRODUCTS.

The Office of the Textile and Apparel (OTEXA) USA has released its latest import data of cotton, wool, manmade fibre, silk blends, vegetable fibre textile and apparel products which totaled 5,479.1 million square meter equivalents (MSME) in January 2017, an increase of 8.4% Vs. January 2016. Imports of textile were 3,062.7 MSME in January 2017, up 6.7% from January 2016. Imports of apparel were 2,416.2 MSME in January 2017 an increase of 10.7%, compared to January 2016.

Textile and apparel exports from India to the US had increased nearly 11% in January 2017 vs January 2016. In the same period exports growth from Vietnam and Cambodia was 17% and 15% respectively.

(Million square meter equivalents)

MULTIPLE FIBRES	JANUARY			JANUARY to JANUARY (Y-O-Y)		
	2016	2017	CHANGE	2016	2017	CHANGE
Total trade	5,054.4	5,479.1	8.4	63,821.7	63,341.9	-0.8
Yarn	248.5	265.8	7.0	3,152.4	3,004.8	-4.7
Fabrics	1,019.5	1,086.2	6.5	12,030.4	12,689.6	5.5
Made-up and misc	1,603.2	1,710.8	6.7	21,289.9	20,487.3	-3.8
Non-apparel total	2,871.2	3,062.7	6.7	36,472.7	36,181.8	-0.8
Apparel	2,183.2	2,416.3	10.7	27,349.0	27,160.2	-0.7

SOURCE: OTEXA

India has emerged as the 3rd largest exporter of textile and apparel products to the US. Year on year exports from India has grown nearly 7% in January 2017 vs. 2016 as compared to only 3.4% from Vietnam and – 2.2% from China.

(Million square meter equivalents)

TOP TEN	JANUARY			JANUARY to JANUARY (Y-O-Y)		
	2016	2017	CHANGE	2016	2017	CHANGE
China	2,459.4	2,730.3	11.0	31,087.8	30,409.0	-2.2
Vietnam	361.6	422.3	16.8	4,390.3	4,539.8	3.4
India	**373.3**	**414.1**	**10.9**	**4,564.7**	**4,870.3**	**6.7**
Pakistan	207.7	223.5	7.6	2,639.4	2,495.8	-5.4
Bangladesh	199.1	211.6	6.3	2,224.6	2,207.5	-0.8
Mexico	169.9	186.9	10.0	2,353.3	2,441.8	3.8
Indonesia	151.5	156.9	3.6	1,772.8	1,739.1	-1.9
Korea, south	118.7	127.6	7.6	1,479.8	1,556.6	5.2
Cambodia	77.0	88.2	14.6	1,128.8	995.1	-11.8
Taiwan	73.8	80.9	9.6	925.8	864.7	-6.6

SOURCE: OTEXA

US's imports of textiles and apparels made of manmade fibres totaled 3740.4 million square meter equivalents (MSME) in January 2017, an increase of nearly 10% compared to January 2016. Although its entire year's cumulative imports of manmade fibre products remain stagnant, imports of manmade fibre apparels by the US has increased 2% as compared to a decline of 1% of overall imports of apparels. **US is also increasingly importing fabrics from world and its present yearly fabrics import is 12,689.6 million square meter equivalents of which 89% (11,240.9 MSME) is of manmade fibres.** Moreover, US is importing nearly 55% of apparels which are made of manmade fibres.

(Million square meter equivalents)

MAN MADE FIBRE	MONTH JANUARY			YEAR JAN-JAN		
	2016	2017	CHANGE	2016	2017	CHANGE
Total trade	**3,409.0**	**3,740.4**	**9.7**	**43,182.7**	**43,172.1**	**0.0**
Yarn	219.6	240.9	9.7	2,771.7	2,664.4	-3.9
Fabrics	**911.4**	**959.3**	**5.3**	**10,625.4**	**11,240.9**	**5.8**
Made-up and misc	1,100.9	1,168.7	6.2	15,225.8	14,420.1	-5.3
Non-apparel total	2,231.9	2,368.9	6.1	28,622.9	28,325.4	-1.0
Apparel	1,177.1	1,371.5	16.5	14,559.8	14,846.7	2.0

SOURCE: OTEXA

Shri J S Deepak named next ambassador to WTO

Shri J. S. Deepak, Telecom Secretary was named India's next Ambassador to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) from June this year. A 1982 batch IAS officer from Uttar Pradesh, Mr. Deepak, who had attended the World Mobile Congress (WMC) at Barcelona, has been shifted with "immediate effect" from the telecom ministry and has been made Officer on Special Duty in the commerce department, an official order said. During his earlier stint in the Commerce Ministry, he was India's chief negotiator at the WTO and for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement, the mega Free Trade Agreement being negotiated by 16 countries.

The WTO is a global international organisation dealing with the rules of trade between nations. India has been pushing for a trade facilitation agreement (TFA) in services at WTO which has 164 member countries. The WTO's trade facilitation pact in goods came into force on February 22 2017. According to the official order, Shri Deepak has been appointed the OSD in the Department of Commerce after the government upgraded this post from Director to Secretary. He will be functioning as OSD till May 31 this year. The order also named him as India's Ambassador/Permanent Representative of India to the Geneva-based WTO from June 1 2017 till the date of his superannuation which is July 31 next year. Shri Deepak is credited with successfully conducting the first ever e-auction of spectrum in 2010 that fetched government over Rs 1.06 lakh crore in 2010, while also setting the roadmap for future auctions. An MBA degree holder from Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad, Deepak has worked as consultant with The Policy Project, Washington DC, a consortium of US-based Research Triangle Institute and Johns Hopkins University, to develop population and health policies for various countries and states in India.

THE TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT (TFA)

The Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) of World Trade Organizations (WTO) came into effect from 22nd February 2017 with its two-thirds members (114 countries) ratifying the agreement.

As of today, the following WTO members have accepted the TFA: Hong Kong China, Singapore, the United States, Mauritius, Malaysia, Japan, Australia, Botswana, Trinidad and Tobago, the Republic of Korea, Nicaragua, Niger, Belize, Switzerland, Chinese Taipei, China, Liechtenstein, Lao PDR, New Zealand, Togo, Thailand, the European Union (on behalf of its 28 member states), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Pakistan, Panama, Guyana, Côte d'Ivoire, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Kenya, Myanmar, Norway, Viet Nam, Brunei Darussalam, Ukraine, Zambia, Lesotho, Georgia, Seychelles, Jamaica, Mali, Cambodia, Paraguay, Turkey, Brazil, Macao China, the United Arab Emirates, Samoa, **India**, the Russian Federation, Montenegro, Albania, Kazakhstan, Sri Lanka, St. Kitts and Nevis, Madagascar, the Republic of Moldova, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Senegal, Uruguay, Bahrain, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Iceland, Chile, Swaziland, Dominica, Mongolia, Gabon, the Kyrgyz Republic, Canada, Ghana, Mozambique, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Nigeria, Nepal, Rwanda, Oman, Chad and Jordan.

Trade facilitation Agreement will simplify required paperwork, modernized procedures and harmonized customs requirements. Reductions in time and costs to trade can thus make the difference between a country seamlessly linking up to an integrated global production chain or being left on the margins of a big part of world trade. Moreover, amid a global slowdown in trade, easing trade processes can provide a critical boost to international trade and the global economy.

