

SRTEPC HOLDS ITS 60TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN MUMBAI

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) held its 60th Annual General Meeting on Friday 26th September 2014 in Mumbai.



Shri Rakesh Mehra, Chairman welcoming Smt. Kiran Soni Gupta, IAS, Textile Commissioner with a bouquet of flowers

The Chairman said that it is heartening to note that exports of Indian Man-made fibre textiles touched US\$ 6160 million during 2013-14 as against US\$ 5249 million during 2012-13, thereby registering a growth of 17%, over the previous year. The rupee depreciation during most of 2013-14 also supplemented the efforts put in by the members to achieve the growth in exports. Exports of Fabrics dominated the export basket with a share of 36% followed by Yarn 33%, Made-ups 21% and Fibre 10%. Exports of MMF textiles were destined to 146 countries, he said.

“Make in India” brand

Shri Mehra informed that the Hon'ble Prime Minister has urged for evolving “Make in India

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Smt. Kiran Soni Gupta, Textile Commissioner was the Chief Guest at the Meeting. Shri Rakesh Mehra, Chairman, Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Vice-Chairman, Shri R. L. Toshniwal; Shri G. K. Gupta, former Chairmen and members of the Committee of Administration, member exporters and media persons were present on the occasion.

Sixty glorious years

Shri Rakesh Mehra, Chairman in his speech said that being the 60th AGM it is a landmark event for the Council and thanked all the stakeholders of over the last six decades for helping to make a strong and visible SRTEPC.



Shri Rakesh Mehra, Chairman, The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) addressing the 60th Annual General Meeting of the Council on 26th September 2014 in Mumbai. Also seen in picture l to r Shri V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director, Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Vice-Chairman, Smt. Kiran Soni Gupta, IAS, Textile Commissioner and Shri R. L. Toshniwal, former Chairman.



SRTEPC wishes all its members a very
Happy Diwali and Prosperous New Year





SRTEPC ORGANIZES INTEXPO BANGLADESH IN DHAKA

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) organized an exclusive Indian Exhibition of textiles at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka from 29th to

& service of a professional Event Management Agency : M/s. Triune Group was availed to organize various requirements of the Exhibition.



Hon'ble State Minister for Jute and Textiles, H.E. Mr. Mirza Azam jointly inaugurating the Exhibition in Dhaka, Bangladesh along with Shri Sandeep Chakravorty, Deputy High Commissioner of India, Shri Shahidullah Azim, Acting President, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association; Shri Alhaj Md. Harun Ur Rashid, Acting President, The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Shri Mohammad Ali, President, India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Shri Sanjeev Saran, Former Chairman & Convenor (Export Promotion), SRTEPC; Shri V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director, SRTEPC and Shri Srijib Roy, Joint Director, SRTEPC.

30th September 2014 as part of its promotional programme during 2014-15.

The 8th edition of the Indian Exhibition of textiles was organized in association with the High Commission of India in Dhaka and with the active support of three leading Trade Bodies: (i) Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA); (ii) The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FBCCI); and (iii) India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IBCCI)

Basic Objectives of the Exhibition :

The Exhibition was organized to offer an opportunity to the prospective Bangladeshi Buyers to see what India has to offer in synthetic and rayon textiles under a single roof, impress upon Buyers about the capabilities of the Indian MMF Textile Industry, and create a positive image of India as one of the leading suppliers of textiles with competitive prices in the world and help both the Indian exporters and Bangladeshi buyers to forge long-term trade relationships.



Shri Sanjeev Saran, former Chairman and Convenor (Export Promotion), SRTEPC interacting with the media persons at the Press Conference held prior to the Exhibition at Hotel Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka, Bangladesh

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Printed, published and edited by **V. ANIL KUMAR** on behalf of
**THE SYNTHETIC & RAYON TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION
COUNCIL**, Printed at **Kukreja Arts**, Works, 65 Ideal Ind. Estate,
Senapati Bapat Marg, Opp. Empire Dying, Lower Parel, Mumbai -
400 013 & Published from **The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles
Export Promotion Council**, Resham Bhavan, 78 Veer Nariman
Road, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400 020.

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Dear Member,

It was a privilege for me to address the 60th Annual General Meeting of the Council on 26th September 2014 in Mumbai, and express my profound gratitude to all the stakeholders for making a strong and visible SRTEPC. With our concerted efforts, exports of MMF textiles have been improving and during 2013-14 it has reached US\$6160 million registering a growth of 17%, over the previous year. Confidently, the Council has fixed an ambitious export target of US\$ 6.50 billion for the year 2014-15, which may be difficult with the emerging global economic situation, but let us make sincere efforts to attain it, the much required policy support measures will help us to accomplish the target.

I am glad to inform you that Council has successfully organized its exclusive Exhibition in Bangladesh on 29th & 30th September realizing its expected outcome. Bangladesh has emerged as 5th largest market for Indian MMF textiles during the year 2013-14. It has helped to understand each others market needs and strengthened the textile-business relationship between the two neighbours, especially in the field of MMF textiles. It is understood that business orders to the tune of ₹ 36.60 lakhs from the fabric sector were concluded in the initial phase and total business under negotiations during the Exhibition is estimated around ₹ 6.29 crores. On behalf of SRTEPC let me convey gratitude to the Hon'ble State Minister for Jute and Textiles of Bangladesh, H.E. Mr. Mirza Azam for inaugurating the Exhibition and encouraging our participating companies. I also express my deep regard to the prominent Garment bodies of Bangladesh viz. Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA); The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FBCCI); and India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IBCCI) for extending guidance and active support. I must state that their cooperation has immensely helped us to meet the desired objectives of the Exhibition, benefiting the participated firms of both the countries. Most importantly, I express my profound gratitude to the High Commissioner of India in Dhaka and his senior officials for actively supporting the SRTEPC team both in the preparatory phase and also throughout the period of the Exhibition. I am sure their sincere efforts will help to enhance the trade relation between India and Bangladesh in the near future.



We hope that the Government will announce the much awaited FTP (2014-19) during this month. I am confident the trade policy measures along with the Textile policy initiatives, which have been in the anvil would give the much needed support and provide the required fillip to the Textiles sector and the MMF textiles in particular to enhance growth and exports.

The Council proposes to hold its Annual Export Award Function during November in Mumbai. A circular inviting for applications for Grant of Awards for the year 2013-14 has already been sent to the members. I take this opportunity to remind members to send their applications complete in all respects so as to reach the Council latest by 3rd November 2014 so that the preparations can be done as planned.

Let me take this opportunity to wish all the members "Happy, Prosperous and Rewarding Deepawali".

