

## MEETING OF THE HIGH LEVEL DRAWBACK COMMITTEE WITH SRTEPC MEMBERS FOR SEEKING SUGGESTIONS ON THE ALL INDUSTRY RATES OF DUTY DRAWBACK UNDER GST

To seek the views of Members of Trade and Industry on duty drawback rates for exports following implementation of GST from July, the newly constituted Drawback Committee headed by Shri G.K. Pillai, Chairman and other Members of the Drawback Committee Shri Gautam Ray, Member, Shri Y.G. Parande, Member along with Shri Dinesh Kumar Gupta, Director (DBK) held a Meeting with Members of SRTEPC on 28th April 2017 at Hotel Vivanta by Taj-President in Mumbai

Duty drawback rates or the All Industry Rate of Duty Drawback takes into account the relevant broad parameters, including prevailing prices of inputs, input-output norms, share of imports in input consumption, the rates of central excise and Customs duties, incidence of service tax paid on taxable services which are used as input services in the manufacturing or processing of export goods and value of export goods, among others.

The Chairman of the Council Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal welcomed the guest and thereafter paid tribute to the Past Drawback Chairman Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri.

The Chairman of the DBK Committee, Shri G K Pillai requested the members present to make the presentation on the All Industry Rates of Duty Drawback under GST. The Chairman of the Council made a detailed presentation on the Export Performance of the Exports of MMF Textile items and highlighted the issues to be addressed concerning the MMF Textiles in the forthcoming GST regime. He also reiterated that the MMF sector needs to be considered specifically for enhancement in the Drawback Rates for all synthetic textile items under the GST regime in view of the fact that some of the State and Local level taxes are not subsumed in the GST.



Members of the Drawback Committee interacting with Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Chairman, SRTEPC and Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Immediate Past Chairman, SRTEPC. Seen on the dais from l to r : Shri Y.G. Parande, Member, Drawback Committee, Shri G.K. Pillai, Chairman, Drawback Committee, Shri Gautam Ray, Member, Drawback Committee and Shri Dinesh Kumar Gupta, Director (DBK)

Members present during the Meeting proposed the following to be included in the Duty Drawback Scheme under GST :

- Refund of Basic Customs Duty (BCD)
- Refund of State levy taxes
- Refund of Embedded duties not covered by above.
- Unrebated and un-subsumed taxes which have not been considered should be included in the Drawback Scheme.

The Department took note of all the issues and requested to submit a brief Note on all those issues raised to the DBK Department at the earliest so that they would be able to recommend the same to the GST Council for consideration and decision.

The Drawback Committee informed the gathering that In order to ensure smooth transition to GST framework, the Drawback Committee will be formulating and recommending for Revision of All Industry Rates (AIRs) of drawback on rebate to be implemented for exports in the context of new GST environment based on the suggestions received from the Export Promotion Council and its members.

Based on the suggestions received from Members during the Meeting, the Chairman of the Drawback Committee informed that once the GST is implemented, the duty drawback rule, under which an exporter is compensated for duties suffered during the course of production of goods, too would be required to be aligned with the new indirect tax regime.

The Department of Revenue assured that refund of tax claims of exporters would be disbursed within seven days under the new GST set-up.



SRTEPC Members present at the Drawback Meeting

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Dear Member,

India's exports grew at 19.4 percent in April, growth shown consecutively for eight month, as per the Commerce Ministry data. The increase in exports is on account of robust performance of some prominent sectors including Textiles. The exports of Indian MMF Textiles during April- February 2016-17 touched US\$ 5251 Million against US\$ 5286 Million during the same period of the previous year indicating a marginal decline of 0.68 per cent. However, if one looks at the segment-wise trends in the MMF Textiles, Fabrics (- 9.08%) and Made-ups (- 0.04 %) segments had shown a declining trend whereas Yarn (6.55 %) and Fibre (9.49%) has shown an increase respectively, compared to the same period as above. It is expected that the value-added segments will reverse the trend in the coming months. The Textile sector is expecting a boost in exports and growth with the implementation of GST. It is hoped that it will help the textile industry to get more competitive in both the global and domestic markets and create opportunities for sustainable, long-term growth and generate employment.



The Council recently had a Meeting with the Drawback Committee headed by Shri G.K. Pillai, Chairman, Shri Gautam Ray, Member, Shri Y.G. Parande, Member along with Shri Dinesh Kumar Gupta, Director (DBK) in Mumbai. During the Meeting suggestions and views of Council were sought on the All Industry Rates of Duty Drawback under the GST regime. Although implementation of GST is imminent there is still a need for enhancement of Drawback Rates for all synthetic items in the MMF textile sector as some of the State and Local level taxes are not subsumed in the GST. The Department took note of all the issues raised by the member-exporters of the Council and requested the Council to submit a brief note on all those issues which need to be looked at by the DBK Department at the earliest so that the same may be recommended to the GST Council for consideration and decision. I am glad to inform that the Chairman of the Drawback Committee has apprised that once the GST is implemented, the duty drawback rule, under which an exporter is compensated for duties paid during production of goods, too would be required to be aligned with the new indirect tax regime. The drawback compensation under the GST regime would also be expedited.

I am happy to inform you that the Council's preparations for the mega event Textiles India 2017 spearheaded by the Ministry of Textiles is shaping up well and all out efforts are being done to ensure that the Show is a success and benefit the textile fraternity in India and will be an annual event for overseas buyers. Road Shows are being held in various countries to publicize and promote the event and garner buyers from these regions. The Council has completed Road Shows in Malaysia, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Turkey and LAC. During the Road Shows, we have interacted with the textile



associations/trade bodies and the response we received at the Road Shows were overwhelming. I am sure that these Road Shows will help us in generating interest in the textile community of those countries and we are expecting delegations with large number of potential Buyers coming from countries for the event. On the domestic front too to mobilize participants Road Show was held in Surat, the textile city of India and more such shows are being planned in Bhilwara, and Ahmedabad. I request you to send message regarding the mega Textiles event to all your Textile fraternity to visit the event so that they do not miss the opportunity to participate in Textiles India 2017 and take advantage of being part of the Show.

The Council is organizing participation of its member-companies to the Federal Trade Fair for Apparel & Textile "TEXTILLEGPROM", Moscow, Russia, scheduled from August 29 to September 1, 2017 and in Cairo Fashion & Tex being held at Cairo in Egypt from 13 to 16 September 2017. These mega programmes of textiles & clothing will be organized under MAI Scheme by the Council in co-ordination with other Textiles Export Promotion Councils, and with the guidance of the Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, under the active guidance of the Indian Embassy. I urge the Council members to take benefit of these markets to further enlarge export business by participating in the events in large numbers.

You may be aware that the Goods & Service Tax (GST) is to be rolled out from 1st July, 2017. The GST Acts, namely the Central Goods & Service Tax (CGST) Act, Integrated Goods & Service Tax (IGST) Act & Union Territory Goods & Service Tax (UTGST) Act have already been enacted and several State Assemblies have also passed SGST law. In this connection, the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) has embarked upon the process of training and awareness for the smooth roll-out of GST. These programmes will be held in a town hall format for half day in regional languages. Details of the workshops are available on the CBEC website [www.cbec.gov.in](http://www.cbec.gov.in) under the 'GST Awareness' button. Members are requested to kindly make best use of these workshops.

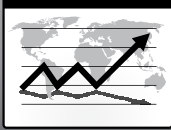
I am happy to note that members have been prompt in renewing their membership for the year 2017-18. I request all of you to renew your membership of the Council without delay so that we will be able to serve you better in all issues concerning export promotion services.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

SRI NARAIN AGGARWAL  
CHAIRMAN

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council



**PAKISTAN**

**Textile exports expected to cross US\$ 500 million in next three months**

Pakistan government is eyeing more than US\$500 million increase in textile exports in next three months after achieving a 6.2 percent increase on year-on-year in March worth US\$1.064 billion.

It is believed that the recent increase in the textile sector after a long dip is due to the decrease in duties. They have zeroed customs duty from 4 percent. Likewise, sales tax has been zeroed from 5 percent.

It would take some time to get the maximum benefit of the government aid. By end of June, they are expecting an increase of US\$500 to US\$1,000 million in exports.

Textile and clothing exports rose, mainly due to value-added products such as garments. The increase in export proceeds was also evident in rupee terms.

The textile and clothing exports rose to 6.2pc year-on-year basis, worth US\$1.064 billion in March. The export of value-added products grew during the month, both in terms of value and quantity. Export of readymade garments rose by 19.5pc and that of knitwear grew by 5.4pc in March.

Exports of bedwear edged up by 5.4pc and those of towels 15.8pc during the month. Exports of cotton yarn witnessed a year-on-year increase of 5pc while those of cotton cloth and yarn, other than

cotton, dropped by 5.5pc and 26.9 percent, respectively.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

**VIETNAM**

**Export target may be achieved this year**

Vietnamese textile and apparel sector has set a target of seven percent growth over 2016, with total export earnings of over US\$30 billion. The export target for this year seems achievable despite facing many challenges in exporting to key markets, such as the European Union (EU) and the United States.

With Vietnam earning US\$6.84 billion from garment and textile exports in the first quarter of this year, 11.2 percent more than in the same period last year, it appears to support their target expectation, according to the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS).

Currently, Vietnamese garment and textile products are available in 40 countries and territories, with major markets including the United States, Japan, the Republic of Korea, China and the EU. VITAS has urged enterprises to optimise the capacity of their equipment to reduce production costs and seek orders for high-quality products.

According to the VITAS advisory board the growth rate of export value and volume to the EU was low, with local manufacturers receiving only small orders. Vietnam's garment industry has also not developed in terms of design, so

most textile and garment enterprises have found it difficult to compete for export orders from this market.

High import tax rate of 8-12 percent to the EU market is also one of the obstacles facing garment exporters to this market.

The EU is the second largest export market of Vietnamese garment products, but it has only captured a 1.9 percent share of the union's total import value, according to the association, presenting opportunities for growth.

However, it is believed that meeting the rules of origin under the Vietnam-EU Free Trade Agreement in terms of preferential tax rate would be the biggest challenge for Vietnamese garment exports.

The garment industry expects ASEAN countries, including Vietnam, to sign an FTA between the ASEAN region and the EU, and then local garment enterprises would have more options to get material for garment production from other ASEAN countries, meeting rules of origin under the FTA.

According to the association, many enterprises invested in building textile and dyeing factories on an extensive and intensive scale to boost opportunities in production and business for the planned Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP),.

But now that the TPP with the United States is no longer in the cards, experts said that these facilities would help the textile and garment industry complete production processes and actively



source material, focusing on the significant opportunities offered by other FTAs, such as the Việt Nam-EU FTA and the Việt Nam-Republic of Korea FTA.

According to the General Department of Customs data, in 2016 the textile and garment sector reached total export value of US\$23.8 billion, an increase of 4.6 percent year-on-year. In particular, the United States continued to be the largest export market of Vietnamese garment products, accounting for 48 percent of the total garment export value. Export value of textiles and garments into the United States has increased by 12-13 percent each year in recent years.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

### **Textile and clothing exports at US\$ 6.403 billion in the first quarter of 2017**

Vietnam earned US\$6.403 billion from textile and garment exports in the first quarter of 2017. Of this, yarn exports accounted for US\$779.928 million while fabric and garment exports contributed the remaining US\$5.623 billion.