TFA will create a significant boost for commerce and the mutual trading system as a whole. It would help countries like India which are trying to push exports. According to experts, the agreement comes at a time when India's efforts to improve exports are gaining momentum. The TFA, which has been ratified by India, will give a boost to the global trade, which has been impacted due to slowdown in the world economy.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations. The purpose of the WTO is to ensure that global trade commences smoothly, freely and predictably. The WTO creates and embodies the legal ground rules for global trade among member nations and thus offers a system for international commerce.

The WTO Agreements contain provisions which give developing countries special rights. These are called "special and differential treatment" provisions. These measures that link the requirement to implement with the capacity of developing countries and least developed countries (LDC) to do so. The Agreement also recognizes the need for donor members to enhance assistance and support for capacity building.

The Special and Differential Treatment (SDT) measures include:

- longer time periods for implementing Agreements and commitments,
- measures to increase trading opportunities for developing countries,
- provisions requiring all WTO members to safeguard the trade interests of developing countries,
- support to help developing countries build the capacity to carry out WTO work, handle disputes, and implement technical standards, and
- provisions related to least-developed country (LDC) Members.

To take advantage of these SDT flexibilities, a member must place each provision of the Agreement into one of three categories (A, B & C) as given below. They must notify WTO Members of these categorizations in accordance with specific timelines outlined in the Agreement. They must also provide indicative and later definitive, dates for implementation for the provisions they have designated in categories B and C.

Category A: provisions that a developing country member designates for implementation by the time the Agreement enters into force.

Category B: provisions that a developing country member designates for implementation after a transitional period of time after entry into force of the Agreement.

Category C: provisions that a developing country member designates for implementation after a transitional period of time following the entry into force of the Agreement and the provision of assistance and support for capacity building.

❖ **Additional Flexibilities for developing country members:**

The Agreement also provides additional protections for developing country members such as:

- **Early Warning Mechanism:** whereby a member can request an extension from the WTO Trade Facilitation Committee if it experiences difficulties in implementing a provision in Category B or C by the date it has notified. The extension will be automatic if the additional time requested does not exceed 18 months.
- **Expert Group:** where a requested extension has not been granted and a member lacks capacity to implement, the Trade Facilitation Committee will establish an Expert Group to examine the issue and to make a recommendation.
- **Shifting between categories**: Members may shift provisions between Categories B and C.
- **Grace Period**: Following entry into force of the Agreement developing countries will not be subject to the Dispute Settlement Understanding for a period of two years for Category A provisions.

❖ **Transparency provisions**

Donors must provide to the WTO Trade Facilitation Committee:

- annual information on their assistance programs
- contact points for their agencies responsible for providing assistance
- information on the process and mechanisms for requesting assistance and support

Developing country members must provide to the Committee:

- Information on contact points of the office (s) responsible for coordinating and prioritizing assistance and support

❖ **How does the TFA cut Red tape at the border for easier trade ?**

Traders from both developing and developed countries have frequently highlighted the vast amount of red tape that exists in moving goods across borders.

✓ **Release and clearance of goods-** The TFA provisions will facilitate more rapid movement of goods across borders such as through the release of products even before the final determination of customs duties, expediting shipments from certain air cargo and prioritizing perishable goods.

✓ **Availability of information on rules and procedures-** The TFA states, that WTO members shall publish information online on import and export procedures while within available resources, establishing contact points to respond to enquiries.

✓ **Automation and e- services**- Under the TFA, there are provisions requiring WTO members to accept e- payments and electronic versions of certain documents where appropriate and possible.

✓ **Discipline for fees and penalties**- Fees and charges for customs processing of imports and exports shall be limited to the approximate cost of the services rendered.

✓ **Harmonized processes and standards**- Traders find it helpful when rules and procedures are predictable and familiar across borders. The TFA contains articles on Border Agency Cooperation and Customs Cooperation and it states that WTO members establish a single window or entry point to participating authorities or agencies.

✓ **Consultations and appeals**- The TFA provides opportunities for traders and other interested parties to comment on proposed rules related to the movement of goods. And also states that WTO members shall provide a right to appeal customs administrative decisions.

✓ **Assistance for implementation**- The TFA recognizes particular needs of developing countries and especially LDCs, provides for special and differential treatment for these members as they seek to implement the agreement.

Source: Investopedia, World Trade Organization, India Business News

❖❖

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU MARKET WATCH (APR-OCT'2016)

The EU is the largest T&C market of the world followed by US and imported $ 237.17 billion during 2015. EU T&C imports from the rest of the world were $ 143.45 billion during the period Apr- Oct'15 as compared to $ 147.11 billion during the same period in 2016. The total T&C imports during the months Apr-Oct of 2016 has witnessed a positive growth of 2.55% over the same period during 2015.

Table-1: EU import of T&C

Period	Import ($ Bn)
2015	237.17
April- Oct'15	143.45
April- Oct'16	147.11
Growth (%)	(+) 2.55

Being one of the largest markets, the major T&C exporting countries have always been trying to enhance their market share by increasing competitiveness. It ultimately leads to intense competition among the major players. India being one of the major exporters to EU and competing with countries like China, Germany and Italy etc there is need to study the month wise trend and composition of the export both at aggregate and product level. The TC Market/ Country Report for April-October'2016 has tried to analyse India's position in EU market vis-à-vis competitors so as to provide feedbacks to the policy makers for appropriate policy decision and textile trade & industry for desirable business strategy. The highlights are as follows:

❖ **EU as an export destination (Apr-Oct'16)**

➢ **Extra-EU**

- EU T&C imports from the extra EU were $ 71.91 billion in Apr-Oct'16.
- EU import from extra EU of T&C is tilted in favour of clothing products i.e. Chapter-61 (Knitted garment), Chapter-62 (Woven garment) and Chapter- 63 (Other made-ups).
- The clothing import from extra EU was to the tune of $ 59.44 billion (82.66%) during Apr-Oct'16 and imports in textiles items are worth $ 12.47 billion (17.34%).
- China is leading in textiles and clothing export in EU market with $ 24.70 billion, contributes 34.58 percent during Apr-Oct'16.
- Bangladesh is distant second with $ 9.88 billion followed by Turkey with $9.23 billion, India with $ 5.02 billion and Pakistan $ 3.11 billion during Apr-Oct'16.
- Bangladesh's share in the overall export of T&C is 13.84% followed by Turkey (12.93%), India (7.03%) and Pakistan (4.35%) etc.

Table-2: Top exporters to EU during Apr-Oct'16 ($ Bn)

Exporter	Apr-Oct'15	Apr-Oct'16		% Change
China	26.11	24.70	↓	-5.41%
Bangladesh	9.31	9.88	↑	6.17%
Turkey	9.19	9.23	↑	0.49%
India	4.96	5.02	↑	1.14%
Pakistan	2.96	3.11	↑	5.05%
RoW	18.97	19.97	↑	5.26%
Extra-EU	71.50	71.91	↑	0.57%

Source: Eurostat

➢ **Intra-EU**

- EU T&C imports from the intra EU were $ 75.20 billion in Apr-Oct'16.
- EU import from intra EU of T&C is slightly tilted in favour of clothing products i.e. Chapter-61 (Knitted garment), Chapter-62 (Woven garment) and Chapter-63 (Other made-ups).
- The clothing import from intra EU was to the tune of $ 53.03 billion (70.52%) during Apr-Oct'16 and imports in textiles items are worth $ 22.17 billion (29.48%).
- Germany is leading in textiles and clothing export in intra EU market with $15.06 billion, contributes 20.02 percent during Apr-Oct'16.