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

RAKESH MEHRA
CHAIRMAN



SRI LANKA

Textile and garment contribute 44% to the overall growth of exports in July 2014

Textile and garment exports grew at a higher rate compared to other industrial products in July 2014. It has been reported that continuing this year's uptrend, textile and apparel exports earned US\$ 414.50 million for Sri Lanka in July 2014, showing an increase of 11.3 percent over US\$372.5 million exports made in the same month last year.

Textiles and garments contributed 44 percent to the overall growth in Sri Lanka's exports in July 2014.

On the other hand, the import of textile and textile articles by Sri Lanka registered a growth of 6.4 percent and was valued at US\$206.6 million in July 2014, as against imports of US\$194.2 million in the corresponding month last year.

In January-July 2014, Sri Lanka's textile and garments exports fetched US\$2.83 billion, as against exports of US\$2.37 billion made during the corresponding period of last year. Meanwhile, imports of textiles and textile articles increased to US\$1.25 billion during the seven-month period, compared to imports worth US\$1.16 billion made during the same period last year.

In 2013, Sri Lanka's earnings from textile and garment exports grew by 13 percent year-on-year to US\$4.50 billion, while its value of imports declined by 9.7 percent year-on-year to US\$2.04 billion.

Recently, Sri Lanka and China signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on launching negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA) between the

two nations. While China is the world's largest exporter of textiles and apparel, Sri Lanka is a manufacturing hub for lingerie, T-shirts and blouses. At present, Sri Lankan exports of textiles and apparel attract duty ranging from 14 percent to 25 percent in China, and if the free-trade deal fructifies, all textile and clothing items from Sri Lanka would be able to enter the Chinese market duty-free.

VIETNAM

Exports of fabric and clothing up by 194.4% in the first eight months of 2014

The exports of fabric and clothing from Vietnam surged by 19.4 percent year-on-year in the first eight months of 2014, it has been reported.

Fabric and garment exports from Vietnam totaled US\$ 13.61 billion in the January-August 2014, growing at 19.4 percent year-on-year.

During the eight-month period, Vietnam exported 549,872 tons of yarn fetching US\$1.655 billion, registering an increase of 20.3 percent and 20.5 percent year-on-year, respectively, according to the data.

The US alone imported US\$6.49 billion worth of fabric and apparel from Vietnam during the period under review. Japan and South Korea were the other main destinations for Vietnamese fabric and clothing with exports valued at US\$1.68 billion and US\$1.22 billion, respectively.

Meanwhile, Vietnam's cotton imports soared by 26.3 percent year-on-year to 488,066 tons in terms of quantity, and by 26.9 percent to US\$976.668 million in terms of value.

Similarly, Vietnam's yarn imports grew by 7.1 percent year-on-year

and 2.1 percent by volume and value, respectively, to 487,088 tons and US\$1.023 billion. Fabric imports also climbed 14.3 percent to US\$6.12 billion.

With US\$3.01 billion worth of goods, China was the largest supplier of fabric to Vietnam during the period under discussion.

Last year, Vietnam's fabric and garment exports grew by 18.9 percent year-on-year to US\$17.95 billion, and the country's fabric and garment exports are expected to touch US\$20 billion mark this year.

USA

Imports of textiles and apparels rises 2.23% during Jan-August 2014

The United States imported textiles and apparel worth US\$ 70.87 billion in the first eight months of 2014, registering an increase of 2.23 percent over imports of US\$69.32 billion in the corresponding period of the previous year, it has been reported.

The data shows that the US imported US\$26.81 billion worth of textiles and garments from China, which accounted for 39.13 percent share of all textile and garment imports made by the US in January-August 2014.

Vietnam, India, Bangladesh and Indonesia were among the top five suppliers of textiles and garments to the US, with goods valued at US\$6.56 billion, US\$4.55 billion, US\$3.56 billion and US\$3.54 billion, respectively, during the eight-month period.

While the US import of man-made fibre (MMF) apparel increased by 7.96 percent year-on-year to US\$22.62 billion, and that of wool apparel by 8.24 percent year-on-year to US\$2.26 billion, the import



of cotton apparel declined by 2.45 percent to US\$28.02 billion.

In the non-apparel category, among the top-ten suppliers, the import from Turkey and Italy went up by 10.04 percent year-on-year and 8.65 percent respectively to US\$473.54 million and US\$411.29 million. On the other hand, imports from Canada dropped by 8.45 percent to US\$521.66 million.

Of the total US textile and apparel imports of US\$70.86 billion during the quarter, man-made fibre (MMF) products were worth US\$32.76 billion.

In 2013, the US textile and apparel imports increased by 3.76 percent year-on-year to \$104.725 billion, with apparels alone accounting for \$79.797 billion.

ETHIOPIA

US\$ 435 million target set for the textile and clothing industry

Ethiopia's export revenue from textile products has witnessed growth during the Growth and Transformation Plan period, but with lower pace, it has been reported.

The country's revenue from textile export which was US\$ 62.2 million in 2003 has reached US\$ 111 million last fiscal year.

In spite of yearly growth, the revenue earning from the textile sector is very small compared to the target.

The revenue earned from the textile sector during last fiscal year has declined from the target by more than two-third. The target was to earn US\$ 350 million.

Garment, yarn and fabrics are the top in generating the stated amount of revenue. Germany, Turkey and

China are the leading destinations for Ethiopian textiles products.

A target of US\$ 435 million has been set for the textiles and apparel sector during this fiscal year.

CHINA

Growth in exports of textile and clothing steady

The exports of textile and apparel from China continued to show steady growth in September 2014, it has been reported.

According to data China's total textile and garment exports were valued at US\$ 28.55 billion in September 2014, showing a year-on-year growth of 7.4 percent.

Of this, textile exports grew at 7.3 percent year-on-year to US\$9.75 billion, while clothing exports earned US\$18.8 billion, showing an increase of 7.4 percent.

From January to September 2014, China's overall textile and apparel exports stood at US\$221.9 billion, registering a growth of 5.9 percent year-on-year.

During the first three quarters of the current year, China's textile exports increased at 5 percent year-on-year to US\$83.11 billion, whereas clothing exports shot up by 6.5 percent to US\$138.79 billion.

BANGLADESH

Fall in exports of home textiles in the first two months of 2014-15

The Bangladesh home textile sector faces negative growth during the first two months of the current fiscal year 2014-15, it has been reported. The major factors affecting the growth of country's potential

home textile exports are European Union GSP facility for Pakistan, appreciation of the local currency against the US dollar and recent political turmoil.