Fabric and garment exports from the Southeast Asian nation increased at 10 per cent year-on-year to US\$5.623 billion during January-March 2017. Of this, the US alone accounted for nearly 50 per cent or US\$2.721 billion, followed by Japan and South Korea with exports to these countries valued at US\$715.021 million and \$617.506 million, respectively.

Vietnam also exported 295,232 tons of yarn earning US\$779.928 million during the three-month period, registering an increase of 23.4 per cent and 29.5 per cent year-on-year, respectively, according to the data. Of this, China imported around 55 per cent or US\$430.912 million, followed by US\$28.631 million by India.

On the other hand, Vietnam imported 323,854 tons of cotton and 202,829 tons of yarn, valued at US\$571.275 million and US\$418.435 million, respectively, during the three-month period under review. Fabric imports during the period were valued at US\$2.346 billion. Thus, Vietnam's total spending on import of cotton, yarn and fabric amounted to US\$3.336 billion, which is more than half of the value of its exports.

In 2016, Vietnam earned US\$26.770 billion from textile and garment exports. Of this, yarn exports accounted for US\$2.929 billion while fabric and garment exports contributed the remaining US\$23.841 billion.

For the current year, Vietnam has set the target of achieving US\$30 billion in textile and apparel exports.

Source : Fibre2fashion

### **Exports of textiles and garment buoyant**

The textile and garment sector enters the second quarter (Q2) of this year with promising signs from new import markets.

It is believed that the observations

were based following the sector's good results in the first quarter thanks to rapid growth from new markets such as Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which saw a growth rate of 115 per cent in Russia; and the Asian Economic Community (AEC) with growth of 17 per cent, 11 per cent, 38 per cent, 24.5 per cent, 36 per cent and 5 per cent from Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar, respectively.

Reports show that the sector earned US\$6.75 billion from exports in the first quarter of this year, growth of 12.4 per cent compared with the same period last year.

Although the sector faced many challenges in exports to key markets, including low growth rates of exports to the European Union and the United States of between 6.3 per cent and 6.4 per cent, traditional markets such as South Korea, Brazil and India, maintained high growth between 14 per cent and 34 per cent.

The textile sector saw good growth in exports of many new products including swimsuits and raincoats with 29 per cent and 41 per cent, respectively.

New markets and new products have developed strongly since June last year when the businesses saw the advantages of trade agreements under negotiation between Việt Nam and other countries. They concentrated on improving capacity, cutting costs and production prices even though domestic basic



expenditures continued rising while the forex rate was stable.

In exports, the stable forex rate is a problem for businesses, particularly with Việt Nam's rivals, including China, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Indonesia and Malaysia, devaluing their domestic currencies in order to keep their market shares.

Source : Viet Nam News

## CHINA

### Textile and clothing exports up by 24.9% in March 2017

The exports of textiles and garments from China increased by 24.9 per cent in March 2017. The total value of exports during the month was 137.36 billion yuan.

Category-wise, textile exports rose 20.7 per cent to 62.43 billion yuan, while clothing exports shot up by 28.6 per cent to 74.93 billion yuan.

For the first quarter of 2017, China's textile and apparel exports totalled 378.88 billion yuan, registering a growth of 6.7 per cent. While textile exports grew at 7.5 per cent year-on-year to 160.38 billion yuan, clothing exports were up by 6.2 per cent to 218.8 billion yuan.

Source : Fibre2fashion

## SRI LANKA

### GSP + trade concession to help sign FTA with EU

Sri Lanka is likely to regain the Generalised Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP+) trade concession in the European Parliament after defeating a resolution objecting its resumption

was tabled. The GSP+ can be used as a platform to sign a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the European Union (EU).

The resumption of GSP+ concession should be used as an opportunity to create an FTA with the EU as the trade concession is not likely to last for more than four years.

It is believed that an announcement declaring the final decision of the European Parliament about revoking the anti- Sri Lanka resolution will be made on or about May 15. Sri Lanka should diversify its exports and products to reap the benefits of the GSP+.

Source : Fibre2fashion\

## INDONESIA

### Ethiopia attracting Chinese textile manufacturers

The Indonesian government's effort to lure textile manufacturers away from China is facing a rising threat from East African country Ethiopia, which is offering companies a competitive cost structure.

Under an agreement with the United States, namely the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), Ethiopian exports are not limited by duties and quotas. The country also has cheap labor and cheap electricity, as low as 4 US cents per kilowatt hour.

It is believed that China's textile manufacturers are shifting their production overseas due to increased labor costs and air

pollution. Indonesia wants to attract these Chinese manufacturers but some are already moving to Ethiopia.

Indonesian textile industry in 2016 decreased by 7.3 percent to Rp 7.55 trillion compared to 8.14 trillion in 2015.

In Indonesia foreign investors have only contributed 42.5 percent in 2016, the lowest in six years.

Source : TheJakartaPost

## ETHIOPIA

### Exports of textile and clothing at US\$ 30 billion by 2025

Ethiopia is aiming to generate US\$30 billion from the export of garment and textile by the year 2025. This is a very ambitious target to hit for a country whose shipments are only 115million USD 8 years before the year 2025.

This is the first time Ethiopia, spelled out its vision in such detail. However, it is not the first time for the government to look to the textile and clothing supply chain as one of the country's key targets for growth.

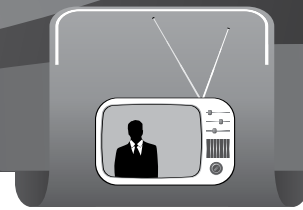
According to reports the plan will transform Ethiopia to a compelling new sourcing hub for brands, retailers and their suppliers.

The target set is 300 fold rise in shipments within 8 years. Back in 2015, the country's annual export for clothing was US\$73.25 million.. This shows what the Horn of Africa nation is up against.

Source: Just-Style







### Export subsidies to be phased out

India may soon have to phase out its export subsidy regime in the current form as World Trade Organization (WTO) rules bar it from offering export incentives to any sector, including textiles, when it reaches certain thresholds that it is nearing. The deadline for ending direct subsidies to textile companies is December 2018.

Under the special and differential provisions in the WTO's Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, least developed countries and developing countries whose gross national income (GNI) per capita is below US\$1,000 per annum at the 1990 exchange rate, are allowed to provide export incentives to any sector that has a share of below 3.25% in global exports.

In case a sector in such a country crosses the 3.25% threshold for two consecutive years, it has to phase out export subsidies for that sector within eight years. India's textile exports crossed the 3.25% mark in 2010, requiring it to end its export incentives to the sector by December 2018.

Schemes such as the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods scheme and interest equalization scheme for the textiles sector under the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20 are likely to get impacted. .

Simultaneously, India is also set to face the larger challenge of completely phasing out all export incentives. Its per capita GNI is set to cross US\$1,000 for three consecutive years, after which it has to stop export incentives to all sectors.

According to a notification by the Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures last year, India's GNI crossed the US\$1,000 mark for 2013 and 2014. A commerce ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the GNI notification for the year 2015 is set to be released as early as May or June.

It is reported that India is likely to seek two to four years' extension to comply with the norm for the textile sector and maintained there is no clarity yet on what happens once India crosses the US\$1,000 GNI per capita mark for three consecutive years.

Source : Live Mint

### Promotion of SMEs pivotal in the revised FTP

The core focus of the revised Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) would be promoting exports from the small and medium

enterprises (SMEs) and sectors with high employment potential such as apparel. The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Commerce & Industry has informed that the revised FTP would be released early to harmonize with roll out of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Major suggestions discussed during the recently held Meeting on Mid Term Review of FTP 2015-20 were deliberations related to promoting rupee trade, facilitating not only exports but also imports, and reducing cost of credit. Participants recommended harnessing the high foreign exchange earnings and large employment generation potential of services related to the tourism, education and health sectors.

Concerns were also raised on issues relating to GST and its impact on export. Minister said that department of commerce has already taken up these issues with department of revenue (DoR), and assured that it will again take up these issues with DoR for placing it before GST Council to find a solution.

Critical role of logistics sector for export competitiveness was also discussed. Reducing the cost of credit in promoting exports, export basket diversification, strategy for promoting value added exports, agriculture exports and services exports were also deliberated, an official statement said.

The mid-term review of FTP 2015-2020 was initiated by the department of commerce in January 2017. As part of the process, director general of foreign trade (DGFT) has held consultation with a cross section of stakeholders, including exporters, traders, export promotion councils, commodity boards, various ministries of the Central and state governments, foreign missions of India and industry bodies

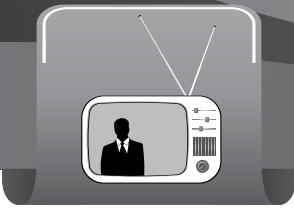
Source : Fibre2fashion

### Factory growth to get a boost with Updated IIP series

Factory output, as measured by the index of industrial production (IIP), could see more buoyant growth of at least two percentage points under the new and updated series that was launched recently.

This is because the new series of IIP with a base year of 2011-12 will include an updated item basket that mirrors the actual consumption and supply patterns such as more processed foods – noodles – and SIM cards, chemicals, as well as electronic and computer products.

It is believed that the current series has a base year of 2004-05 and it has completely missed out on the high growth phase. Further, many products that are now relevant are either missing or under-weight.



The issue was also raised by the working group for the development of the methodology of compilation of IIP, which was led by former Planning Commission member Shri Saumitra Chaudhuri which had noted that “due to phasing out of items in the Item Basket, growth rates from IIP are lower”.

Instead, while selecting the item basket in the new base year, special emphasis may be given to items that are growing in importance in the revised base year, compared to the previous years.

The panel had recommended a new item basket for the IIP including 55 mining products, 809 manufacturing products that should be re-grouped into 521 item groups and treating electricity as a single product. However, analysts are uncertain on whether the new IIP series will reduce the volatility in the index and ease the divergence with manufacturing performance in the GDP data.

The expert committee had suggested that the ‘value of operating work in progress’ should be collected to avoid spikes in reporting of these items and reduce volatility and use average values for missing data sets.

The new IIP series, which has been pending for nearly three years, is being keenly awaited for by analysts and experts who have pointed to its huge difference with GDP estimates.

Industrial production as measured by the IIP grew by 0.4 per cent between April 2016 and February 2017. But in contrast, gross value added in the manufacturing sector is estimated to have risen by a buoyant 7.7 per cent.

On May 12, the government launched an updated series of the wholesale price index (WPI) based inflation with a base year of 2011-12, but whether it would bridge the differences with retail inflation is not very clear.

The new WPI series is also expected to have an updated item basket and weightage.

While WPI inflation is no longer targeted by the Reserve Bank of India for monetary policy, the series has come under question after the revision of the consumer price index in 2015.

The new CPI series with a base year of 2012 and has 11 and 17 new items in the rural and urban consumption basket respectively.

With this exercise, all key macro economic data indices national accounts, IIP, WPI and CPI will have a common base year of 2011-12, making comparisons easier and the data more relevant.