- Italy is distant second with $ 9.90 billion followed by Netherlands with $6.68 billion, Belgium $ 6.65 billion and Spain with $ 5.91 billion during Apr-Oct'16.
- Italy's share in the overall export of T&C is 13.16% followed by Netherland (8.89%), Belgium (8.84%) and Spain (7.86%) etc.

Table-3: Top exporters to EU during Apr-Oct'16 ($ Bn)

Exporter	Apr-Oct'15	Apr-Oct'16		% Change
Germany	14.06	15.06	↑	7.05%
Italy	9.62	9.90	↑	2.86%
Netherlands	6.25	6.68	↑	6.94%
Belgium	6.39	6.65	↑	4.03%
Spain	5.44	5.91	↑	8.66%
RoEU	29.25	31.01	↑	6.00%
Intra-EU	71.02	75.20	↓	-5.89%

Source: Eurostat

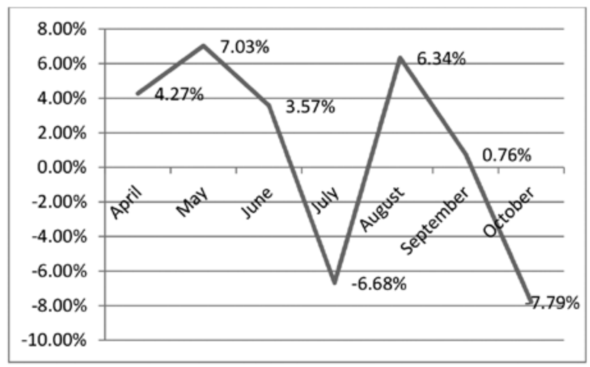
❖ **India as an Exporter of T&C to EU (Apr - Oct' 2016)**

- India's T&C export to EU during Apr-Oct' 2016 is $ 5.02 billion as compared to $ 4.96 billion during the same period of the previous year, which accounts about 25 percent of India's total T&C export to the world.
- India's aggregate export of textiles to EU (Chapter 50 to 60) is $ 1.04 billion during Apr-Oct'16 which is 12 percent of India's total textiles exports to the world.
- India's aggregate export of clothing to EU (Chapter 61 to 63) is $ 3.98 billion during Apr-Oct'16 which is 34 percent of India's total clothing exports to the world.
- Top 22 Products (whose share is more than 1%) contributed 51.67 percent to the export basket in EU market during Apr-Oct'16.
- The share of these top 22 products is 51.41 percent in the same period of 2015.

Table-4: India's T&C Exports to EU (Mn. $)

Month	April- October		
	2015	2016	% Change
April	814.32	849.07	4.27
May	683.69	731.74	7.03
June	712.73	738.14	3.57
July	752.39	702.12	-6.68
August	691.43	735.30	6.34
September	663.34	668.40	0.76
October	647.03	596.60	-7.79
Apr- Oct	4964.9	5021.4	1.14

Source: Eurostat



Comments

- The exports growth was highest in May 2016 as compared to the same period in 2015.

❖ **India's Top Performing Product in EU market (Apr–Oct'16)**

➢ Major MMF product which has experienced positive growth during April –October'2016 as compared to the same period during 2015

Products	Descriptions	Apr-Oct' 15	Apr-Oct' 16	% change
63053219	flexible intermediate bulk containers, of polyethylene or polypropylene strip, woven	131.38	135.70	3.28

Source: Eurostat

❖ **India's MMF Products having negative growth (Apr–Oct'16)**

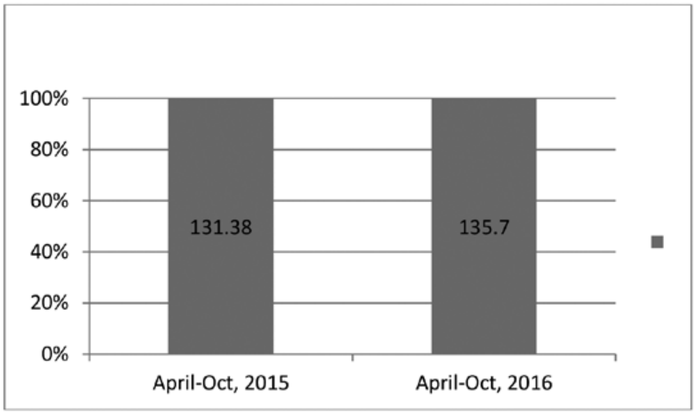
➢ Products have experienced negative growth during April – October'2016 as compared to the same period during 2015

Table-5: Product having negative growth (Mn $)

Products	Descriptions	Apr-Oct' 15	Apr-Oct' 16	% change
63025100	table linen of cotton, woven	52.55	51.06	-2.82

Source: Eurostat

- **Flexible intermediate bulk containers, for the packing of goods, of polyethylene or polypropylene strip or the like, excl. knitted or crocheted (63053219)**



Rank	Country		% Change
1	India	↑	3.28%
2	Turkey	↑	0.97%
3	Bangladesh	↓	-8.68%
4	Belgium	↑	25.26%
5	Czech Rep.	↑	14.02%
6	Romania	↓	-3.78%
7	Netherlands	↓	-12.96%
8	China	↓	-14.13%
9	Germany	↓	-5.06%
10	Bulgaria	↓	-12.06%

Source: Textile Committee Study

STATEMENT ABOUT OWNERSHIP AND OTHER PARTICULARS OF INFO SRTEPC

FORM IV RULE 8

1.	Place of Publication	:	The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council Resham Bhavan, 78 Veer Nariman Road Churchgate, Mumbai 400 020
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I, V. ANIL KUMAR, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

20th March 2017

(MR. V. ANIL KUMAR)
PUBLISHER

HIGHLIGHTS OF US MARKET WATCH (APR-NOV'2016)

The US is the second largest T&C market of the world after EU and imported $ 119.64 billion during 2015. The US T&C imports from the rest of the world were $ 82.93 billion during the period Apr-Nov'15 as compared to $ 78.07 billion during the same period in 2016. The total T&C imports during the months Apr-Nov of 2016 has witnessed a negative growth of -5.86% over the same period during 2015.