As per the data the industry fetched US\$115.99 million in July-August period of the current fiscal, showing a 0.79 per cent negative growth compared to the same period of last fiscal.

In the just-concluded fiscal year 2013-14, the country received US\$792.53 million from home-textile exports. The exports were US\$791.52 million in FY 2012-13.

Earnings stood at US\$906.07 million in FY of 2011-12, some US\$788.76 million in 2010-11, US\$539.28 million in 2009-10 and US\$313.51million in 2008-09 respectively.

It is learnt that Bangladesh is likely to face strong competitive pressure from Pakistan in home-textile trade.

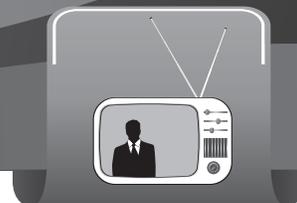
Pakistan has used the new GSP scheme more effectively than Bangladesh. Bangladesh's export to the EU market during the first five months of current calendar year grew by 11 percent while Pakistan's by 27 percent.

Due to the EU's new GSP scheme, Pakistan will be the main competitor of Bangladesh on the EU market and Bangladesh may face pressure in the days to come. Bangladesh exports home textiles such as bed-sheets, bedcovers, pillow covers, cushion covers, curtains, rugs, quilt, kitchen aprons, gloves, napkins and tablecloths to European Union countries, the USA, Canada, Mexico, Australia, Japan and Dubai.

Bangladesh is the leader on the EU market but yet to tap the US market.



(Excerpts taken from Fibre2fashion and other textile related websites)



Textile and clothing exports to US on the rise

India's share has been slowly and steadily increasing in total textile (non-apparel) and apparel imports made by the US in recent years, it has been reported. In 2012, the US imported US\$2.85 billion worth of textiles from India, which accounted for 11.83 percent of the overall US\$24.12 billion textiles.

Last year, the US' total textile imports were valued at US\$24.93 billion, of which, India contributed US\$3.087 billion or 12.38 percent.

In the year ending July 2014, India's share in the US' overall non-apparel (textile) imports increased further to 12.70 percent with the US importing US\$3.220 billion worth of goods from India, while the US' total imports stood at US\$25.358 billion.

Similarly, India's share in US' overall apparel imports has also been growing at a slower pace. In 2012, India had a 3.96 percent share as it exported US\$3.041 billion worth of clothing to the US, whose total imports stood at US\$76.811 billion.

In 2013, India's share marginally increased to 4.02 percent and it accounted for US\$3.0211 billion of the overall US\$79.797 billion worth of garments imported by the US.

India's share in US apparel imports further increased to 4.12 percent in the year ending July 2014, with India contributing US\$3.327 billion to US' total imports of US\$80.778 billion.

India's share in US textile and apparel imports is likely to increase further in the coming years due to investor-friendly and export-oriented policies put in place by the Indian Government. The inclusion of the textile and garment industry in the 'Make in India' campaign launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recently is expected to boost the Indian textile and clothing industry.

Transaction cost to be reduced to give exports push

India is working to significantly reduce cost of transaction and quicken the process for exports based on a raft of recommendations made by a high-level committee, as the government seeks to make doing business easier and give a thrust to foreign trade.

A taskforce headed by former Director General of Foreign Trade, Dr. Anup Pujari has listed out 10 broad issues

hurting exporters and requiring urgent attention. These include rationalisation of bank charge, self-certification of documents and a reduction in physical checks.

The committee has suggested a framework to build an efficient trade facilitation mechanism in India. The average cost of exports from India is US\$1,170 per transaction, nearly double that of Sri Lanka, the UAE and China, as per the World Bank report, in which India is ranked 134 out of 189 countries.

Some of its recommendations are likely to figure in the foreign trade policy for 2014-19, expected to be announced mid-October.

It is learnt that this will include measures to reduce transaction cost, rationalisation of various programmes and incentives for services exports.

India's exports grew 3.6% to US\$312 billion in the fiscal through March 2014, but had missed the target of US\$325 billion.

The recommended steps will also help expedite India's efforts towards trade facilitation.

Rationalisation of bank charges is one of the major recommendations. Most Indian banks charge up to 1% of total sanctioned credit limit as first time bank processing charges. They also levy fees for subsequent renewals or enhancements of this limit, which is a major contributor to overall transaction costs. To renew an export credit limit of ₹ 10 crore, bank charges could be as high as ₹ 10 lakh. The committee has recommended imposing charge only the first time for application and processing, and that too in a modest range of 0.5%-1%. The RBI and the department of financial services must work together.

The committee has recommended that exporters be allowed to self-certify both preferential and non-preferential certificates of origin and that free-trade agreements signed by India be renegotiated to reflect provisions of self-certifications.

It has also recommended allowing commercial exports through courier mode for B2C ecommerce exports.

PM launches the "Make in India" campaign

The Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi launched the 'Make in India' campaign covering 25 sectors, including the textile and garment industry in New Delhi recently.

At the launch of the ambitious 'Make in India' project to make India a manufacturing hub, Prime Minister



promised effective and easy governance to help achieve high growth and creation of jobs.

The 'Make in India' scheme also puts in place the logistics and systems to address in a timely manner queries of potential investors. The scheme has been unveiled along with a logo, a web portal, and brochures on 25 identified growth sectors.

India is the world's second largest producer of cotton and silk, and also the second largest textile manufacturer. Besides this, India enjoys a comparative advantage in terms of skilled manpower and cost of production over other major textile producers, which makes the country a preferred destination for investment.

Moreover, the Government of India allows 100 percent foreign direct investment (FDI) under the automatic route in the textile sector, subject to all applicable regulations and laws, which effectively backs the Make in India programme for the textile and garment industry.

Under the Make in India initiative, investment opportunities for foreign companies and entrepreneurs are available across the entire value chain of synthetics, value-added and speciality fabrics, fabric processing set-ups for all kinds of natural and synthetic textiles, technical textiles, garments, and retail brands.

Anti-dumping duty on PTA leads to rise in imports of synthetic textiles products

The imports of synthetic textiles products by India have gone up after the Indian Government imposed anti-dumping duty ranging between US\$ 19.05 per ton to US\$117.09 per ton, on imports from China, South Korea, Thailand and the European Union, it has been reported.

In July-August 2014, India's polyester staple fibre (PSF) imports stood at 16,785 tonnes, which is over three times more than import of 4,441 tonnes during the same period last year.

Similarly, India's imports of polyester filament yarn (PFY) climbed 130 percent to 8,965 tonnes during the two-month period compared to the corresponding period of last year.

Most of the increase in import of PSF and PFY is due to a surge in imports from China, which poses a major risk to the Indian synthetic textile industry.