Source: Business Line

### **Anti-dumping duty on VFY from China extended by a year**

India has extended the anti-dumping duty on viscose filament yarn from China by one year. The duty will now be valid till May 3, 2018. The decision by the Revenue department was taken after the sunset review investigation initiated by the commerce ministry recently. The duty ranging from 5.04 per cent to 16.90 per cent was imposed in May 2012.

It has been reported that the anti-dumping duty, initiated by the India’s revenue department in 2012, was valid for five years.

The investigation was carried out by a designated authority.

The report said that the petition seeking sunset review investigation was filed by Kesoram Rayon (unit of Cygnet Industries, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Kesoram Industries, and Indian Rayon, a unit of Aditya Birla Nuvo. Century Rayon, a division of Century Textiles and Industries, had supported the petition.

Source : Fibre2fashion

### **Japan potential market for Indian textiles**

Textiles exporters who are focusing on the western market should explore the opportunities in Japan, according to the Joint Director of Textiles Committee Shri K.S. Muralidhara.

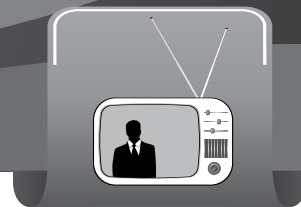
Textiles Committee and QTEC (Japan Textiles Products Quality and Technology Centre) conducted an industry capacity building programme in Mumbai recently.

Mr. Muralidhara believes that the potential for exports to Japan is huge. Of the total textile and clothing exports from India, just about 2% goes to Japan. Of the total textile and clothing imports by Japan, only 1% is from India. The major supplier to Japan is China and Japan is now looking at suppliers from other countries too.

But, the Japanese buyers want the products to be tested at QTEC laboratories as their quality requirements are high and some of the standards are different from those accepted in the western markets. The Textiles Committee has 19 laboratories in the country with equipment to test standards for exports to the western markets mainly.

This will be a follow up to the capacity building programmes.

Mr. Muralidhara said that when the Hon’ble Indian Prime Minister visited Japan last November, Textiles



Committee and QTEC signed an agreement to sensitise the industry here on quality and regulatory requirements of the Japanese market and their standards. The capacity building programmes conducted as part of the agreement in nine cities, including Coimbatore.

Source : The Hindu

### **Textile target brought down to US\$ 45 billion for 2017-18**

The government has set a target of US\$45 billion exports from the country's textile and garment sector in 2017-18, lower than the US\$48 billion set for the last fiscal which was missed by a huge margin.

The country's overall textiles and garments exports during 2015-16 stood at US\$40 billion, mainly because of less demand in major markets such as the US, EU and China, and stiff competition it faced from countries like Vietnam and Bangladesh, which enjoy an edge over India.

Besides, the Textiles Ministry plans to unveil a package for the knitwear sector, which is grappling with enormous financial stress due to lack of automation leading to much lower productivity than countries like China.

The Textiles Minister said that roadshows have been held in six countries including the UK, US, China, Russia, South Korea and UAE to attract the industry and potential investors for the textiles India event, to be inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in Gandhinagar on June 30.

The three-day mega event plans to showcase India as a global sourcing hub and will be attended by several Union ministers including Hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley and Hon'ble Textiles Minister Smt. Smriti Z. Irani, and provide a platform to connect and collaborate with global manufacturers, investors and buyers in the textiles sector.

She said the Textiles Commissioner's Office has confirmed that around Rs 3,000 crore have been approved as additional investments in the apparel segment, which will generate more employment in the entire sector.

The government in June 2016 had approved a Rs 6,006 crore special package for textiles and apparel sector to create one crore new jobs in 3 years, attracting investments of US\$11 billion and generating US\$30 billion in exports.

The minister informed that funds to the tune of over Rs 1,900 crore have been given to the apparel industry under the rebate of state levies to boost exports from the sector.

Besides, she said under the Pradhan Mantri Paridhan Rozgar Protsahan Yojana, over 1.4 lakh workers have registered themselves for provident fund.

Source : The Hindustan Times

### **GST on textiles to be announced on 3rd June**

The rate for announcement for the textiles sector by the Goods and Services Tax (GST) has been deferred to June 3. The deferment is understandably due to complexities within the entire textiles value chain, in addition to the industry's anticipation of a fibre neutral taxation across the chain.

According to textile industry representatives, differed rates for different parts of the textile value chain with some being taxed and some being exempt has led to tax evasion and flourishing of the unorganised sector. In addition, India has been a cotton heavy region in terms of fibre as compared to the global trend of a skewed in favour of man-made fibre (MMF).

Tax variation in textiles has been such that currently, while fabrics do not attract excise duty or sales in most states in India, branded apparels are subject to both excise duty and sales tax. On the fibre front, natural fibre like cotton is exempt from any tax in the country though man-made fibre draws a 10 per cent excise duty.

While most states want zero duty on cotton yarn to continue, it is anticipated that man-made fibre may still attract a five per cent incidence.

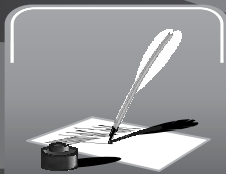
However, the real contention is with regards to input credit. This gains significance amidst unorganised sector forming a large part of the textile industry, creating a gap in flow of input tax credit since the credit is not availed of, in case registered taxpayers procure inputs from unorganised sources.

The textile industry's other concern is compliance issue which may get aggravated in case of a higher rate fixed, especially at the end of the value chain.

According to the garmenting sector, the definition of 'branded garment' has also been a contentious issue. While, currently a large part of the unorganised sector also goes along in the name of branded garments by placing private labels, it is to be seen how the same would be defined under GST for better compliance across the industry.

Source : The Business Standard





## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL IN APRIL 2017

Total number of members in the Council were as follows:

Membership (2017-18)	Total	SSI	NON-SSI
Total No. of members as on 30th April 2017	1417	804	613

### Visit of Textile Delegation to Kazakhstan

**April 20-23, 2017**

A textile delegation led by Dr. Subrata Gupta, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, visited Shymkent City, Kazakhstan from April 20 to 23, 2017 to participate in the 4th meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Textiles between India and Kazakhstan. Shri Anil Kumar, Executive Director of the Council was one of the members of the Delegation. During the visit the members of the Delegation had Meetings with various Textile Associations. A JWG Protocol was also signed between the two countries.

### Taiwanese Delegation visit to Council

A Taiwanese Delegation led by Ms. Minerva Liao of Taiwan Textile Federation and representatives from some leading Taiwanese textiles manufacturers visited the Council's Head Office in Mumbai on 11th April 2017 and had an Interactive Meeting with some of Council's member companies. The objective of the Interactive Meeting with the Taiwanese Delegation was to exchange and understand the textile industry of both the countries, the types of textile products manufactured and sourced for clothing and other technical purpose, market analysis and trends and explore possibilities of mutual business and investment opportunities with the Taiwanese companies.

### Forthcoming Exhibitions

TEXTILE INDIA From 30 June to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017

FEDERAL TRADE FAIR, MOSCOW, RUSSIA, 29<sup>th</sup> August – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017

INTEXPO EGYPT located at Cairo Fashion & Tex, 13<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Marketing Development Assistance (MDA)

16 MDA Claims settled for INTERMODA Guadalajara, Mexico and sent RTGS to exporting members

MDA claims approved for participating exporters of INTEXPO Kenya & Ethiopia

### BHIM App

The Council organized a camp for enlightening the

exporting community to download and use the Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) App on 10th April 2017 in Bhiwandi. The camp/Workshop was organized on instructions of the Ministry to coincide with the birth anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. The camp/Workshop attracted a number of exporting community who showed keen interest in downloading the app. It also generated awareness among people to understand the App and use the same.

### DUTY DRAWBACK PRESENTATION ON 28TH APRIL 2017

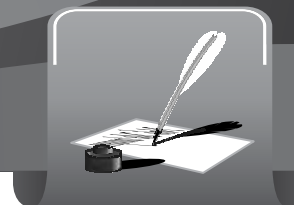
A Presentation Meeting of the High Level Drawback Committee was held on 28th April 2017 in Mumbai with the members of SRTEPC. The Drawback Committee was headed by Shri G.K. Pillai, Chairman and other Members of the Drawback Committee Shri Gautam Ray, Member, Shri Y.G. Parande, Member along with Shri Dinesh Kumar Gupta, Director (DBK). The Meeting was held to seek suggestions and views of Council on the All Industry Rates of Duty Drawback under the GST regime. The Meeting was well attended by Members of the Committee of Administration. The Chairman of the Council made a detail presentation on the Export Performance of MMF Textile items and highlighted the issues to be addressed concerning the MMF Textiles in the forthcoming GST regime.

### Textiles India 2017 Update

As part of the Textiles India 2017 event, Road Shows were held in various countries abroad and in cities in India to mobilise both buyers as well as Indian exhibitors. Road Shows were held in Malaysia on 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> April; in Bangladesh on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017; in Vietnam on 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> May. In Turkey, the road shows were held from 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April. The road shows in these countries have helped induce interest in the textile fraternity of these countries and expected to get Buyers delegations in large numbers. On the domestic front road show in Surat, Gujarat was held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 other roadshows in Bhilwara and Ahmedabad will be held shortly.

Exhibitors	: 65
Buyers nomination	: 150
Road Shows done in	: Turkey, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Surat
Road Shows in the pipeline	: Bhilwara, Ahmedabad.





## EXPORT PERFORMANCE OF INDIA'S TEXTILE AND CLOTHING (T&C) PRODUCTS

As per the DGCI&S data, the export of textile and clothing products during the period April-November 2016 declined by 4.04% to US\$ 23489.91 million as against US\$ 24479.86 million during the same period of previous year i.e. 2015. In Rupee terms, there is a negative growth of 0.38% from Rs. 158007.91 crore to Rs. 157415.12 crore. It is important to note that about 53% of the export of India belongs to textiles and 47% clothing.

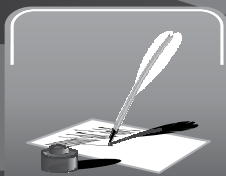
The export of textile products during the period Apr-Nov' 2016 declined by 7.33% to US\$ 12526.59 million as against US\$ 13517.90 million during the same period for 2015. In Rupee terms, there is a negative growth of 3.79%; from Rs. 87252.76 crore to Rs. 83945.60 crore

Export value of Manmade yarn, fabrics, made-ups etc, is US\$ 2924 million during Apr-Nov' 2016 (Rs. 19596 crore) showing negative growth of 8.86% (-5.37 in rupee terms) as compared to previous year during same period.

Export value of Manmade RMG is USD 3084.68 million during Apr-Nov' 2016 (Rs. 20671.66 crore) showing positive growth of 12.85% (17.17% in rupee terms) as compared to previous year during same period.