Tab-1:US import of T&C

Period	Import ($ Bn)
2015	119.64
April-Nov'15	82.93
April-Nov'16	78.07
Growth (%)	(-) 5.86

Being one of the largest markets, the major T&C exporting countries have always been trying to enhance their market share by increasing competitiveness. It ultimately leads to intense competition among the major players. India being one of the major exporter to US and competing with countries like China, Vietnam, Mexico, etc there is need to study the month wise trend and composition of the export both at aggregate and product level. The TC Market/Country Report for April-November' 2016 has tried to analyse India's position in US market vis-à-vis competitors so as to provide feedbacks to the policy makers for appropriate policy decision and textile trade & industry for desirable business strategy. The highlights are as follows:

❖ **<u>US as an export destination (Apr-Nov'16)-</u>**

- US T&C imports from the rest of the world were $ 78.07 billion in Apr- Nov'16.
- US import of T&C is tilted in favour of clothing products i.e. Chapter-61 (Knitted garment), Chapter-62 (Woven garment) and Chapter-63 (Other made-ups).
- The clothing imports from the world was to the tune of $ 68 billion (87.11%) during Apr-Nov'16 and imports in textiles items is worth $ 10.07 billion (12.89%),
- China is leading in textiles and clothing export in US market with $ 29.17 billion, contributes 37.36 percent during Apr-Nov'16.
- Vietnam is distant second with $ 7.87 billion followed by India with $ 5.22 billion, Mexico $ 3.57 billion and Indonesia $ 3.43 billion during Apr-Nov'16.
- Vietnam's share in the overall export of T&C is 10.08% followed by India (6.68%), Mexico (4.57%) and Indonesia (4.39%) etc.

Table-2: Top exporters to US during Apr-Nov'16 ($ Bn)

Exporter	Apr-Nov' 15	Apr-Nov' 16		% Change
China	31.70	29.17	↓	-7.99
Vietnam	7.86	7.87	↑	0.15
India	5.34	5.22	↓	-2.37
Mexico	3.71	3.57	↓	-3.64
Indonesia	3.65	3.43	↓	-6.08
RoW	30.67	28.81	↓	-6.06
World	82.93	78.07	↓	-5.86

Source: ITC

❖ **<u>India as an Exporter of T&C to US (Apr-Nov'16):</u>**

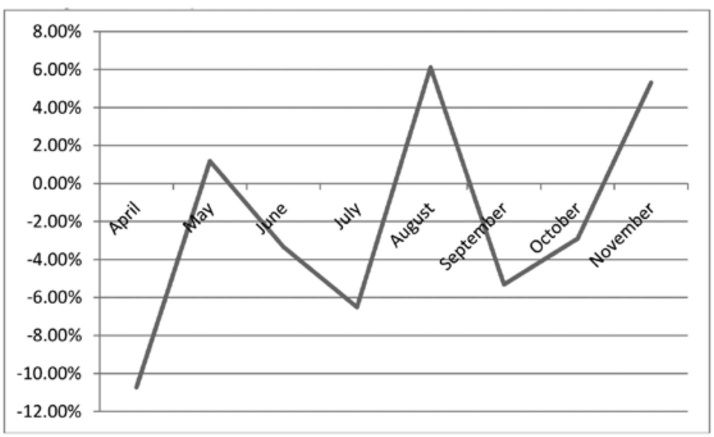
- India's T&C export to US during Apr-Nov'16 is $ 5.22 billion as compared to $ 5.34 billion during the same period of the previous year, which accounts about 21 percent of India's total T&C export to the world.
- The export has declined by 2.37% over the same period of previous year.
- India's aggregate export of textiles to US (Chapter 50 to 60) is $ 1.14 billion during Apr-Nov'16 which is 11 percent of India's total textiles exports to the world.
- India's aggregate export of clothing to US (Chapter 61 to 63) is $ 4.08 billion during Apr-Nov'16 which is 27 percent of India's total clothing exports to the world.

- Top 20 Products (whose share is more than 1%) contributed 46.94 percent to the export basket in US market during Apr-Nov'16.

Table 3: India's T&C Exports to US (Mn. $)

Month	April- October		
	2015	2016	% Change
April	768.82	686.33	-10.73
May	659.23	666.98	1.18
June	662.53	640.41	-3.34
July	708.16	662.07	-6.51
August	640.92	680.16	6.12
September	659.71	624.70	-5.31
October	658.28	639.17	-2.90
November	585.35	616.41	5.31
Apr-Nov	5343.01	5216.23	-2.37

Change in the exports



Comments

- The exports growth was highest in August 2016 as compared to the same period in 2015

❖ **<u>India's Top Performing Products in US market (Apr–Nov'16)</u>**

Products have experienced positive growth during April –November, 2016 as compared to the same period during 2015

Table-4: Top performing product of India (Mn.$)

Products	Descriptions	Apr-Nov' 15	Apr-Nov' 16	% change
6302600020	toilet linen and kitchen linen, of terry toweling or similar terry fabrics, of cotton	434.07	442.41	1.92

Source: ITC

❖ **India's Top Products having negative growth (Apr–Nov'16)**

Products have experienced negative growth during April – November, 2016 as compared to the same period during 2015

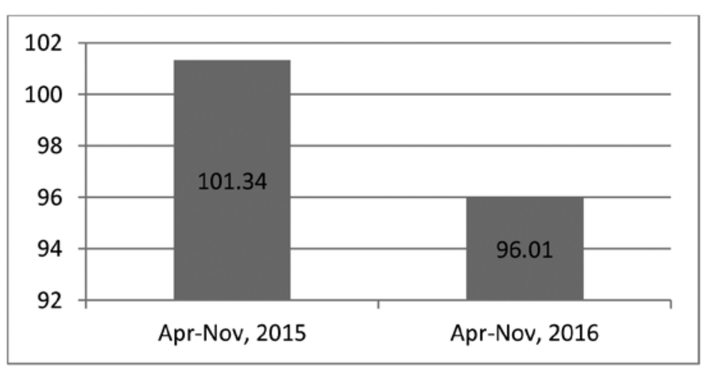
Table-5: Top Products having negative growth (Mn $)

Products	Descriptions	Apr-Nov' 15	Apr-Nov' 16	% change
5407200000	woven fabrics of synthetic filament yarn	101.34	96.01	-5.25
6305320010	sacks and bags, of man-made textile materials	75.92	73.63	-3.01

Source: ITC

❖ **India's Product wise Performance vis-a-vis Competitors (Apr-Nov'16) over previous year**

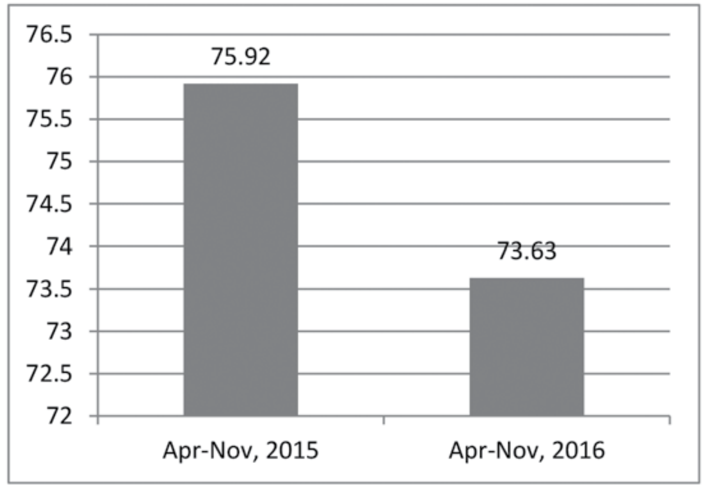
➢ **Woven fabrics of synthetic filament yarn; obtained from strip or like (5407200000)**