It is learnt that China is becoming more aggressive now since its domestic demand is not growing rapidly as it used to do earlier. Recent trends indicate stagnation

and flagging demand in Chinese market. Hence, renewed efforts to dump in large markets like India.

RBI slashes ECR

THE Reserve Bank of India (RBIs) recently decided to cut the export refinance facility (ECR) for exporters, even as exports have been hit by the dwindling demand abroad. The move has not gone down well with the exporting community, it has been reported.

The ECR facility has been slashed to 15 per cent of banks' eligible export credit from an earlier cap of 32 per cent, with effect from October 10. This is the second reduction this fiscal, after it was reduced from 50 per cent in the June review.

Exports grew at a five-month low of 2.35 per cent in August, to US\$ 26.95 billion.

Customs procedures to be simplified

India has initiated measures to reform customs procedures and cut red tape to speed up international trade two months after it blocked an international agreement on easing trade regulations, it has been reported.

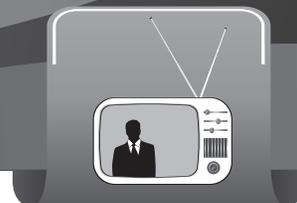
It is learnt that the Government has decided to set up a national committee on trade facilitation, which will suggest and implement measures to ensure seamless movement of cargo by addressing constraints like high transaction costs and poor infrastructure.

It is also reported that the national committee on trade facilitation will be put in place soon, which will have representation from 7-8 departments which look after all aspects of trade facilitation.

India had on July 31 vetoed the trade facilitation agreement at the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which sought to speed up global trade by reforming customs procedures, arguing that there should be a parallel deal on food security. Delhi, however, maintained that it was fully committed to trade facilitation.

The trade facilitation goal requires harmony between departments like customs, shipping & ports, road transport & highways, and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). It is important to get each of them on board, said the official quoted above.

The WTO trade facilitation pact, signed in December 2013, contains legally binding provisions to standardise customs rules in all 159 member-countries for faster and more efficient movement of cross-border cargo.



The Hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley had made several announcements in the budget, allocating significant funds towards trade facilitation. It included extension of 24x7 customs clearance facilities to many more ports, airports and sea ports.

India likely to impose safeguard duties on Chinese imports

India may consider imposing "some kind of safeguard duties' on Chinese imports to bridge the huge trade gap as it cannot be sustained in the long run, it has been reported.

India's trade deficit with China stands at about US\$36 billion with exports totalling only US\$15 billion against US\$51 billion imports.

Textile Ministry considering restructuring of TUF Scheme under the new Textile Policy

The textile ministry is now examining over a proposal to restructure the textile upgrade fund (TUF) for making it broad based to include many more areas and make better benefits under the new textile policy proposed, it has been reported. Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was introduced in 1999 to catalyze investments in all the sub sectors of textiles industry by way of interest reimbursement. The scheme mainly focuses on modernization of processing, spinning, and weaving, garmenting and technical textiles segments, where there is good scope for massive employment generation and value-addition.

Some of the proposals include relaxation in the terms and conditions on the loan, increasing the assistance to upgrade plain looms into shuttle less looms, weaving preparatory, knitting machines, ginning and pressing machine to be earmarked to avail benefits, extending the subsidy to imported machinery and enhancing the margin money subsidy under the scheme.

As per the proposal, borrowers will get effective rate from the beginning and the financial institutions will take reimbursement from the Ministry for the interest subsidy involved. Besides, the loan repayment period should be extended to 2 years of moratorium and seven years of repayment.

Under TUF, 10% capital subsidy (in addition to five% interest re-imburement) is proposed to be provided on

imported machinery which is not manufactured in India for manufacturing silk and woolen items.

Besides, assistance for converting existing plain looms/ semi-auto looms into rapier Shuttle-less loom should be increased to ₹ 35,000 per loom.

A pilot project has been envisaged under the power loom sector which aims at providing subsidy for developing infrastructure, common facilities, and construction of factory buildings and for shuttle less looms on Hire purchase basis, to improve their quality and production and to face the competition from domestic market as well as export market .

An allocation of ₹ 2300 crores has been made under this scheme in 2014-15 out of which ₹ 528 crore has been disbursed till July 31, 2014.

Under the margin money subsidy (MMS) under TUFS, the small scale textile and jute units can avail 15% MMS instead of five percent on interest repayment. MMS is available on 15% investment made in TUF compatible machinery subject to a ceiling of ₹ 75 lakh on subsidy amount.

During the 12th Five Year Plan the major focus of TUF would be on modernization of power loom sector.

Among other changes made are augmentations of capital Subsidy for new shuttle less looms from 10 to 15%, increasing the rate of interest reimbursement from 5% to 6%. Further, the Margin Money Subsidy has been increased from 20% to 30% with an increase in subsidy capital from ₹ 1 crore to ₹ 1.5 crore.

Since inception, the scheme has propelled investment of more than ₹ 2, 60,000 crore till date and an amount of ₹ 18,600 crore has been released towards subsidy under the scheme upto 31.07.2014.

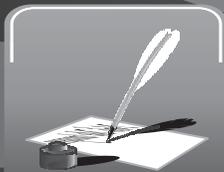
Subsidies for setting up processing development parks

The Textile Ministry will give subsidies for setting up processing development parks on the lines of mega textile parks and has set aside ₹ 70 crore for the purpose, it has been reported.

Smt.Sunaina Tomar, Joint Secretary (Exports), Ministry of Textiles said that the scheme for integrated textile parks, for which ₹ 40 crore has been set aside, will also be upgraded.



(Excerpts taken from various Financial & textile newspapers)



MAN-MADE FIBRE GAINING POPULARITY

More and more producers and buyers are turning to man-made or synthetic fibres, which have become important to the lives we lead today and its popularity is growing globally in leaps and bounds.

Cotton losing its market to man-made fibres

Looks like golden days of cotton have started fizzling. After years of being at the top and being utilized as a textile fibre of choice, cotton's share of all fibre consumption has steadily declined. Its usage share dropped from 70 per cent during the 1950's to just below 50 per cent by early in the 1980's. Meanwhile, man-made fibres is slowly gaining popularity. Today, as per rough estimates, man-made fibres make 65 per cent of global fibre production. Unites States, in 2014, is expected to import more clothing made from synthetic fibres than cotton in over 20 years.

Meanwhile, decline in cotton's share of global fibre consumption over the last several years can be largely attributed to high cotton prices, especially in comparison to man-made fibres. The International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) reported that 2010 brought the largest single-year decline on record, in both absolute and percentage terms, when cotton prices reached record highs. Although cotton prices have fallen dramatically since then, they are still high compared to manmade fibres. This year, the prices of cotton have fallen 20 per cent. Prices for a Pound of cotton have averaged 81 cents a pound over the past two years as the global supplies have reduced.