Following table gives the comparative export performance of the textile and clothing products

India's Textile and Clothing Exports						
S. No.	Commodities	Apr-Nov' 2015 (USD Mn.)	Apr-Nov' 2016 (USD Mn.)	% Change	% Share 2015**	% Share 2016**
	Total Textiles and Clothing products	24479.86	23489.91	-4.04	14.01*	12.95*
1	RMG Cotton include Accessories	5730.93	5379.96	-6.12	23.41	22.90
2	Cotton fabrics, made-ups etc.	3521.94	3389.25	-3.77	14.39	14.43
3	RMG Manmade fibres	2733.42	3084.68	12.85	11.17	13.13
4	Manmade yarn, Fabrics, made-ups	3208.44	2924.20	-8.86	13.11	12.45
5	RMG of other textiles material	2110.80	2227.36	5.52	8.62	9.48
6	Cotton yarn	2451.33	1998.99	-18.45	10.01	8.51
7	Handcrafts (Excl. Handmade carpets)	1095.94	1322.24	20.65	4.48	5.63
8	Carpet (Excl. Silk) handmade	949.69	968.64	1.99	3.88	4.12
9	Cotton raw (Incl. Waste)	915.76	515.19	-43.74	3.74	2.19
10	Manmade staple fibre	341.71	373.15	9.20	1.40	1.59
11	Other textile yarn, fabric made-ups article	227.28	235.53	3.63	0.93	1.00



12	Handloom products	250.45	232.57	-7.14	1.02	0.99
13	Coir and Coir manufactures	157.73	190.92	21.04	0.64	0.81
14	RMG Wool	206.81	158.70	-23.26	0.84	0.68
15	RMG Silk	180.00	112.62	-37.43	0.74	0.48
16	Woollen yarn, fabrics, made-ups etc	128.37	110.55	-13.88	0.52	0.47
17	Jute Hessian	75.98	90.69	19.36	0.31	0.39
18	Other jute manufactures	77.16	78.32	1.50	0.32	0.33
19	Natural silk yarn, fabrics, made-ups	60.44	43.34	-28.29	0.25	0.18
20	Floor covering of Jute	22.00	25.12	14.18	0.09	0.11
21	Silk waste	9.07	10.63	17.10	0.04	0.05
22	Jute, Raw	7.80	7.68	-1.54	0.03	0.03
23	Jute yarn	14.75	5.44	-63.13	0.06	0.02
24	Silk carpet	1.65	3.93	137.98	0.01	0.02
25	Wool, raw	0.19	0.19	1.38	0.00	0.00
26	Silk, raw	0.21	0.04	-82.91	0.00	0.00
All Commodity Exports		174688	181444	3.87	100	100

Source: DGCI&S, \* Share in All Commodity, \*\*Share in total T&C exports

Source : Textiles Committee



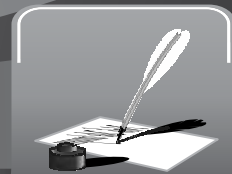
## SRTEPC MEMBERS DIRECTORY

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council in commemoration of its 60 years service to the industry, presents the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of Members Directory with over 3400 entries covering the details of manufacturers/exporters of MMF textiles and blended textile items including Fibre, Yarn, Fabrics, Made-ups, Home textiles, etc. Directory also includes information on members contact details, Authorized representatives, products, export destinations, 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 Director is as follows:

Printed Copy – ₹ 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/Mrs Barbara Mendes, Sr. Executive E-mail : barbaram@srtepc.in.



## VISIT OF TEXTILE DELEGATION TO KAZAKHSTAN APRIL 20-23, 2017

A textile delegation led by Dr. Subrata Gupta, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, visited Shymkent City, Kazakhstan from April 20 to 23, 2017 to participate in the 4th meeting of the Joint Working Group on Textiles between India and Kazakhstan. The other members of the delegation included Mr. M. Chockalingam, Chairman and Managing Director, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), Shri Anil Kumar, Executive Director, Synthetic Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) & Shri R. Gururaj, First Secretary, Embassy of India, Astana.



Mr. B. S. Dzhamalov, Deputy Akim of Kazakhstan (centre) and to his right Dr. Subrata Gupta, Joint Secretary Exports along with the other members of the Delegation after the signing of the protocol

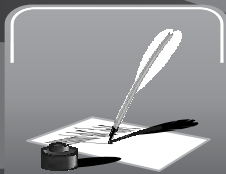
During the Visit, the members of the Delegation had Meetings with Mr. Tuimbayev Zhaneit, Governor, South Kazakhstan Region who warmly welcomed the delegation and expressed happiness at the interest shown by the Indian side to explore possibilities for cooperation in the textile sector in Kazakhstan. The Governor highlighted that the economic relations between India and Kazakhstan are good, and mentioned that there is scope to deepen and further expand bilateral economic ties. He provided a broad overview of the potential of Shymkent as an attractive investment destination in the textile sector and briefly touched upon the incentives being offered at the Ontustik SEZ. He informed that South Kazakhstan represents a large market for textile products and welcomed Indian investments and production of textiles in Kazakhstan. He pointed out that India has proven expertise in the entire value chain of textile production, especially in cotton industry and expressed hope that the deliberations of the Joint Working Group would result in some actionable points.

Dr. Subrata Gupta the leader of the Indian Delegation thanked the Governor for the warm hospitality extended by his administration to the Indian delegation. He informed that during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Kazakhstan in July 2015, both leaders had identified textiles as one of the promising areas in the Joint Statement 'Tej Kadam' issued during the visit and had agreed to extend full support to joint projects in realising potential in textiles

on a mutually beneficial basis. . The visit of the Prime Minister to Kazakhstan paved the way to expand the strategic partnership for the benefit of people of both countries. The visit also coincided with the Astana Day, the 550th Anniversary of the Kazakh Khanate and the 20th Anniversary of the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan..

Dr. Gupta informed that India is one of the largest producers and exporters of textiles items in the world. He further stated that India is one of the top producers of raw cotton, man-made fibres, jute, synthetic rayons and silk.

Dr. Gupta informed about the "Textiles India 2017" being organized from 30 June to 2 July 2017 in Gandhinagar, India and stated that the event is expected to attract more than 1000 exhibitors and 2500 international buyers and producers. He requested the Governor to consider sending a large delegation from Kazakhstan to participate in Textiles India 2017 and offered to facilitate visits and meetings for the Kazakhstan delegation during their participation in the event. Mr. Gupta handed over a brochure on Textiles India 2017 to the Governor and to the other members of the Kazakhstan delegation at the meeting. The Governor agreed to consider Kazakhstan's participation in the event. The Governor said that all assistance



would be extended by his administration during the visit of the JWG delegation to the industrial zones/SEZ and other units.

This was followed by a Meeting of the Joint Working Group at the Ontustik Invest JSC Office which was chaired by Mr. Baurzhan Saldaruli Dzhamalov, Deputy Governor of South Kazakhstan region. During the Meeting, Mr. Yermek Sakishev, Chairman of Board, Investment Fund of Kazakhstan, made a detailed presentation about one of their local companies "Utex Kz JSC". He also invited interested Indian companies to consider this stressed asset for revival through purchase of stake in equity capital or a JV arrangement or outright takeover or any other form of partnership. He invited the Indian side to visit the asset later in the day.

Both sides discussed various clauses of the draft protocol and agreed to finalize the same the next day. During the discussion, Dr. Subrata Gupta suggested to include a clause on cooperation between CCI and a counterpart organization in Kazakhstan which was well received by the Kazakh side. However, regarding the suggestion of the Indian side for an MoU with Textiles Committee of India and a counterpart organization in Kazakhstan on issues of certification and testing, the Kazakh side had reservations.

The Indian Delegation visited Atamaken "Chamber of International Commerce", Shymkent where they were welcomed by Mr. A. Abubakirov, Director who expressed satisfaction at the interest shown by the visiting Indian delegation in joint development of textile sector of Kazakhstan. He gave a brief overview of the activities of the Chamber and requested Indian side to brief them about possible areas of cooperation between the two countries. Dr. Gupta thanked the Chamber for organizing the meeting and inviting local companies. He briefed them about the Textiles India 2017 and requested the Chamber to participate in the event. Brochures of the event were distributed to the participants. Mr. V. Anil Kumar, ED, SRTEPC and Mr. Chockalingam, CMD, CCI made detailed presentations on the cotton sector and textile industry of India respectively. These presentations were followed by interactions with the officials of the Chambers and participating local companies and explained in detail about various schemes and incentives provided to

Indian producers and exporters which were noted with interest by the Chamber. Some of the companies pointed out that poor transport connectivity between India and Kazakhstan represents a challenge to them for importing textile goods from India.

The Indian delegation visited Vtex Kz JSC and interacted with the officials of the Investment Fund of Kazakhstan JSC which owned the assets.

The delegation visited three manufacturing units at the Ontulstik Special Economic Zone the first being the Oxy Textile Spinning Mill (Kazakh) which is yet to start commercial operations. The machinery is principally from Reiter, a Swiss leader in textile machinery. CMD CCI observed that the cotton being used in the spinning mill was locally produced, of medium staple and producing counts of 16s and 32s. They plan to export the produce to Turkey and Russia. Bal Tekstil (Kazakh-Turkish) produces primarily polypropylene carpets for export to China. They are using both cotton and jute backing cloths. The plant is an integrated one with a facility for producing PP yarn and finally KORE (Kazakh) manufactures socks and stockings. The machinery is from South Korea. The produce is exported to South Korea. The unit procures polyester cotton yarn from India.

The delegation also visited the site of a nascent spinning mill which is being set up by the owners of stressed asset. In this regard, they have imported appropriate machinery and kept in storage onsite as they do not have interested investors to take forward this project at the moment.

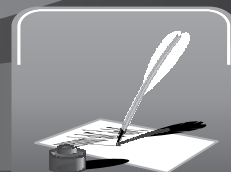
The delegation also visited an industrial park. They were shown a variety of products (other than textiles) being manufactured by units located in the park such as construction materials, consumables, glass bottles, automobile parts etc.

The visit of the Delegation concluded with the JWG reconvening at the Office of the Deputy Akim (Deputy Governor) and finalizing the protocol. The protocol in English and Russian were signed by Mr. B. S. Dzhamalov, Deputy Akim from the Kazakh side and Dr. Subrata Gupta from the Indian side and exchanged.

The highlights of the signed protocol is as follows :

- Exchange information on the state of the textile





industry of the two countries.

- Possibility of establishing joint ventures in the territory of the SEZ “Ontustyk”.
- Facilitate interaction of the Kazakh stakeholders with industry leaders from India either at Textiles India 2017 or on agreed dates to explore the role of downstream products in the value chain in the textile industry in Kazakhstan.
- Explore the possibility of joint research in different areas of textile technology and product development for textile industry.
- Kazakhstan has agreed to send a Delegation to participate in Textiles India 2017 being held in India during 30th June-2nd July 2017 and explore opportunities for joint ventures in textile sector.
- An MoU to be signed between the Cotton Corporation of India and the counterpart organization from Kazakhstan side on the establishment of regular consultations for mutual development of cotton sector of the two countries during Textiles India 2017.
- Kazakhstan side agreed to consider India’s suggestion for reducing the tariff applied on imports of Indian textile products to maintain reciprocity.
- The next Meeting of the Kazakh-India working group on co-operation in the development of the textile industry will be held in Delhi, India in 2018.