Rank	Country		% Change
1	China	↓	-3.29%
2	Canada	↓	-5.99%
3	India	↓	-5.25%
4	Korea	↓	-7.31%
5	Mexico	↓	-14.25%
6	Germany	↓	-14.25%
7	Turkey	↓	-19.13%
8	Taipei	↓	-25.12%
9	Netherlands	↓	-3.21%
10	Japan	↓	-19.35%

- **Sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods, of man-made textile materials: flexible (6305320010)**

Source: Textile Committee Study



Rank	Country		% Change
1	India	↓	-3.01%
2	China	↓	-13.56%
3	Mexico	↓	-4.16%
4	Turkey	↓	-14.33%
5	Indonesia	↓	-63.53%
6	Viet Nam	↑	56.53%
7	Thailand	↓	-69.42%
8	Cambodia	↑	-69.42%
9	Korea, Rep.	↑	48.00%
10	Hong Kong.	↑	109.13%

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Textiles India 2017, Gandhinagar, Gujarat 30th June-2nd July 2017

The Ministry of Textiles is organizing its first ever mega trade event for the entire textiles value chain – Textiles India 2017 at Mahatma Mandir and Exhibition Grounds, Gandhinagar, Gujarat during 30th June – 2nd July 2017. The event is being publicized as an annual event alongside major global trade events. The event has added significance as it will be inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and the valedictory will be chaired by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley.

The objective of holding the event is to showcase the opportunities and strengths of textiles and apparel manufacturing in India including partner and focus states for global investors as well as create a global marketing platform for the Indian textile industry. India is one of the few countries in the world with the complete textile supply chain viz. spinning, weaving, knitting, processing and garmenting with the potential to occupy the space being left by China in the global trade.

The event will be spread over a total area of 1,25,000 sq. mtrs and 11 halls and will showcase the rich heritage and modern diversified products of handlooms, handicrafts, jute, silk, etc. The event will have Country Sessions, State Sessions, Round Table Sectoral Seminars, B2B Meetings with around 2500 international buyres, sector specific theme pavilions, Fashion Shows on the inaugural day and Day 2 and thematic Shows.

The Council proposes to select more than 100 member-companies of different product groups including Suiting, Shirting, Made-ups, Home Textiles, Industrial Textiles, Dress Material, Women's Wear, Accessories, Yarn and Fibre on a First-Come-First Served basis for participation in the mega event. The details of participation fee are being worked out and will be communicated to you shortly.

(Continued from Page 1)

Council organizes first ever Exhibition of Textiles (INTEXPO) in Dubai, UAE

Textile Industry – an Overview

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has a large textile industry, although it is not advertised or marketed. They make products such as child safety-seats, curtains, luggage, and some high- end fashion products for local purchase. However, their best-selling textiles are woven goods like knitwear. This industry has become so large in the country that textiles are only behind oil for income and employment. Although the UAE sells to over 50 countries, they also have a large customer-base domestically. In cities like Dubai, local male consumers have become intrinsic to the growth of the high Fashion Industry. Additionally, UAE has garnered a lot of business from other countries by moving their base of operations to Fujairah - an area in UAE. Fujairah is called a "free zone", which means that companies located there are not required to pay taxes or pay any fees for repatriation. This is something that brought many companies and people into UAE, which adds a larger customer-base for their garments and textiles. In 2012, UAE took advantage of this area, and its growing population to add its own large textile mill. The size of this mill is larger than any other mills in the Middle East, and the employees wear roller skates to get around quickly and efficiently. United Arab Emirates has several advantages currently. The first is location; due to their locality, they have become a Shipping Hub for other countries' textile industries. This has created more business for them, besides developing a good network for other trade. Secondly, UAE has some areas, where there are good economies and many customers with money to spend on their products. Due to tax-breaks and other perks, many countries have moved their businesses to the UAE, creating a larger customer-base.

UAE – Tops Market Attractiveness and Scores Globally

Being ranked 7th on 2015 - Global Retail Development Index, UAE has the highest market attractiveness / retail development score (97.6%) globally as well as the lowest market saturation score (16.5%) in the entire Middle East & Pan Asia region. UAE's Apparel Industry is considered as the best in terms of clothing sales, clothing sales growth and presence of international retailers.

UAE – World's 11th Biggest Clothing Importer

UAE continues to hold its 11th position as the world's biggest clothing importer with import value of $4 billion - ahead of Turkey and Saudi Arabia by $1 billion. Propelled by population growth of near around 5% (9.5 million currently), and strong tourists inflow, UAE's Apparel Industry & Retail Clothing sector is expected to remain profitable for businesses and investors as the country strives to become an exciting "Shopping Destination" by offering unique shopping experiences in the shape of festivals, events and exhibitions.

UAE poised to be one of the world's major textile and apparel markets after Oil

UAE Textile Industry is not only the country's largest Trading Sector after oil, but it occupies an important place in UAE's economy as a whole, and particularly in Dubai - because of its contribution to the industrial output, employment generation and foreign exchange earnings.

UAE's textile exports cover more than 50 countries in Africa, the Middle East, South Asia and Europe, while major exporters are China, South Korea, Japan and Indonesia.

UAE's textile and garment companies have improved and upgraded their raw material storage, packing and transport facilities for large-scale operations. The UAE is also reputed for exports of garments, based on bulk import of textile and textile articles from China and

India. Both these markets constitute a major segment of the textiles and textile imports, since the cost of manufacturing is significantly lower in these countries due to the availability of cheaper labor and lower input costs.

UAE is strongly poised to be one of the world's major textile and apparel markets. The apparel brands are very strong due to their presence in premium Shopping Malls, as the UAE Apparel Industry has transformed from conventional outlets to large Shopping Malls and organized Retail Chains.

Here, home-grown garment brands were gaining greater popularity in the local market and abroad, and stressed that more aggressive marketing programs were needed to promote the country as a high quality clothes producer and incentivize key players in the industry. Referring to Men's wear volumes, homegrown luxury brands are in high demand from brand conscious male consumers with high purchasing power.

The UAE textile industry is likely to emerge as a main driver with encouraging growth in textile trade as it foresees good profitability in import of textiles and textile articles, and then re-exporting them.

UAE stands third globally in textile exports after USA and UK

The UAE is the world’s third largest exporter of textiles, after USA and UK, according to a Study, conducted by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Kolkata.

The UAE exported textiles worth $1623.76 million - representing 7.75% share of the global export market. Of the total textile global exports of over $ 20939.80 million, UAE commands a share of 7.75%, which reflects strongly on the development of the country’s Textile Industry.

The UAE comes third after USA (20.38%) and UK (8.11%), and outstrips Germany (7.65%), France (4.46%), Italy (3.74%), Spain (3.08%), Netherlands (2.57%), Bangladesh (2.83%) and China (2.10%). These top ten occupy a combined share of 62.30% of the total global exports of textile.

The secret of Textile Industry’s success in UAE is that the country sets up trends that others follow. UAE has overcome the challenges of the global market such as, volatility in price, rising input cost, energy crisis and lack of marketing exposure.

Most of the production of jute, yarn, apparel, clothing and garments takes place in Asian countries like China and India - both are leading manufacturers of textiles. UAE, being strategically located as a Border Market to the major production areas, is doing very well, in re-exporting to all parts of the world. This can be attributed to the ease in logistics as well as the low costs of shipping in and out of the country.