US sellers too have started using less cotton in their imported products.

The analysts are not wrong. The use of synthetic fibre and its market share has increased because of its low price, making it more suitable and the no.1 preference for the consumers.

In India too synthetic fibres are the future. Even during the global economic turmoil, India's ₹ 120,000 crore synthetic textile industry grew at 5 per cent and is now quickly narrowing the conspicuous disparity between use of cotton and synthetics in the textile industry.

Synthetic to overtake cotton

Cotton prices have reached the critical point and are the most important reason for the industry to shift towards synthetic fibres. Recently, fall in cotton prices too failed to revive the fate of the fibre and reports suggest that in 2014, the imports of synthetic clothing may overtake cotton garments for the first time in over a decade.

Despite the fall in cotton prices in the US to less than USD\$1 a lb, synthetics in China, the world's top textile market, were still cheaper at about US cents 68 per pound. As a result, synthetic imports increased by more than 20 per cent over the past three years and cotton imports have fallen by 14 per cent. Also, man-made fibres have evolved and are more 'breathable'. They have easily replaced cotton from our lives and have become part of our daily existence.

Source : Yarns and Fibres Aug. 2014



Attention: Members

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

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

❖ Fabrics

❖ Yarns

❖ Made-ups

❖ Fibre

The Book is available for ₹ 112 (including Service Tax), which can be obtained from the Head office or Regional Offices of the Council at Delhi and Surat on payment by cash or on the receipt of Demand Draft (in favour of "The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai) for the requisite amount. Please add ₹ 50/- for mailing charges, if you require the Book through courier.

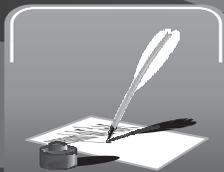


SRTEPC organizes INTEXPO Bangladesh in Dhaka

(Continued from Page 2)

VIEW OF THE STALLS AT THE EXHIBITION



**Participants & display :**

Twenty-two member companies of the Council displayed the entire range of latest Indian textile products. Products that were displayed at the Exhibition included suitings, shirtings, dress fabrics, furnishing fabrics of different varieties, blends/mixtures, while in the yarn category – polyester, viscose, polyester-cotton, polyester-viscose, etc., besides various sarees, scarves, stoles, dupattas, etc. from the made-up category were also showcased at the Exhibition.

Inauguration :

The Exhibition was inaugurated by the Hon'ble State Minister for Jute and Textiles, H.E. Mr. Mirza Azam on 29th September 2014 amidst the presence of Shri Sandeep Chakravorty, Deputy High Commissioner of India, Shri Shahidullah Azim, Acting President, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association; Shri Alhaj Md. Harun Ur Rashid, Acting President, The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Shri Mohammad Ali, President, India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Shri Sanjeev Saran, Past Chairman & Convenor (Export Promotion), SRTEPC; and Shri V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director and Shri Srijib Roy, Joint Director of the Council.

In his address, the Chief Guest, Hon'ble State Minister for Jute and Textiles, H. E. Mr. Mirza Azam said that Non-tariff barrier has emerged as a hindrance for Bangladesh for which the country fails to enjoy a win-win situation while exporting goods to India, though New Delhi has allowed duty-free access for a number of Bangladeshi garments to its market.

The Dy. High Commissioner of India, Mr. S. Chakravorty said that as India is the nearest neighbour of Bangladesh, export-import supply chain between the two countries will be smooth. He further added that Bangladeshi Garment Sector's stakeholders, especially the stakeholders of textile sector can source their raw materials from India market.

Earlier welcoming the gathering Mr. Sanjeev Saran said that Indian Textiles and Bangladesh RMG sector has a strong international relation. The Exhibition was arranged to strengthen the inter-relation of the garment sectors of the two countries, he stated. Shri. Saran

called upon the Bangladeshi stakeholders to arrange business-to-business, Government-to-Government and industry-to-industry dialogues and resolve the problems for business growth of the two countries.

Shri. V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director of the Council offered his grateful thanks to the Hon'ble Minister and all the other guests for attending the Inaugural Programme of the Council's Exhibition in Dhaka. The Exposition would be a platform to strengthen bi-lateral trade relations of both the countries, especially the stakeholders of garment and textile sectors, said Shri. Mohammad Ali, President of IBCCI. He further said that Bangladesh imports raw materials for the textile sector from China and India, and it is now looking for a reliable source of raw materials, which will also ensure the quality.

Shri. Md. Ali, Shri. Shahidullah Azim, Acting President, BGMEA said that country's ready-made garment and textiles is a thriving sector, and it is playing a vital role in keeping the country's economy vibrant.

A large number of leading local Dignitaries/Industry-heads, Buyers and Journalists/Media persons of both Print and Electronic media were also present at the Inaugural programme of the Exhibition.

Press Conference :

A Pre-Exhibition Press Conference was held in the afternoon on 28th September 2014 at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel. Shri. Sanjeev Saran, Convenor (EP), Shri. V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director, SRTEPC, Shri, Bijay Selvaraj, First Secretary, High Commissioner of India, Shri. Mohammad Ali, President, IBCCI and other Officials were present at the Press Conference. During the Press Conference, a Powerpoint Presentation was made by Shri. Sanjeev Saran – explaining various aspects of the Exhibition, Council's activities and the main aspects of Indian MMF Textile Industry. Briefing Media people (both print & electronic), Shri. Saran said that we are here in Bangladesh as collaborators, not competitors to the local Industry. Bangladesh has a very vibrant garment sector. India is also a big destination for backward integration for the Bangladeshi garment sector. The Press Conference was attended by more than 40 Journalists and TV Reporters. The Exhibition received wide publicity both in the print and electronic media consequent to the Press Conference.



Publicity & Promotion :

In order to attract visitor-turnout, the Council made various arrangements for publicising & promoting the INTEXPO BANGALDESH by releasing advertisements in Newspapers, printing and distributing Exhibition Brochures & Fliers – containing participants' company products, profiles etc. Besides sending invitation to the leading prospective Buyers/ Agents, tele-marketing and mass e-mailing were also resorted to for inviting Buyers to visit member-exhibitors to discuss business.

Response from Participants :

Twenty-two member-companies participated in the Exhibition and showcased their fabrics, made-ups, accessories and yarns to visiting Buyers in Bangladesh. The Exhibition provided an excellent opportunity to the garment manufacturers and textile traders in Bangladesh to have an overview of the entire range of Indian MMF Textiles, understand India's competitive strengths in price and quantity, and to interact personally with the representatives of Indian participating companies.