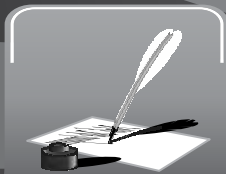


## INFO SRTEPC - ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

Advertisement			One issue	Three issues	Six issues	Twelve issues
1.	Inside Half page (B/W)	₹	4000	11000	21000	40000
		USD	70	185	350	670
2.	Inside Full page (B&W)	₹	8000	22000	42000	80000
		USD	135	370	700	1335
3.	Front Inside Page (Colour)	₹	10000	27500	50000	90000
		USD	170	460	835	1500
4.	Back inside Page (Colour)	₹	15000	42500	80000	150000
		USD	250	710	1335	2500
5.	Back cover Page (Colour)	₹	20000	55000	105000	200000
		USD	335	920	1750	3340
6.	Inside Four pages (Colour)	₹	25000	70000	135000	260000
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For further details please contact Ms. Namita Nadkarni : [namita@srtepc.in](mailto:namita@srtepc.in)



## SRTEPC ORGANIZES PARTICIPATION IN EXPOCOMER 2017, PANAMA

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) organized participation of its member-companies in “EXPOCOMER” held at the Atlapa Convention Centre in Panama City from 22nd to 25th March, 2017, as part of its Export Promotion Programme for 2016-17 in the Latin American Region.

### EXPOCOMER, Panama

The EXPOCOMER is a leading and most prestigious multi-product Fair in Panama held annually. This International Fair is the most important commercial Event in Panama and the Central American region. The 35th edition of the internationally renowned Fair had participation of entrepreneurs from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, The Caribbean, Nigeria, Colombia, Costa Rica, South Korea, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, EL Salvador, Spain, USA, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, Turkey, Venezuela, China, Taiwan and India.

### Participants and Display of Product

Seven member-companies of the Council participated in the Exhibition through the Council and showcased their products to their target customers. The participating SRTEPC companies exhibited various textile items (made with Man Made Fibre and their blends/mixtures) including fabrics: like suitings, shirtings, dress fabrics, embroidered fabrics; made-ups: like scarves/stoles; and synthetic and blended yarn of different varieties. Display of textile product arranged by SRTEPC member-companies at their respective booths drew appreciation from visiting buyers and dignitaries, and helped in creating the right image and conducive atmosphere for the member-companies for negotiating business with visiting customers at their booths.

### Indian Pavilion at EXPOCOMER 2017

According to the organizers of EXPOCOMER, the event this year was participated by around 575 exhibitors – representing 30 countries, of which around 17 exhibiting companies – comprising 07 companies from SRTEPC and 10 companies from Plastic EPC. In this regard, in order to get focused attention of visiting buyers, and also to make India noticeable by visiting buyers in EXPOCOMER, all the Indian participants were accommodated at a demarcated area, called “India

Pavilion”. In this context, SRTEPC put up some special Boards on the facade of the each booths under SRTEPC reading: “Made in India with Incredible India” concept.

### Inauguration of EXPOCOMER 2017

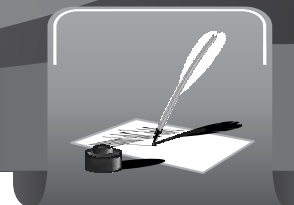
EXPOCOMER was inaugurated at the Anayansi Theater by Mr. Fernando Arango Morice (President of the EXPOCOMER Organizing Committee), Mr. Augusto Arosemena (Minister of Commerce), Mr. Julio Maria Sanguinetti (Former President of Uruguay), Mr. Alvaro Aleman (Minister of the Presidency) and Mr. Jorge Garcia Icaza (President of the Panama Chamber of Commerce).

### Inauguration of “India Pavilion” by the President of EXPOCOMER Organizing Committee & Ambassador of India

The specially demarcated place reserved for Indian participating companies including those of SRTEPC member companies named ‘India Pavilion’ was inaugurated by Her Excellency, Ms. Shamma Jain, Ambassador of India in Panama along with Mr. Fernando Arango Morrice, President of CCIAP Exhibitions and Events Organizing Committee of EXPOCOMER Fair and the SRTEPC Vice-chairman, Shri Ronak Rughani amidst the presence of other local Dignitaries, Panamanian Businessman, Indian Exhibitors and Media Persons. Mr. Snango along with the Ambassador of India interacted with the representatives of the participating Indian companies, and praised the display of Indian products. H. E. Ms. Shamma Jain appreciated the role of the Council for organizing participation of its member-companies in EXPOCOMER.

### Impact of EXPOCOMER

EXPOCOMER 2017 attracted local and International business visitors, and participating member-companies of the Council were able to establish fruitful business contacts. The representative of the participating companies of the Council also received visitors from Colon Free Trade Zone, which is a major Textile Trading Centre of the region, in view of its unique location and the duty free structure of transactions there. Many participants also visited leading traders of textiles and garments in the Colon Free Trade Zone. According to the initial Feedbacks received from the participants during the Fair,



an estimated amount of Rs. 2.90 Crores was negotiated at the Fair, which may shortly be converted into business orders. Some participants have even reported for booking small trial orders during the Fair valuing Rs. 33 Lakhs. Besides, the contacts established during the Fairs are expected to result in substantial business orders in the near future.

### **Panama – Textile Industry**

Panama is a Textile & Clothing market of US\$ 2.38 billion as per its total imports in 2015. Indian share in Panama's total imports is around 2.40% - amounting to US\$ 0.05 billion. The other Leading textile suppliers to Panama are China, USA, Taipei and El Salvador etc. India's share of Man-made filaments to Panama is 6.38%

### **Panama - Market Overview**

Panama has historically served as the crossroads of trade for Americans. Its strategic location as a bridge between two oceans and the meeting of two continents has made Panama not only a maritime and air-transport hub, but also an international trading, banking, and service center. Panama is enhancing its global and regional prominence through trade liberalization and privatization and it is participating actively in the hemispheric movement toward free trade agreements. Panama's dollar-based economy offers low inflation in comparison with neighboring countries and zero foreign exchange risk. Its government is stable and democratic and it actively seeks foreign investment in all sectors – especially services, tourism and retirement properties.

Colón Free Zone (CFZ), the second largest in the world, which has become a vital trading and transshipment center – serving the region and the world. CFZ imports – a broad array of luxury goods, electronic products, clothing, and other consumer products - arrive from all over the world to be resold, repackaged, and reshipped, primarily to regional markets. Because of this product mix, U.S. brand market share is significant, even if most of those products are made in Asia.

The U.S. is Panama's most important trading partner, with about 30% of the import market, and U.S. products enjoy a high degree of acceptance in Panama. In 2014, U.S. exports to Panama reached \$10.4 billion – in no small part because Panama's economy grew 6.2% that year. However, international competition for sales is strong across many sectors including telecommunications equipment, automobiles, heavy construction equipment,

consumer electronics, computers, textile & apparel, gifts, and novelty products.

The Trade Promotion Agreement (TPA) between the U.S. and Panama that went into effect in October 2012 will continue to offer U.S.-made goods a competitive advantage. For 87% of U.S.-made goods, tariffs dropped to 0% immediately. However, Panama's average tariff on goods is only 7% and in several key sectors – sales of consumables to the Government for the Canal expansion and other infrastructure projects, automobiles, and goods for use in hotels – duties are either 0% or are waived.

Panama has full FTAs in force with the following countries or economies: El Salvador, Taiwan, Singapore, Chile, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru, U.S., Canada, and Mexico. Panama has partial trade agreements with the Dominican Republic and Cuba. It signed an agreement with Colombia, which has not yet entered into force. It is also part of the Central America-EU FTA that entered into force in 2013. Panama is an observer to the Pacific Alliance, and has expressed an interest in joining the group. It continues to negotiate FTAs with Korea and Israel.

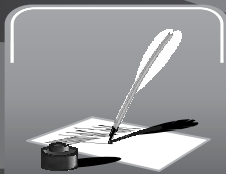
### **Panama – an International Financial Centre**

Panama's legislators paved the way for the exploitation of this fiscal legacy and further stimulation came in 1970 with Decree Law 238 – providing both more incentives, and controls for growth.

At that time, there were 10 Banks in Panama. Today, the count is about 81. The growth of the banking sector has made Panama, the Financial capital of Latin America – a safe International heaven for money attracted by tax exemptions and the absence of exchange restrictions or controls. The Regulating Agency is the Superintendencia de Bancos, which studiously applies the laws to all financial institution.

### **Trade and Economic Relations**

India's exports to Panama registered a hike in 2014-15, but decreased in 2015-16 fiscal – reflecting the broad global trends of economic slowdown. India's imports from Panama reflect an upward trend compared to previous years. The main items of India's exports to Panama consist of : textiles; automobiles and accessories; pharmaceuticals articles of iron and steel; plastic products; tobacco products; rubber products; furniture items; electrical and electronic equipments, etc. The items of



India's imports from Panama comprised teak, other kinds of wood and wooden articles, etc.

The participation of the Indian companies in the largest annual Central American trade fair, has been significant since the last few years. While 50 Indian companies participated in the EXPOCOMER 2016, 120 companies were present at EXPOCOMER 2015 and 66 in EXPOCOMER 2014.

### **Import Requirements and Documentation**

No import licenses are required in Panama. Any company holding a commercial license can freely import goods into Panama. A commercial or industrial license is required by individuals or companies wishing to engage in commercial or industrial activities.

### **Advantages of setting up a company in Panama**

Part of Panama's success as a heaven for private business can be attributed to the country's attractive corporate legislation, modeled on the State of Delaware. It is relatively easy to establish a corporation in Panama.

Those, who wish to form a Panamanian corporation, can benefit from the vast pool of experience and the International reputation of the many firms of lawyers and accountants established in Panama.

Panamanians and Foreigners are equal before the law. There is no distinction between Foreign and Panamanian companies regarding the formalities for their constitutions.

### **Visa Requirements**

Citizens of the United States, Canada, most Western European countries, and several other nations do not need a visa to enter Panama, although they are required to produce a valid passport at entry.

### **Forecast for Panama**

Panama will be the country with the fastest growth rate in Latin America in 2017, according to the World Bank Report and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The Panama Canal expansion along with a tall hike could boost the economy. The Focus on Economy Organization Report expects that it will reach a growth rate of 6.1 percent in 2017.

According to the World Bank, Panama is in a very good position to achieve that International Institution's goals to eradicate extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity thanks to the growth perspective and the renewed

Government attention to inclusions.

### **Follow-up Action Plan**

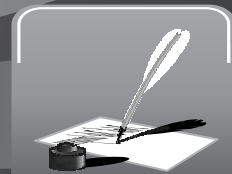
In view of the satisfaction of the SRTEPC member-participants in EXPOCOMER 2017, and the response of Panamanian visiting Buyers even on the basis of a relatively-small number of SRTEPC member-companies due to VISA-restriction issue, following action plans are suggested for ensuring exponential growth in our current trade with Panama:

1. A high level Trade Delegation: Comprising leading traders of textiles, based in the Colon Free Trade Zone (CFZ), and a few Industry-heads may be invited to visit the forthcoming mega "Textiles India" scheduled to be held from 30th June to 2nd July, 2017 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. This may offer an excellent opportunity for trade and business leaders of both the countries to have close interactions to understand each others better, and further expand the existing trade between the two countries in the very immediate future.
2. Organizing a combined participation of Indian companies in EXPOCOMER: Considering the overall importance of Panama – as a "distribution centre of textiles" to many Central American countries, a mega participation of Indian companies – drawing from all the leading sectors of textiles like cotton, silk, wool and apparels must be organized during the next edition of EXPOCOMER in March 2018. This may provide a significant boost to the current trade of Indian textiles/clothing in Panama and beyond very soon in the Central American region.