Conclusion

The Indian Textile Exhibition (INTEXPO), organized by the Council in Dubai, UAE evoked good response including Media interest. The INTEXPO has helped both visiting Buyers and Executives of participating Indian companies to renew their existing trade contacts, and expand the current scope for further enhancing our trade with UAE. The first-ever Export Promotion Programme of the Council has also created a conducive atmosphere for a new era of further co-operation between the traders of the Industry of Textiles and Clothing in India and UAE. As UAE tops the list of being the country’s leading importer of textiles & clothing, it is hoped that the Exhibition, will help in significantly expanding our current trade to this thriving market of textiles & clothing in the Middle East and Gulf region.

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MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY					
DGFT					
Sr. No.	**Heading No.**	**Date**	**Subject**	**Description**	**Download the Link**
(1)	Public Notice No. 61/2015-2020	07.03.2017	Harmonizing MEIS Schedule in the Appendix 3B (Table-2) with ITC (HS), 2017	DGFT has notified ITC (HS), 2017 in replacement of the ITC (HS) 2012 vide Notification No.36/2015-2020 dated 17th January, 2017. Subsequently, vide Public Notice No. 61/2015-2020 dated 07.03.2017, DGFT has re-notified - the MEIS Schedule, Appendix 3B (Table- 2) which shows the existing HS Codes, their description and rates of MEIS applicable with corresponding 2017 HS Codes and description of goods / products. With consolidation of all the lists and consequent arrangement based on sequence of ITC (HS), the existing Sl. No. of items have undergone changes. Please note that the MEIS Schedule as per ITC(HS), 2017 would be made **w.e.f. 01.01.2017.**	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/PN/PN16/PN%2061%20English.pdf
(2)	Public Notice No. 59/2015-2020	21.02.2017	Amendment in Chapter 2 of the Handbook of Procedure (2015-20).	When an IEC holder seeks modification/ change of Head Office/ Registered Office address in its IEC and which involves a shift in its jurisdictional RA, a request to that effect will have to be made to the new RA, to whose jurisdiction the applicant is shifting its office.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/PN/PN16/PN5917.pdf
(3)	Public Notice No. 58/2015-2020	10.02.2017	Amendment in Paragraph 3.06 of Handbook of Procedures 2015-20.	Amendments in Paragraph 3.06 of Handbook of Procedures 2015- 20 by replacing sub para (b) & (c) notified vide Public Notice No. 30 dated 26th August, 2015 with two tables showing jurisdictional RA for MEIS and SEIS.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/PN/PN16/PN5817_%20English.pdf
MINISTRY OF FINANCE					
CBEC - CUSTOMS					
Sr. No.	**Heading No.**	**Date**	**Subject**	**Description**	**Download the Link**
(1)	Notification No 15/2017-Customs (NT)	02.03.2017	Amendment to Notification No. 62/1994-Customs (N.T.) dated 21.11.1994 in respect of Revdanda Port in State of Maharashtra for unloading of imported goods and loading of export goods or any class of such goods	In the said notification, in the Table, in serial number 8 relating to State of Maharashtra, against item (7) in column (3) relating to Revdanda Port, for items (a) and (b) and the entries relating thereto in column (4), the following shall be substituted, namely: *"Unloading of imported goods and loading of export goods or any class of such goods".*	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt15-2017.pdf

(2)	Notification No 14/2017- Customs (NT)	02.03.2017	Rate of exchange of conversion of the foreign currency with effect from 3rd March, 2017	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. These rates shall be effective from 3rd March, 2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt14-2017.pdf
(3)	Notification No 12/2017- Customs (NT)	16.02.2017	Rate of exchange of conversion of the foreign currency with effect from 17th February, 2017	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. These rates shall be effective from 17th February, 2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt12-2017.pdf
(4)	Circular No. 06/ 2017- Customs	28.02.2017	Acceptance of e-BRC of DGFT towards proof of realization of sale proceeds for exports with LEO date upto 31.03.2014 under drawback scheme	The Board has decided that for exports with LEO dates 12.08.2012 onwards till 31.03.2014, DGFT's e-BRC would be accepted, except in case of specific intelligence or information of misuse. This shall be subject to appropriate declaration by the exporter on back of DGFT e-BRC. Format of the said declaration is enclosed to the Circular No. 6/2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ06-2017cs.pdf
(5)	Circular No . 05/ 2017- Customs	28.02.2017	Exemption from drawal of samples for the purpose of grant of drawback to the AEO certificate holders	Board has decided that those exporters who have been accorded Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) certificate (Tier II & Tier III) in terms of Circular No. 33/2016- Customs dated 22.07.2016 are being exempt from the requirements of drawl of samples for the purpose of grant of drawback, except in case of any specific information or intelligence, as a measure of further facilitation.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ05-2017cs.pdf
(6)	Circular No . 04/ 2017- Customs	16.02.2017	Expansion of 24x7 customs clearance and clarification of levy of Merchant Overtime Fee (MOT) charges in CFSs Attached to 24x7 ports	Intimation about the decision to extend 24x7 customs clearance to all bills of entry and not just facilitated bills of entry and also, clarification regarding levy of Merchant Overtime Fee (MOT) charges in CFSs attached to 24x7 ports.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ04-2017cs.pdf

CBEC- CENTRAL EXCISE

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Circular No 1053/02/2017-CX	10.03.2017	Master Circular on Show Cause Notice, Adjudication and Recovery	The master circular is divided into four parts. Part I deals with Show Cause Notice related issues, Part II deals with issues related to Adjudication proceedings, Part III deals with closure of proceedings and recovery of duty and Part IV deals with miscellaneous issues.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-circulars/cx-circulars-2017/circ1053-2017cx.pdf

(2)	Instruction F. No. 206/01/2017-CX 6	16.02.2017	Periodicity of Cost Accounting Standard (CAS -4) certificates	Instances have been highlighted during C&AG audit some assessees are not preparing CAS-4 certificates even after substantial time lapse from ending of financial year and filing of Tax Audit reports and therefore these assessees could not calculate the differential duty.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-instructions/cx-instructions-2017/cx-ins-cas-4cert.pdf
(3)	Circular No. 1054/03/2017-CX	15.03.2017	Classification of 'Saree' under CETA, 1985-reg	Representations have been received from the members of the trade requesting clarification regarding classification of „Saree". The issue raised in these representations is whether the goods described as „Saree" which has undergone further processing such as embroidery, stitching of lace and tikki etc. and stitched with two or more kinds of fabrics is classifiable as „Saree" under Chapter 54 or as made-ups under Chapter 63 of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-circulars/cx-circulars-2017/circ1054-2017cx.pdf

CBEC- SERVICE TAX

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Circular No. 204/02/ 2017 - Service Tax	16.02.2017	Applicability of service tax on the services by way of transportation of goods by a vessel from a place outside India to the customs station in India w.r.t. goods intended for transshipment to any country outside India	Representations seeking clarification on levy of service tax on the services by way of transportation of goods by a vessel from a place outside India to the customs station in India with respect to goods intended for transshipment to any country outside India.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-servicetax/st-circulars/st-circulars-2017/st-circ-204-2-2017.pdf