The Exhibition received good response during its 2-day duration. It attracted over 170 business visitors, who showed keen interest in the products displayed by the Indian participants. The Council has received encouraging feed-backs from its participating member-companies, who represented the Indian Man-Made Fibre sector – mainly with yarn, fabrics and made-up articles at the INTEXPO. Some of the participants were successful in booking business orders to the tune of ₹ 36.60 lakhs from the fabric sector. Others were successful in establishing business contacts and the total value of business under negotiations during the Exhibition is estimated to be around ₹ 6.29 crores. It is hoped that significant additional orders will be secured for a mutually beneficial and long term partnership between Bangladeshi and Indian Textile companies in the emerging global scenario.

Networking Dinner :

A "Networking Dinner" was organized by the Council on 29th September at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka on the occasion of the INTEXPO

BANGLADESH in Dhaka. The objective of organizing the Dinner was to create a platform for facilitating informal interactions between the Executives of the participating member-companies in the INTEXPO, and their counterparts in Bangladesh for forging mutually beneficial business relationships. Around 70 persons including Buyers, Industry-Heads and participating Exhibitors attended the programme. Mr. Bijay Selvaraj, first Secretary of the High Commission of India was also present at the programme.

Bangladesh: Emerging Market for Indian MMF Textile Exports

Bangladesh imported around US\$ 3 billion of Man-made fibre from the world during 2013 of which India's share was around 8% (US\$ 0.23 billion). The main countries which exported manmade fibre textile to Bangladesh during the year were China, India, Thailand, South Korea, India, Japan, Vietnam, etc. Since, India's share in Bangladesh's total import of manmade fibre textiles was only 8%, there is huge untapped scope for increasing exports of Indian manmade fibre textiles to this country.

Bangladesh has emerged as one of the largest apparel exporting countries in the world. Bangladesh is manufacturing for international brands like Tommy Hilfiger, Gap, Calvin Klein, H&M, etc. and global retailers like Target and Walmart are now having sourcing offices in Dhaka. Exports of apparel from Bangladesh have recorded a growth of 12% during 2013 as compared to the previous year. Major apparels exported by Bangladesh include knitted and woven articles like Jerseys, pullovers, T-shirts, singlets, Babies' garments, suits, jackets, trousers, shirts, skirts, shorts, jackets, sweaters, among other fashion apparel.

However, the strong and growing ready-made garment industry of Bangladesh is not being able to support adequately by its local production of textiles and there is a huge demand – supply gap which has been covered up through imports. Bangladesh is importing its required textiles including manmade fibre textiles from countries like China, India, Thailand, South Korea, India, etc.



Imports of Textiles and Clothing by Bangladesh

Chap	Product Description	Imports in 2013 (In US\$ 1000)
50	Silk	7,397
51	Wool, animal hair, horsehair yarn and fabric thereof	71,816
52	Cotton	4,974,075
53	Vegetable textile fibres , paper yarn, woven fabric	98,430
54	Manmade filaments	639,635
55	Manmade staple fibres	1,204,488
56	Wadding, felt, non-wovens, yarns, twine, cordage, etc	63,987
57	Carpets and other textile floor coverings	9,604
58	Special woven or tufted fabric, lace, tapestry etc	252,653
59	Impregnated, coated or laminated textile fabric	217,973
60	Knitted or crocheted fabric	534,709
61	Articles of apparel, accessories, knit or crochet	183,851
62	Articles of apparel, accessories, not knit or crochet	112,577
63	Other made textile articles, sets, worn clothing etc	56,311
TOTAL		8,427,506

Source: COMTRADE Statistics

Exports of Indian Man-Made Fibre Textiles to Bangladesh

Bangladesh is a growing market for man-made fibre textiles. During 2013-14 Bangladesh has emerged as the 5th largest market for Indian man-made fibre textiles. Exports of these textiles from India to Bangladesh have steadily grown over the years to reach to the tune of USD 230 million. during 2013-14 recording a growth of 32% compared to the previous year.

	Fabrics	Made-up	Yarn	Fibre	Total	%Gr/Dec
2009-10	76.4	2.56	30.72	14.51	124.19	
2010-11	57.94	2.6	49.5	24.02	134.06	7.95
2011-12	61.18	2.5	48.77	16.47	128.92	-3.83
2012-13	88.48	4.59	53.2	27.64	173.91	34.90
2013-14	117.49	6.73	69.58	35.58	229.38	31.90

Source: DGCIS

Main items of exports in India's export basket of manmade fibre textiles to Bangladesh during 2013-14 were as follows:

Fabrics Polyester Filament Fabrics, Nylon Filament Fabrics, Sarees, etc.

Made-ups Furnishing Articles, Laces, Braids, Muffler, etc.

Yarn Acrylic Spun Yarn, Polyester Textured Yarn, Polyester Cotton Yarn, etc.

Fibre Viscose Staple Fibre, Polyester Staple Fibre, etc.

Profile of the RMG sector in Bangladesh

- First RMG export was made in 1978 worth US\$ 12000.
- Bangladesh became the 2nd largest apparel exporting country in the world. During the fiscal year 2010-2011 our garment export totaled USD17.91 billion, a 43% increase over previous year.
- Gained 30 years of experience in garment manufacturing.
- Competitive price with international quality standard.
- State-of-the-art factories with good housekeeping and social standards.
- Superiority in lower end niche as well as plenty of suppliers doing brand items.
- Increasing trend of direct sourcing through local offices at Dhaka.
- Enjoys zero duty access in the European Union, Canada, Australia, Japan, Norway and Switzerland through GSP scheme.

Trade Agreements

Bangladesh is a founding member of the World Trade Organization, where it has been active in promoting the interests of the least developed countries. Bangladesh is a member of the South Asia Preferential Trade Agreement (SAPTA) and the South Asia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA), both under the umbrella of the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Bangladesh is also a signatory to the Bangkok agreement, which aims at trade liberalization between LDCs in Asia. Bangladesh is a member of BIMSTEC, an organization that seeks to promote economic cooperation among its members:



Bangladesh, India, Burma, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal.

Import Duty Structure of Bangladesh

Bangladesh's import tariffs are applied on the c.i.f. (cost, insurance, freight and other charges) value.