### **Conclusion**

The follow-up participation of SRTEPC member-companies in EXPOCOMER 2017, after holding the first-ever participation of the Council in 2004 evoked good response. The long awaited participation of the Council in EXPOCOMER, which is undoubtedly the most renowned multi-product International Fair in the Central American region, helped the Council create a right atmosphere for a new era of co-operation between the Indian and the Panamanian Industry of Textiles. It is, therefore, hoped that this effort for organizing participation of SRTEPC member-companies in EXPOCOMER by the Council will help us put the growth of our trade with Panama on a higher trajectory.





## ROAD SHOWS FOR MOBILIZING BUYERS FOR TEXTILES INDIA 2017 IN MALAYSIA, BANGLADESH, VIETNAM AND TURKEY

The first ever mega trade event for the entire textiles value chain – Textiles India 2017 is being organized at Mahatma Mandir and Exhibition Grounds, Gandhinagar, Gujarat during 30th June – 2nd July 2017. The event being organized by the Ministry of Textiles will establish India as a global sourcing and investment destination. The event will have Country Sessions, State Sessions, Round Table Sectoral Seminars, B2B Meetings with around 2500 international buyers, sector specific theme pavilions, Fashion Shows on the inaugural day and Day 2 and thematic Shows. Buyers from over 25 countries are being selected for inviting to the Show.

The Council is making all out efforts to mobilize Exhibitors & Buyers for the event.

As part of the programme, Road Shows, in the form of Presentation Meeting have been lined in various leading market of textiles including Turkey, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Malaysia, etc. to publicize and promote Textiles India 2017. In this regard, the Council organised a Road Show in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 25th & 26th April 2017. The Road Shows were attended by the Chairman and the Vice Chairman of the Council. Presentation on Textiles India 2017 were made and brochure on Textiles India 2017 were distributed to the officials of the leading trade bodies [Kuala Lumpur & Selangor Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KLSICCI); Kuala Lumpur Malay Chamber of Commerce (KLMCC); Malaysian Textile

Manufacturers Association (MTMA); Malaysian Indian Textiles & General Store Association (MITA)].

Road Shows were also organized in Bangladesh on 2nd May 2017. In Bangladesh the Chairman and Vice Chairman made Presentations of the Textiles India 2017 to the officials of Bangladesh Garment Manufactures and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and Bangladesh Knitting Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA). During the Meetings at both Malaysia and Bangladesh the Chairman and Vice Chairman besides briefing the visiting buyers, Heads of the industry about the highlights of Textiles India 2017 also interacted with them and answered their queries.



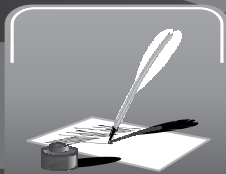
Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Chairman and Shri Ronak Rughani, Vice Chairman of the Council interacting with the Bangladesh Association during the Road Shows held in Bangladesh



Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Chairman and Shri Ronak Rughani, Vice Chairman of the Council with the officials of Malaysian Textile Manufacturers Association (MTMA) during the road show in Malaysia held to publicize and promote Textiles India 2017 among the Malaysian textile buyers.

In Vietnam too the Road Shows which were held in Ho Chi Minh City on 10th May 2017 and in Hanoi on 11th May 2017 were successful. The Vice Chairman of the Council met with the officials of Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS) and Hanoi Promotion Agency (HPA) and briefed them about the Textiles India 2017.

Road Shows were held in Turkey from 21st-26th April 2017 to publicize the event. In Turkey, Shri Anil Rajvanshi, the immediate past Chairman and Convenor of the Sub-Committee for Export Promotion visited the textile hubs in Izmir, Denezili, Adan, Ankara and Bursa to brief the Turkish buyers about Textiles India 2017. Since a sizeable number of Malaysian,



Bangladeshi, Vietnam and Turkey companies of textiles expressed their interest about the Mega Programme of textiles in Gujarat, it is hoped that a substantial number of buyers will visit the Show to meet SRTEPC participants at the Fair and discuss business with them. Till date number of buyers from Malaysia : 9, Bangladesh : 20, Vietnam : 1 and Turkey : 9.



Shri Ronak Rughani, Vice Chairman of the Council at a Meeting with the textile industry heads of Vietnam at the Road Show held there to garner buyers from that country

## ATTENTION : MEMBERS

### Renewal of Membership for the year 2017-2018

Kindly refer to the Council's letter no: Secy/Mem/2172 dated 14th March, 2017 and the Subscription memo sent along with the Circular in this regard and the subsequent reminders to members regarding renewal of your Membership of the Council for the year 2017-2018.

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

In view of the above, members who have not yet sent the renewal fee are requested to send the Membership Subscription Fee for the year 2017-2018 at the earliest.

The annual membership fee is as follows:

For SSI Units	:	₹ 7418/- (including service tax of 15%)
For others	:	₹ 11,443/- (including service tax of 15%)



MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY					
DGFT					
Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No. 06/2015-2020	08.05.2017	Implementation of Target Plus Scheme as per the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dt. 27.10.2015 in CA No. 554 of 2006.	Clause 7 of Notification No.48 (RE 2005)/2004-2009 dated 20.02.2006 is amended and the Notification No.08 (RE 2006)/2004-2009 dated 12th June 2006 and Notification No. 20 (RE 2006)/2004-2009 dated 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2006 are hereby rescinded ab-initio.	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/NOT/NOT17/noti0618.pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/NOT/NOT17/noti0618.pdf</a>
(2)	Notification No. 04/2015-2020	21.04.2017	Amendment in Para 3.18(a) of FTP 2015-20.	Vide this trade notice the DGFT hereby notifies that Duty Credit Scrip can be utilized/debited for payment of Customs duties in case of EO defaults for Authorizations issued under Chapters 4 and 5 of the previous FTPs as well. The Para 3.18 (a) of FTP 2015-20has been amended to bring more clarity on the utilization of Duty Credit Scrips for payment of Customs Duties in case of EO defaults	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/NOT/NOT17/noti0418.pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/NOT/NOT17/noti0418.pdf</a>
(3)	Public Notice No. 06/2015-2020	27.04.2017	Inclusion of Seaport located at Hazira (Surat) Port as a Port of registration under Para 4.37 of Handbook of Procedures 2015-20	Seaport located at Hazira (Surat) Port is included under in paragraph 4.37(a) of Hand Book of Procedures (2015-2020) for availing export promotion benefits under Chapter 4 of Foreign trade Policy.	<a href="http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/P N / P N 1 7 / P N % 2 0 No. % 206 % 20dated % 20 27.04.2017 % 20English [1]. pdf">http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/P N / P N 1 7 / P N % 2 0 No. % 206 % 20dated % 20 27.04.2017 % 20English [1]. pdf</a>
MINISTRY OF FINANCE					
CBEC - CUSTOMS					
Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No. 19/2017 Customs (T)	16.05.2017	Seeks to amend notification No. 101/2007 – Customs dated 11th September 2007	This notification notifies the expanded schedule of tariff preferences under the India-Chile Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA).	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-tarr2017/cs19-2017.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-tarr2017/cs19-2017.pdf</a>
(2)	Notification No. 15/2017 Customs (T)	20.04.2017	Seeks to amend 8/2011 dated 14.2.2011 so as to extend the exemption of additional duty of Customs to specified jute products imported from Nepal	In the said notification, after the words “from Bangladesh”, the words “or Nepal” shall be inserted.	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-tarr2017/cs15-2017.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-tarr2017/cs15-2017.pdf</a>
(3)	Notification No. 48/2017 Customs (NT)	16.05.2017	Seeks to amend the Customs notification No. 84/2007-Customs (N.T.) dated 17th August, 2007 to give effect to the amendments to Rules of Origin of India-Chile PTA	These rules may be called the Determination of Origin of Goods under the Preferential Trading Agreement between the Republic of India and the Republic of Chile (Amendment) Rules, 2017, and shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt48-2017.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt48-2017.pdf</a>



(4)	Notification No. 16/2017 Customs (ADD)	09.05.2017	Seeks to extend the levy of anti-dumping duty, imposed on Partially Oriented Yarn (POY) originating in or exported from China PR under notification No. 22/2012-Customs (ADD), dated 02.05.2012, for a further period of one year i.e. up to and inclusive of 01.05.2018.	Imposition of anti-dumping duty on Partially Oriented Yarn (POY) originating in or exported from China PR under notification No. 22/2012-Customs (ADD), dated 02.05.2012, for a further period of one year i.e. up to and inclusive of 01.05.2018.	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-add2017/csadd16-2017.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-add2017/csadd16-2017.pdf</a>
(6)	Notification No. 15/2017 Customs (ADD)	03.05.2017	Seeks to levy definitive anti-dumping duty on import of Elastomeric Filament Yarn from China PR, South Korea, Taiwan and Vietnam for a period of five years (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier) in pursuance of final findings of the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties dated 24.03.2017.	Imposition of anti-dumping duty on import of Elastomeric Filament Yarn from China PR, South Korea, Taiwan and Vietnam for a period of five years in pursuance of final findings of the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping & Allied Duties dated 24.03.2017.	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-add2017/csadd15-2017.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-add2017/csadd15-2017.pdf</a>
(6)	Notification No. 14/2017 Customs (ADD)	03.05.2017	Seeks to extend the levy of anti-dumping duty, imposed on Viscose Filament Yarn originating in or exported from China PR under notification No. 23/2012-Customs (ADD), dated 04.05.2012, for a further period of one year i.e. upto and inclusive of 03.05.2018.	Imposition of anti-dumping duty on Viscose Filament Yarn originating in or exported from China PR under notification No. 23/2012-Customs (ADD), dated 04.05.2012, for a further period of one year i.e. upto and inclusive of 03.05.2018.	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-add2017/csadd14-2017.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-add2017/csadd14-2017.pdf</a>

## CBEC- CENTRAL EXCISE

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No. 10/2017-Central Excise (NT)	13.04.2014	Seeks to amend CENVAT credit Rules, 2004	The said notification has been amended so as to allow the importer of the goods to take Cenvat credit on basis of the challan of payment of service tax by the said importer on the services provided by a foreign shipping line to a foreign charterer w.r.t. goods destined for India.	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cx-nt2017/cent10-2017.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cx-nt2017/cent10-2017.pdf</a>





(2)	Circular No. 1054/03/2017-Central Excise	15.03.2017	Classification of 'Saree' under Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), 1985	It has been clarified that "Saree" which has undergone further processing such as embroidery, stitching of lace and tikki etc. and stitched with two or more kinds of fabrics will be classifiable as "Saree" under Chapter 50, 52 and 54 of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 depending upon the material of the fabrics, and not as made-ups under Chapter 63 of the said Act. Each case may be decided on the basis of facts of the case and where further processing of "Saree" does not change the essential characteristics of the fabric as that of "Saree", it should continue to be classified as "Saree".	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-circulars/cx-circulars-2017/circ1054-2017cx.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-circulars/cx-circulars-2017/circ1054-2017cx.pdf</a>
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## CBEC - SERVICE TAX