MUMBAI CUSTOMS

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 28/ 2017	07.03.2017	Exemption from drawal of samples for the purpose of grant of drawback to the AEO certificate holders	Board has decided that those exporters who have been accorded Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) certificate (Tier II & Tier III) in terms of Circular No. 33/2016- Customs dated 22.07.2016 are being exempt from the requirements of drawl of samples for the purpose of grant of drawback, except in case of any specific information or intelligence, as a measure of further facilitation.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/site/ PublicNotice.aspx?id = 2290 & mode = download

(2)	Public Notice No. 24/ 2017	28.02.2017	Container Scanning Operation and Examination revised procedures	The Scanning operations had commenced from 27.11.2015 vide Public Notice No. 42/2015 dated 23.10.2015. Some amendments have been made to the procedures for scanning operations and this Public Notice is issued in supersession to the earlier Public Notice No. 42/2015.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/site/PublicNotice.aspx?id=2288 & mode = download
(3)	Public Notice No. 19/ 2017	10.02.2017	Installation and commissioning of Customs RAPISCAN 620 DV facility for checkpoint screening system at New Custom House.	All stake holders, members of trade are requested to enter Custom House premises from the main entrance of the old building only and the entry will be regulated through a metal detector and screening of hand baggage through the RAPISCAN 620 DV screening machine.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in / site / Public Notice.aspx?id = 2286 & mode = download

SAHAR AIR CARGO CUSTOMS

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 06/2016- 17	16.02.2017	Change in assessment procedure of Bills of Entry filed by 'First Time Importers'- Implementation of trade facilitation measure	To streamline the assessment process and to reduce the dwell time, procedures have been devised for assessment of Bs/E filed by first time importers.	http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2017/PN-06-17.pdf

JNCH CUSTOMS

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 28/2017	06.03.2017	Standard Operating Procedure in relation to Registration of DPD Client with Terminals, release of DPD Containers, opening of PD Account (if required), procedure for sending trailer to pick up DPD container (in case of own transport arrangement by DPD Importer)	Accordingly, the procedure adopted by various Terminal Operators in regard to Registration of DPD Client with Terminals, release of DPD Containers, opening of PD Account (if required), procedure for sending trailer to pick up DPD container (in case of own transport arrangement by DPD Importer) is given in the above Public Notice No. 28/2017.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in / pdf / PN-2017 / PN_NO_28.pdf

(2)	Public Notice No. 27/2017	06.03.2017	Procedure in relation to release of DPD Importer only after issue of "delivery order", where CFS is logistic service provider & certain information about shipping lines for reference	Clarifications are given in the Public Notice as under – a) In such cases, where CFS Logistics is being used ("CFS Code" as "Stacking code") for evacuation of DPD containers ,it is the responsibility of concerned CFS to ensure that container is released to DPD Importer only after verification of "delivery order" and also to ensure that Customs Out of Charge (OOC) has been obtained before the container leave the Port Terminals & enter the CFS. b) Officer at the gate of CFS will verify the compliance (OOC obtained before the container leave the Port Terminals & enter the CFS).	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_27.pdf
(3)	Public Notice No. 26/2017	02.03.2017	Procedure for Scanning of DPD containers	In respect of scanning & examination for Risk Management System (RMS) facilitated containers (other than DPD). Public Notice No. 06/2017 dated 12.01.2017 is in existence. It has been represented that procedure in respect of DPD containers needs to be similarly clarified. The procedure for scanning of DPD Containers is being prescribed in the Public Notice No. 26/2017.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_26.pdf
(4)	Public Notice No. 25/2017	03.03.2017	Standard Operating Procedure consequent to commencement of "Document Processing Area" in the Parking Plaza and Gate Automation for Export & Import through NSICT / NSIGT, GTI & JNPCT	Attention is invited Public Notices issued by Jawaharlal Nehru Customs House about procedure in regard to Export of containers (entry of factory Stuffed (including self- sealed) and CFS stuffed Export Containers into port terminals after granting of LEO at Parking Area) and movement of Import Containers from Port Terminal to CFS/ICD as well as Direct Port Delivery to importers. Hence, the standard operating procedures to be followed for movement of such Containers to and from the Port Terminal have been mentioned in the given Public Notice No. 25/2017.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_25.pdf

(5)	Public Notice No. 23/2017	01.03.2017	Procedure for filing warehouse Bills of Entry in cases where PGA NOC is required	Based on the feedback received from members of trade, the procedures for clearance of goods requiring PGA NOCs, is prescribed in the Public Notice.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_23.pdf
(6)	Public Notice No. 21/2017	24.02.2017	Expansion of 24X7 customs clearance and clarification of levy of MOT Charges in CFSs attached to 24 X 7 ports	Intimation about the decision taken to extend 24x7 customs clearance to all bills of entry and not just facilitated bills of entry and also, clarification given regarding levy of Merchant Overtime Fee **(**MOT) charges in CFSs attached to 24x7 ports.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_21.pdf
(7)	Public Notice No. 18/2017	09.02.2017	Issue of SMTPs in respect of cargo destined to ICDs by Rail	In order to facilitate the communication and procedure, it has been decided that whenever due to system issues, either “Entry Inward” could not be given in the system (i.e. manual “Entry Inward”) or even after grant of Entry Inward in the system, SMTP is not generated online, following procedure given in the Public Notice should be adopted.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_18.pdf
(8)	Public Notice No. 17/2017	09.02.2017	Endorsement of ARE-1 by Customs for submission to Central Excise	To facilitate the trade, till the instruction from the Board is issued, in addition to the arrangement already made in Punjab Conware (Office Order No. 01/2017 dated 09.01.2017), endorsement of ARE-1 may be carried out in all CFSs “by any Superintendent responsible for granting LEO”, after the EGM has been filed. Further, there is no requirement to provide any documents for endorsement on ARE-1 as the details of export can be verified using ICES 1.5.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_17.pdf
(9)	Public Notice No. 16/2017	03.02.2017	Certain clarifications about DPD facility	As a measure of trade facilitation and ‘Ease of Doing Business’ aforesaid issues have been examined and point wise clarification / procedural requirements are given in the said Public Notice.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_16.pdf

NOTICE

(10)	Public Notice No. 15/2017	03.02.2017	Modification to Public Notice No. 04/2017- Printing of EP Copy	Following modification has been made in the said Public Notice – a) EP Copy Printouts will be made available only in respect of those shipping bills which were filed on or before 30.11.2016. b) To facilitate the trade and to clear the past pending EP printout, EP Copies Print Section has been made functional in Punjab Convare till further orders. c) As per provisions laid down in para 3 of Board Circular No. 55/2016- Customs dated 23.11.2016, though Board has decided to do away with the routine printing of documents viz. GAR7 forms/TR-6 Challans, TP Copy, Shipping Bill (Exchange Control copy and Export Promotion copy) and Bill of Entry (Exchange Control Copy), however, there could be cases where printing is necessitated for variety of reasons like manual BoEs, insistence of importer, exporter etc. In such exceptional cases printouts will be provided on demand.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_15.pdf
(11)	Public Notice No. 13/2017	31.01.2017	Procedure for Manual "Let Export Order" in case of prolonged system issues	There were instances of delay in processing of "shipping bills" due to system issues like "shipping bills in RMS queue" etc. In such cases, in order to ensure that vessel is not missed, manual clearances were allowed on case to case basis after waiting for reasonable period of time. There has been request from Members of Trade that there should be system in place to provide for manual "Let Export Order" in such exceptional circumstances so that there is no need for approval from Commissionerate each time.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_13.pdf
(12)	Public Notice No. 12/2017	31.01.2017	Procedure for DPD clients filing warehouse Bills of Entry and taking delivery of goods from Terminals to Bonded Warehouse without going to CFS	Based on the feedback received from Members of Trade, the procedure for clearance of goods from Port Terminals to Customs Bonded Warehouses without going through CFSs in respect of DPD clients are prescribed in the given Public Notice.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_12.pdf