Products	HS Chapter/ Subheading	Tariff Rate Range (%)
Fibre/Yarn		
man-made fiber	5401-5406/5501-5511	5 - 25
Woven Fabric		
silk	5007	25
wool	5111-5113	25
cotton	5208-5212	25
other vegetable fiber	5309-5311	25
man-made fiber	5407-5408/5512-5516	25
Knit Fabric	60	25
Non Woven Fabric	5603	25
Industrial Fabric	59	3 - 25
Apparel	61-62	12 - 25
Made ups: Home Furnishings including: bed, bath, kitchen linens, etc.	63	25

Source : OTEXA

Challenges of Growth of Textile Industries in Bangladesh

The importance of the textile industry in the economy of Bangladesh is very high. The garments manufacturing sector earned \$19 billion in the year to June 2012, one of the impoverished nation's biggest industries. Currently this industry is facing great challenges in its growth rate. The major reasons for these challenges can be the global recession, unfavorable trade policies, internal security concerns, the high cost of production due to increase in the energy costs, different safety issues specially fire, etc. Depreciation of Bangladeshi Taka that significantly raised the cost of imported inputs, rise in inflation rate, and high cost of financing has also effected seriously the growth in the textile industry. As a result neither the buyers are able to visit frequently Bangladesh nor are the exporters able to travel abroad for effectively marketing their products.

With an in-depth investigation it was found that the Bangladesh textile industry can be brought on top winning track if government and others individuals takes serious

actions in removing or normalizing the above mentioned hurdles. Additionally, the government should provide subsidy to the textile industry, minimize the internal dispute among the exporters, withdraw the withholding and sales taxes etc. Purchasing new machinery or enhancing the quality of the existing machinery and introducing new technology can also be very useful in increasing the research and development (R and D) related activities that in the modern era are very important for increasing the industrial growth of a country.

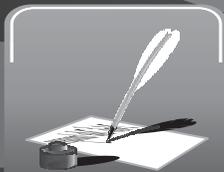
Follow-up actions :

After discussion with Officials of the Indian High Commission and Industry-heads during the Exhibition, Shri, Sanjeev Saran, Convenor (EP) invited the Heads of the leading Trade Bodies to send a High Level Trade Delegation from Bangladesh to visit India at a suitable time in the near future to address and resolve trade constraining issues between India and Bangladesh. The proposed Trade Delegation, which may comprise of Industry-heads of the prominent Trade Bodies like BGMEA and leading Buyers – representing various sectors of textiles (fabrics and yarns), can be arranged with SRTEPC's initiative on the basis of "Reverse Buyers Sellers Meet" (RBSM) Scheme of our Government.

Conclusion :

Bangladesh has been one of the potential markets for India MMF textiles, which is the closer in terms of geographical proximity. The Indian synthetic, rayon, blended fabrics, yarn and made-ups are used mainly by Bangladesh's Ready-made Garment (RMG) sector, which is one of the fast growing in the world. Bangladesh's RMG sector also employs a large number of work-force and has been contributing significantly to the country's export and is a large foreign exchange earning sector. In order to sustain the growing world demand for the Bangladesh's garment industry, there has to be assured supply of raw-materials and other inputs. India is strategically located country for Bangladesh to do trade most cost-effectively and most of the business practices prevalent in India is known to the Bangladesh's business fraternity. As India and Bangladesh are neighbouring countries, there exists exciting opportunities for business alliances and joint-ventures between companies in India and Bangladesh, especially in the growing MMF textile segment creating a win-win situation.

❖❖



RUSH YOUR APPLICATIONS FOR SRTEPC EXPORT AWARD

The Council has decided to give away awards to exporters of synthetic and rayon textile items that fall under its purview in recognition of their outstanding export performance for the year 2013-14 (F.Y.). The last date for receiving applications is 3rd November 2014. The salient features of the Scheme for the grant of awards are given below :

Categories of Awards

- SRTEPC Special Award (4 awards)
- Merchant Exporter (3 awards)
- Polyester Staple Fibre
- Viscose Staple Fibre
- Acrylic Staple Fibre
- Continuous Yarn (2 awards)
- Spun Yarn (2 awards)
- Man-made Fibre Yarn blended with natural fibre (2 awards)
- Sewing Thread/Embroidery Thread/Metallic Yarn
- Synthetic & Rayon Filament Fabrics (2 awards)
- Synthetic & Rayon Spun Fabrics (2 awards)
- Blended Fabrics of Synthetic Fibre and Natural Fibres (2 awards)
- Fabric-based made-ups (3 awards)
- Man-made Embroidered and Value-added Textiles
- Yarn-based Synthetic Technical Textiles
- Fabric-based Synthetic Technical Textiles
- Small Scale Sector (3 awards)
- Exports of Fibre/yarn to "Focus LAC" Countries
- Exports of Fabrics/made-ups to "Focus LAC" Countries
- Exports of Fibre/yarn to "Focus Africa" Countries
- Exports of Fabrics/made-ups to "Focus Africa" Countries
- Certificate of Merit.

General Terms & Conditions

- Each award winner will be given a trophy and a citation. However, companies who win Certificate of Merit will only be given a Certificate.
- Only members registered with the Council under Foreign Trade Policy will be eligible for awards.
- Export Performance in items that fall under the purview of the Council only will be considered for grant for awards.
- Products included by the applicant in one category cannot be repeated in other categories for claiming Award; except for 'SRTEPC Special Award' for Overall Export Performance, 'Merchant Exporter', 'Small Scale Sector' and awards in the Categories of "Focus Africa" and "Focus LAC" countries.
- Awards will be granted for the financial year 2013-14 (April-March)
- Minimum export performance to qualify for SRTEPC Special Award (For overall export performance) is ₹ 75 crores. To qualify for the Award in the "Merchant Exporters" Category, the minimum export is ₹ 25 crores. Minimum exports to qualify for 'Certificate of Merit' is ₹ 10 crores.
- If there is only one applicant in a Category; the award will be granted only if there is growth in exports of the applicant compared to the previous year.
- 'Certificate of Merit' will be given to member companies with three years of consecutive exports including the relevant year. Minimum exports to be eligible for award is ₹ 10 crores for the relevant year and growth in exports should be 100% or more in value compared to the previous year. Exporters who get awards in other categories are not eligible for Certificate of Merit.
- Application for awards will be considered subject to the condition that nothing adverse about the business dealings of the applicant has come to the notice of the Council and/or the Authorities.