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No. 16/2017-Service Tax	13.04.2017	Seeks to amend Service Tax Rules, 1994	The said notification has been amended so as to (i) Specify the importer as defined under clause (26) of section 2 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) of goods as the person liable for paying service tax in case of services provided or agreed to be provided by a person located in non-taxable territory to a person located in non-taxable territory by way of transportation of such goods by a vessel from a place outside India up to the customs station of clearance in India. (ii) Provide an alternate mechanism for calculating and paying service tax, Swachh Bharat Cess and Krishi Kalyan Cess.	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-servicetax/st-notifications/st-notifications-2017/st16-2017.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-servicetax/st-notifications/st-notifications-2017/st16-2017.pdf</a>
(2)	Notification No. 15/2017-Service Tax	13.04.2017	Seeks to amend notification No. 30/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012	The said notification, has been amended so as to specify the importer as defined under clause (26) of section 2 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) of goods as the person liable for paying service tax in case of services provided or agreed to be provided by a person located in non-taxable territory to a person located in non-taxable territory by way of transportation of such goods by a vessel from a place outside India up to the customs station of clearance in India. This notification shall come into force on the 23 rd day of April, 2017.	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-servicetax/st-notifications/st-notifications-2017/st15-2017.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-servicetax/st-notifications/st-notifications-2017/st15-2017.pdf</a>
(3)	Circular No. 206/4/2017-Service Tax	13.04.2017	Issues related to levy of service tax on the services provided by a person located in non-taxable territory to a person located in non-taxable territory by way of transportation of goods by a vessel from a place outside India to the customs station in India	Several representations have been received seeking clarification on levy of service tax on the services provided by a person located in non-taxable territory to a person located in non-taxable territory by way of transportation of goods by a vessel from a place outside India to the customs station in India. Consequently, it has been decided to make certain amendments in the service tax provisions in this regard.	<a href="http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-servicetax/st-circulars/st-circulars-2017/st-circ-206-4-2017-fnl.pdf">http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-servicetax/st-circulars/st-circulars-2017/st-circ-206-4-2017-fnl.pdf</a>



## SAHAR AIR CARGO CUSTOMS

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 10/2016-17	25.03.2017	Procedure to be followed in case of registration of duty credit scrips issued under Incremental Export Incentivisation Scheme (IEIS)	Attention of all Customs Brokers, Importers, Exporters and members of Trade is invited to the DGFT Notification No.3 (HE-2013)/2009-2014 Dated 18.04.2013 and Customs Notification No. 32/2013 dated 13.06.2013 regarding introduction of Incremental Export Incentivisation Scheme (IEIS). Due to some technical reasons. The IEIS license cannot be registered in the EDI system (ICES 1.5 version). Till the EDI module of the IEIS scheme is operationalized, procedure is prescribed for the Manual Registration of Duty Credit Scrips Issued under Incremental Export Incentivisation Scheme (IEIS) in the given Public Notice.	<a href="http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2017/public%20notice%20no.%2010-2016-17.pdf">http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2017/public%20notice%20no.%2010-2016-17.pdf</a>
(2)	Public Notice No. 08/2016-17	03.03.2017	Acceptance of e-BRC of DGFT towards proof of realization of sale proceeds for exports with LEO date up to 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.	<a href="http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2017/publicnotice%20no.08-2017.pdf">http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2017/publicnotice%20no.08-2017.pdf</a>

## JNCH CUSTOMS

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 63/2017	12.05.2017	Special Drive for clearance of Drawback Claims pending under Brand Rate	It may be noted that in term of Rule 6 and 7 of Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax Duties Drawback Rules, 1995, an application for fixation of brand rate has to be filed within 60 days or at best 90 days from the date of let export order Thereafter, Central Excise authority is to follow Board Circular No.14/2003- Customs, dated 06.03.2003 which provides verification within 15 days and brand rate fixation within a period of 10 days from the receipt of the verification reports.	<a href="http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_63.pdf">http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_63.pdf</a>
(2)	Public Notice No. 61/2017	11.05.2017	Uploading of certain information of Import Advance List (IAL) by shipping lines on JNCH DPD Portal (www.dpdjnch.com) for the purpose of DPD Clients	It has been decided that to provide access to "stacking code" allotted by shipping lines in advance to Direct Port Delivery Importers, a procedure should be followed by all stakeholders prescribed in the given Public Notice No. 61/2017.	<a href="http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_61.pdf">http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_61.pdf</a>
(3)	Public Notice No. 58/2017	02.05.2017	Request for discontinuation of High Seas Sale Registration Procedure at Import Noting Section of JNCH	In order to reduce transaction cost, delay and provide further ease of doing business, it has been decided to prescribe new procedure as regards import involving "High Sea Sale" transactions given in the Public Notice No. 58.	<a href="http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_58.pdf">http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_58.pdf</a>
(4)	Public Notice No. 57/2017	26.04.2017	Signature of Customs Officials on the final print out of the Bill of entry	Members of Trade are informed that final print out of the Bill of entry which are generated through Customs EDI system after out of charge (OOC) are computer generated and doesn't require to be signed by Customs officials.	<a href="http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_57.pdf">http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_57.pdf</a>



(5)	Public Notice No. 56/2017	26.04.2017	Delayed, incomplete or incorrect filing of Import Manifest or Import Report	It is informed that the responsibility of amendment in the IGM rests solely with the Shipping Line/Agent, as they file IGM with Customs under section 30 of Customs Act, 1962, and also it is, clarified that the fine/penalty imposed, if any, upon adjudication in such cases, shall be payable by the Shipping Line only or such other person as specified. No fine/penalty is required to be imposed on the consignee or others.	<a href="http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_56.pdf">http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_56.pdf</a>
(6)	Public Notice No. 55/2017	21.04.2017	Clarification regarding amendment in Special Economic Zone Rules, 2006 in Rule 47, after sub-rule (4) dated 05.08.2016.	It is informed that doubts have been raised regarding operationalization of these functions, appropriate authority and time limitation in respect of these functional operations, especially refund claims filed prior to the date of coming into effect of the said notification, i.e. 05.08.2016. Hence, CBEC has examined the issues and clarifications are prescribed in the Circular No. 11/2017- Customs dated 31.03.2017.	<a href="http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_55.pdf">http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_55.pdf</a>
(7)	Public Notice No. 54/2017	21.04.2017	Export of carpet under duty drawback-examination of carpets for composition, price determination etc.	For speedy conduct of enquiry about composition, value etc of carpets, besides the nominated members of CEPC, members may also contact the Office of Textiles Committee, Mumbai where two experts have been posted by the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) for attending to all work related to evaluation of carpets and to sort out the cases being referred to the Textiles Committee by the Customs authorities.	<a href="http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_54.pdf">http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_54.pdf</a>
(8)	Public Notice No. 52/2017	12.04.2017	Reprint of RMS Bills of Entry out of charged at RMS Facilitation Centre, at CFS Speedy on Saturdays	It is decided that the AC/DC in charge of Container Freight Station (CFS) Speedy Multimode Ltd, will give such reprints on Saturdays, as this will not only help in facilitating the Trade/Industry in tune with the Government's initiative of 'Ease of doing Business' but will also obviate the situation of cargo accumulation at Port's/CFS's.	<a href="http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_52.pdf">http://164.100.155.199/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_52.pdf</a>

## RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	RBI/2016-17/281	18.04.2017	Guidelines on compliance with Accounting Standard (AS) 11 [The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates] by banks - Clarification	It is clarified that the repatriation of accumulated profits shall not be considered as disposal or partial disposal of interest in non-integral foreign operations as per AS 11. The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates. Accordingly, banks shall not recognize in the profit and loss account the proportionate exchange gains or losses held in the foreign currency translation reserve on repatriation of profits from overseas Operations.	<a href="https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/notification/PDFs/NT281157C15E1860744E1A60D_F308551A4A5B.PDF">https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/notification/PDFs/NT281157C15E1860744E1A60D_F308551A4A5B.PDF</a>



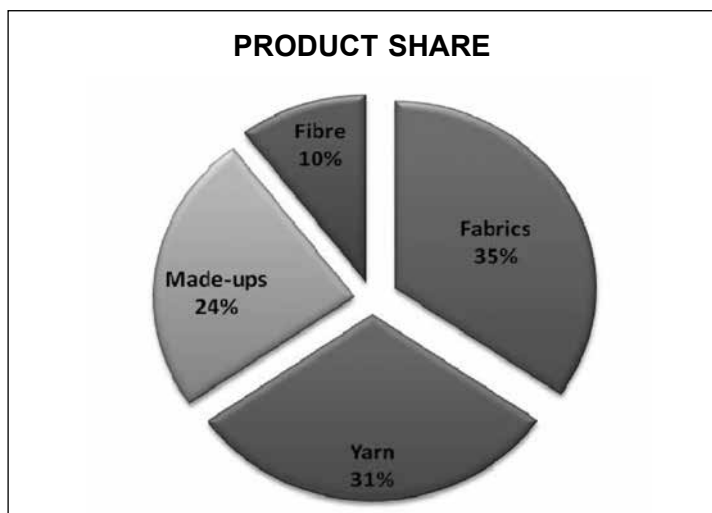


## EXPORTS OF INDIAN MAN-MADE FIBRE TEXTILES DURING APRIL - FEBRUARY 2016-17

Exports of Indian MMF textiles during April-February 2016-17 were US\$ 5250.79 Million against US\$ 5286.65 Million during the same period of the previous year witnessing a decline of 0.68% (SOURCE: MOC)

Value in US\$ Mn

	April-Feb 2016-17	April-Feb 2015-2016	Growth (%)
Fabrics	1817.23	1998.75	-9.08
Yarn	1612.05	1512.89	6.55
Made-ups	1279.17	1279.67	-0.04
Fibre	542.34	495.35	9.49
<b>Total</b>	<b>5250.79</b>	<b>5286.65</b>	<b>-0.68</b>



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Overall exports in April-February 2016-17 declined by 0.68% as compared to the same period of the previous year.
- Exports of Fabrics dominated with 35% share followed by Yarn 31%, Made-ups 24% and Fibre 10% in the Indian MMF textile exports.
- Share of the value added segments like fabrics and Made-ups have increased to 59% of total exports.
- Yarn and fibre segments have witnessed encouraging growth during April – February 2016-17; Viz, fibre by 9.49% and yarn by 6.55% whereas export of fabrics and made-ups declined by 9.08% and 0.04% respectively
- In the fabrics segment Polyester Filament Fabrics (US\$ 505.32 Mn) remained the top exported product in India's MMF textile exports followed by Synthetic Filament Fabrics (US\$ 464.78 Mn) and Polyester Viscose Fabrics (US\$ 320.26 Mn) during April-February 2016-17.
- In case of MMF yarn exports, Polyester Filament Yarn was the leading item with exports worth US\$ 782.24 Mn followed by Polyester spun Yarn (US\$ 159.44 Mn) and Polyester Spun Yarn (US\$ 154.066]9 Mn).
- In Made-ups, exports of Bulk Containers was the leading item with exports worth US\$ 318.72 Mn followed by Muffler and Shawls/Scarves worth US\$ 187.42 Mn and US\$ 143.14 Mn respectively.
- Viscose Staple Fibre (US\$ 275.79 Mn) was the leading item in the MMF category followed by Polyester Staple Fibre (US\$ 210.77 Mn) and Acrylic Staple Fibre (US\$ 49.34 Mn).
- UAE was the leading market for Indian MMF textiles during April-February 2016-17 with 14% share in total exports followed by USA 12% and Turkey 6%.
- Neighbouring country Pakistan has emerged as the 3rd largest market for India's MMF textile export with a share of 9% during April-February 2016-17.
- Leading markets with positive growth are Germany (32.38%), Brazil (24.59%), Korea Republic (24.55%) and Hong Kong (10.67%)
- Other major markets during April-February 2016-17 were Saudi Arabia 4% and Italy, and Belgium with share of 3% each in the Indian MMF Textiles exports.
- UAE and USA were the leading market for Indian MMF Fabrics and USA was also leading market for Indian MMF Made-up during the period.