NOTICE

(13)	Public Notice No. 11/2017	30.01.2017	Introduction of new RBI- BRC Module for monitoring of realization of Export proceeds for shipping bills with LEO dates from 01.04.2014 onwards	It is once again reiterated that after the launch of the new RBI-BRC Module (RBI MIS Reports) w.ef. 26.06.2014. The BRC Section of Drawback Cell, JNCH functioning under Commissionerate-NS-II, JNCH would monitor the realization of export proceeds for shipping bills with LEO dates on or after 01.04.2014 under the new RBI-BRC Module and would stop accepting / acknowledging 6 monthly negative statement from authorized dealers /chartered accountants showing the proof of realization of export proceeds (BRC)	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_11.pdf

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	RBI/2016-17/244	09.03.2017	Inclusion of "The Royal Bank of Scotland plc" in the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934	"The Royal Bank of Scotland plc" has been included in the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 vide Notification DBR.IBD.No.3878/23.13.020/2016-17 dated September 29, 2016, and published in the Gazette of India (Part III - Section 4) dated January 21- January 27, 2017	https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=10879&Mode=0
(2)	RBI/2016-17/228	16.02.2017	Reimbursement of Merchant Discount Rate	In order to operationalise the above, RBI will reimburse banks the MDR on debit cards used for payment of tax and non-tax dues to the Government of India with effect from January 1, 2017.	https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=10860&Mode=0

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

OFFICE OF THE TEXTILE COMMISSIONER

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Circular	21.01.2017	Appointment of agency for undertaking the work of evaluation/assessment of committed liabilities data submitted by lending agencies to the Ministry of Textiles for reimbursement	Appointment of M/s NABARD Consultancy Services (NABCONS), New Delhi, for undertaking the work of evaluation/assessment of committed liabilities data submitted by lending agencies to the Ministry of Textiles for reimbursement of subsidy for term loans sanctioned under MTUFS and RTUFS for textile industries. The agency has to complete the work within a period of two months to complete the assessment and submit the report..	http://www.txcindia.gov.in/html/Circular_on__evalution_of_commiotted_liability_under_TUFS.PDF

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SPEAKERS AT THE INAUGURATION OF INTEXPO, DUBAI, UAE

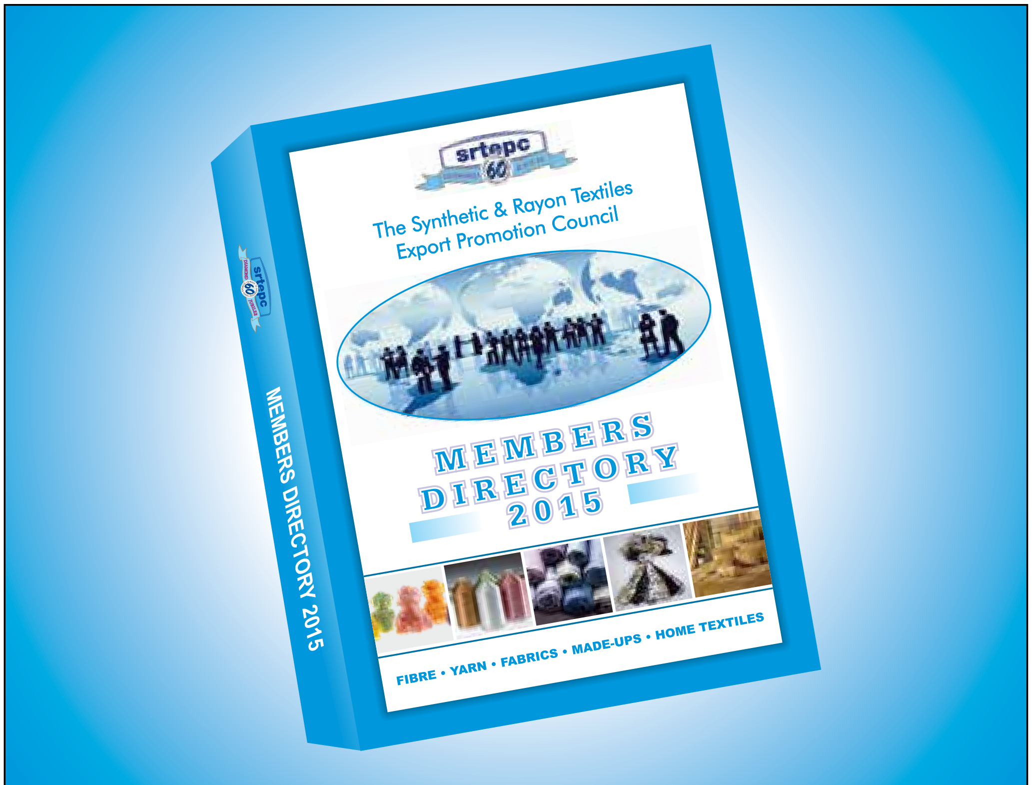
Shri Anurag Bhushan, Consul General, Consulate General of India in Dubai (Left),
Shri Srijib Roy, Additional Director, SRTEPC (Right)

BUYERS AT STALLS OF PARTICIPATING MEMBER-COMPANIES

AMITY EXPORT EXCELLENCE AWARD 2017 TO SRTEPC

SRTEPC being honoured with the Amity Export Excellence Award 2017 during its 17th International Business Summit (INBUSH) Era held in Noida during 8-10 February 2017. Shri V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director, SRTEPC receiving the Award on behalf of the Council.

Postal Regn. No. MCS/051/2015-17
Posted at Churchgate P.O. Mumbai - 400 020 on 26th of every month



SRTEPC Members Directory

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council in commemoration of its 60 years service to the industry, presents the **1st edition** of **Members Directory** with over **3400 entries** covering the complete details of **manufacturers/exporters of MMF textiles** and **blended textile items** including **Fibre, Yarn, Fabrics, Made-ups, Home textiles,** etc.

The publication will serve as a useful reference book and sourcing guide for the industry, importers, buying Houses and Agents of textile products. The cost of the Members Directory is as follows:

- **Printed Copy** – Rs.1,000/ - US$50/- (Including delivery Charges)

For further information and request for supply of Directory may be sent to
Shri Anand Haldankar, Joint Director, E mail: *anand@srtepc.in*
Ms. Barbara Mendes, Sr. Executive, E mail: *barbaram@srtepc.in,srtepc@srtepc.in*

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Your link to Overseas Buyers of Synthetic & Rayon Textiles

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council

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