## PRODUCT-WISE EXPORT PERFORMANCE APRIL-FEBRUARY 2016-17

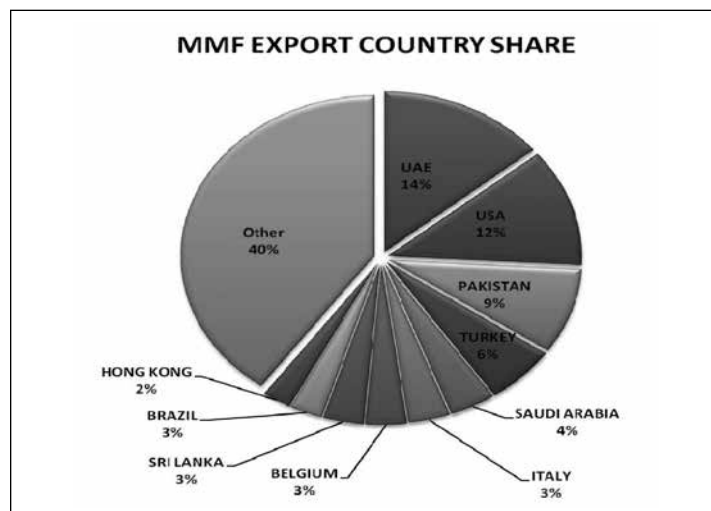
Value in USD Mn

Products	April-Feb 2016-17	April-Feb 2015-16	Net Change	% Change
<b>FABRICS (Woven+non-woven+knitted)</b>				
Polyester Filament	505.32	555.63	-50.31	-9.05
Synthetic Filament	464.78	511.05	-46.27	-9.95
Polyester Viscose	320.26	352.15	-31.88	-9.05
Polyester Blended	190.66	220.45	-29.79	-13.51
Synthetic Non Specified	91.43	110.53	-19.10	-17.28
Synthetic Cotton	44.24	50.64	-6.40	-12.65
Polyester Wool	42.85	57.12	-14.27	-24.98
Polyester Cotton	33.00	40.28	-7.28	-18.09
Polyester Spun	23.04	30.33	-7.29	-24.05
Synthetic Blended	17.98	20.77	-2.79	-13.43
Nylon Filament	16.27	18.89	-2.62	-13.87
Viscose Blended	67.41	30.92	36.49	118.01
<b>Total Fabrics</b>	<b>1817.23</b>	<b>1998.75</b>	<b>-181.52</b>	<b>-9.08</b>
<b>YARN</b>				
Polyester Filament	782.24	749.98	32.27	4.30
Polyester Spun	159.44	116.02	43.42	37.42
Polyester Cotton	154.06	168.89	-14.83	-8.78
Polyester Viscose	148.93	147.87	1.06	0.72
Viscose Spun	132.10	87.84	44.26	50.39
Viscose Filament	68.61	64.90	3.71	5.72
Acrylic Spun	40.85	38.48	2.37	6.16
Synthetic Spun	30.38	34.85	-4.47	-12.82
Polyester Wool	29.03	27.27	1.76	6.46
Artificial Spun	13.49	10.09	3.40	33.71
Synthetic Non Specified	11.06	17.21	-6.15	-35.74
Nylon Filament	10.47	9.15	1.32	14.43
Other Yarn	31.37	40.32	-8.95	-22.20
<b>Total Yarn</b>	<b>1612.05</b>	<b>1512.89</b>	<b>99.16</b>	<b>6.55</b>
<b>MADE-UPS</b>				
Bulk Containers	318.72	315.32	3.40	1.08
Muffler	187.42	197.69	-10.28	-5.20
Shawls/Scarves	143.14	139.27	3.87	2.78
Motifs	83.77	76.20	7.57	9.94
Fishing Net	44.79	45.96	-1.17	-2.54
Blanket	32.74	41.36	-8.62	-20.84
Bed Linen	22.96	27.39	-4.43	-16.17
Rope	18.23	18.73	-0.50	-2.68
Bedsheet	17.03	21.64	-4.62	-21.33

Products	April-Feb 2016-17	April-Feb 2015-16	Net Change	% Change
Braids	11.61	13.17	-1.56	-11.86
Dress Material	10.88	15.39	-4.51	-29.29
Sacks and Bags	10.39	21.74	-11.35	-52.22
Dish-cloths/Dusters	10.35	10.65	-0.30	-2.81
Curtains	9.64	10.59	-0.96	-9.02
Life Jacket	9.52	7.59	1.93	25.44
Tulles	9.33	8.25	1.08	13.12
Furnishing Articles	8.94	6.62	2.32	35.13
Lace	6.46	4.88	1.58	32.41
Toilet Linen	3.28	3.07	0.21	6.73
Other Made-ups	319.99	294.16	25.83	8.78
<b>Total Made-ups</b>	<b>1279.17</b>	<b>1279.67</b>	<b>-0.49</b>	<b>-0.04</b>
<b>FIBRE</b>				
Viscose Staple	275.79	234.80	40.99	17.46
Polyester Staple	210.77	189.18	21.59	11.41
Acrylic Staple	49.34	60.01	-10.67	-17.78
Other Fibre	6.44	11.36	-4.92	-43.31
<b>Total Fibre</b>	<b>542.34</b>	<b>495.35</b>	<b>46.99</b>	<b>9.49</b>

\* Flexible Intermediate Bulk Container (HS Code 63053200)/ big bag/bulk bag or Super Sack is a standardized container in large dimensions for storing and transporting dry, flow able products, for example sand, fertilizers, and granules of plastics, most often made of thick woven polyethylene or polypropylene, either coated or uncoated.

\*\* Other Made-ups include Tents, Sails, Rags, Embroidery (without visible ground) & Accessories.





## LEADING MARKETS

Value in USD Mn

SI No.	Country	April-Feb 2016-17	April-Feb 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
1	UAE	524.51	624.27	-99.76	-19.02
2	USA	445.87	492.03	-46.16	-10.35
3	PAKISTAN	324.78	420.36	-95.58	-29.43
4	TURKEY	223.21	226.40	-3.20	-1.43
5	SAUDI ARABIA	145.00	140.66	4.34	2.99
6	ITALY	130.42	128.94	1.48	1.13
7	BELGIUM	128.26	117.07	11.19	8.72
8	SRI LANKA	126.65	131.29	-4.63	-3.66
9	BRAZIL	103.95	78.39	25.56	24.59
10	HONG KONG	90.90	81.21	9.70	10.67
11	NETHERLANDS	87.01	80.05	6.96	8.00
12	EGYPT	87.00	88.87	-1.88	-2.16
13	GERMANY	77.79	52.60	25.19	32.38
14	SPAIN	71.83	76.44	-4.61	-6.42
15	KOREA, DEM REP	65.57	64.85	0.71	1.09
16	CANADA	51.15	42.66	8.49	16.60
17	FRANCE	50.04	50.34	-0.30	-0.60
18	KOREA, REPUBLIC OF	49.95	37.69	12.26	24.55
19	CHINA	47.68	34.25	13.43	28.17
20	VIETNAM, DEM	46.32	49.68	-3.35	-7.24

## MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF FABRICS

Value in USD Mn

Country	April-Feb 2016-17	April-Feb 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
UAE	290.83	404.20	-113.36	-28.05
USA	167.14	272.48	-105.35	-38.66
PAKISTAN	114.19	108.08	6.11	5.65
SRI LANKA	99.20	106.32	-7.12	-6.69
SAUDI ARABIA	59.57	63.18	-3.61	-5.72
HONG KONG	49.33	59.42	-10.09	-16.98
VIETNAM, DEMOCRATIC	33.91	38.56	-4.64	-12.04
EGYPT	28.93	37.74	-8.81	-23.34
SPAIN	28.67	31.26	-2.59	-8.29
ITALY	26.86	27.88	-1.02	-3.66

## MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF YARN

Value in USD Mn

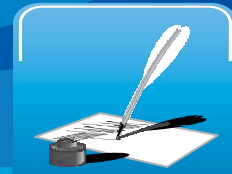
Country	April-Feb 2016-17	April-Feb 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
TURKEY	165.59	190.41	-24.82	-14.99
BRAZIL	78.35	64.37	13.98	17.84
USA	73.99	125.56	-51.57	-69.70
BELGIUM	51.62	49.76	1.86	3.61
PAKISTAN	45.74	49.79	-4.05	-8.86
EGYPT	39.48	37.70	1.78	4.51
COSTA RICA	33.09	22.40	10.70	32.32
MOLDOVA, REP OF	24.12	20.49	3.63	15.05
KOREA, REP OF	24.15	28.45	-4.30	-17.79
NETHERLANDS	19.44	25.03	-5.59	-28.75

## MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF MADE-UPS

Value in USD Mn

Country	April-Feb 2016-17	April-Feb 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
USA	176.39	200.82	-24.44	-13.85
SAUDI ARABIA	146.08	159.61	-13.54	-9.27
ITALY	60.46	60.92	-0.47	-0.77
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	50.34	41.48	8.86	17.60
GERMANY	43.14	26.93	16.21	37.56
NETHERLANDS	36.82	32.73	4.09	11.10
SPAIN	28.74	35.82	-7.08	-24.62
CROATIA	27.78	33.48	-5.70	-20.52
FRANCE	25.25	29.78	-4.53	-17.94
CANADA	22.87	16.86	6.02	26.31
BELGIUM	22.80	23.84	-1.04	-4.55





**INDIA PAVILION EXPOCOMER FAIR 2017**



H.E. Ms. Shamma Jain, Ambassador of India in Panama along with Mr. Fernando Arango Morrice, President of CCIAP Exhibitions and Events Organizing Committee of EXPOCOMER Fair (centre) and the SRTEPC Vice-chairman, Shri Ronak Rughani inaugurating the 'India Pavilion EXPOCOMER Fair amidst the presence of member participants.

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