- Export performance includes only those exports which have been effected in the name of the applicant.
- Export performance will be computed on the basis of FOB (excluding insurance, freight and commission) price in Indian rupees.
- Members can apply for awards in various categories and will be eligible for more than one award. There is no restriction on number of awards a member can receive.
- Application for awards has to be submitted in the proforma prescribed by the Council.
- Separate Applications Should Be Submitted For Awards In Different Categories.
- Selection for awards will be made by the Sub-Committee appointed by the Committee of Administration of the Council. The decision of the Council will be final and cannot be contested. The Council reserves the right to re-verify the export figures submitted by the applicant.
- Awards in various categories will be given based on 'Best' export performance (except for

Certificate of Merit). While deciding on 'Best' Export Performance due weightage will be given to value of exports and growth of exports. (For calculations please refer to our Circular No.Pub/EAF2014/20 dated 8th October 2014).

HOW TO APPLY

If you are eligible to receive award on the basis of your export performance for the year 2013-14 and fulfill the other terms and conditions mentioned above, you may submit your application in the prescribed proforma sent to all the member along with the Circular in this regard, together with the details of your export performance in the prescribed proforma duly signed by a Chartered Accountant.

For more details regarding the Award Scheme, application forms, etc. members may visit our website: www.srtepc.org.

The last date for the receipt of the applications forms at the Head Office of the Council is Monday 3rd November 2014.

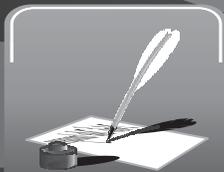


Invitation to participate in Exhibitions in Kuwait & Saudi Arabia From December 3rd to 9th 2014

The Council is mobilizing participation of its member-companies in Exhibition/Fair in Kuwait & Saudi Arabia during the first-half of December, 2014. While SRTEPC exclusive Exhibition is being scheduled to be held in Kuwait City on 3rd & 4th December 2014, the Council is mobilizing participation of its member-companies in "Jeddah International Trade Fair", being held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia from 6th – 9th December 2014.

As participation in both the Exhibition / Fair is compulsory, an amount of ₹ 4.15 lakhs is fixed towards the charges for participation in both the programmes. As these programmes are approved for MDA grant, eligible members will also get a reimbursement of ₹ 1.50 lakhs subject to the fulfillment of certain conditions.

For more details, you may e-mail to us or contact Shri Srijib Roy, Joint Director, SRTEPC
Tel : 022-22048797, 22048690 Fax : 022-22048358 E-mail : srtepc@srtepc.org/tp@srtepc.org.



INDO-SAARC TRADE

Introduction

In an era of growing regional cooperation, economic integration and common markets worldwide, South Asia stands out as a region which is among the least integrated. The commonly held view is that the region's complicated political economics, deep burdens of history, powerful protectionist lobbies, a maze of opaque rules, negative lists, and slew of para-tariffs and non-tariff barriers prevent a freer flow of information, investment, goods and people, which are needed to realize a dynamic regional market across South Asia.

In spite of the host of regional cooperation and trade agreements under various stages of implementation, like the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), the South Asian Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA), the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) which involves Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan) and the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) the potential of an integrated trade, investment and production, which is promised by region's geography and its complementary comparative advantages promise, still remains yet to be translated into reality.

Despite the growing competitiveness of Textiles & Clothing trade in the SAARC region, there is a very little interlinkage within South Asia's textile and clothing industry. There is growing evidence of widespread substitution of South Asia by East Asia,

as the sourcing hub of fabric and accessories by the region's major clothing exporters. Over 80% of fabric required by Bangladesh and Sri Lanka are sourced from outside the region, in spite of the fact that India and Pakistan are net exporters of textiles. This means that Bangladesh and Sri Lanka are sourcing their requirements of fabrics from countries outside the SAARC region. Thus, though India and Pakistan are within the SAARC region, they are not among the preferred sourcing suppliers for fabrics required by Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. This needs to be addressed to resolve.

In spite of these barriers, there is growing evidence that with recent shifts in the nature of textile and clothing industry, especially post-MFA, as well as changing intra-regional dynamics there are emerging possibilities for cooperation and collective action in the region. The drivers of this potential lie in the growing importance of the domestic market and the rise of organized retail in South Asia, the rise of new generation of younger entrepreneurs in South Asia who are increasingly professional, globally aware and schooled in a shared cultural worldview that helps cuts across traditional barriers of region and history the emergence of new knowledge networks and an interpenetrated regional labor market in skills in the South Asian garment industry and possibility of leveraging strategic regulatory shifts and upcoming 'demands for structural change' post-2008 to foster greater regional cooperation.

INDIA'S TEXTILE TRADE WITH SAARC COUNTRIES

Value in USD Mn

Sr. No.	Countries	2011-12			2012-13			2013-14		
		Export	Import	Trade Balance	Export	Import	Trade Balance	Export	Import	Trade Balance
1	Bangladesh	1243.90	238.02	1005.88	1742.48	234.49	1507.99	1896.29	168.50	1727.79
2	Pakistan	191.59	71.47	120.12	644.45	80.40	564.05	637.61	65.96	571.65
3	Sri Lanka	458.94	41.89	417.05	436.03	42.32	393.71	506.91	50.14	456.77
4	Afghanistan	143.12	0.11	143.01	150.68	0.30	150.38	203.84	0.32	203.52
5	Nepal	99.48	2.75	96.73	100.68	2.84	97.84	108.74	74.52	34.22
6	Maldives	3.29	0.00	3.29	3.24	0.00	3.24	4.02	0.00	4.02
7	Bhutan	0.37	0.12	0.25	0.34	0.08	0.26	0.67	0.02	0.65

Source: Dept of Commerce



INDIA'S MMF TEXTILES TRADE WITH SAFTA COUNTRIES

Value in USD MN

Sr. No.	Countries	2011-12			2012-13			2013-14		
		Export	Import	Trade Balance	Export	Import	Trade Balance	Export	Import	Trade Balance
1	Bangladesh	128.91	11.41	117.50	173.91	8.27	165.64	233.79	17.28	216.51
2	Afghanistan	137.69	0.00	137.69	146.60	0.00	146.60	188.40	0.00	188.40
3	Pakistan	101.32	1.76	99.56	162.58	1.59	160.99	149.18	2.08	147.10
4	Sri Lanka	119.59	36.83	82.76	116.04	38.12	77.92	132.33	46.25	86.08
5	Nepal	22.84	94.35	-71.51	26.18	61.48	-35.30	30.45	46.86	-16.41
6	Maldives	1.07	0.00	1.07	0.88	0.00	0.88	2.37	0.00	2.37
7	Bhutan	0.0	0.10	-0.10	0.19	0.08	0.11	0.09	0.02	0.07

Source: DGCI&S

The Structure of the Textiles and Clothing Industry in South Asia

Textiles and clothing (T & C) is South Asia's largest manufacturing sector, a major employer and leading export sector. In 2013, South Asia exported over \$5317 million in clothing and textiles, a 6% share in the global T&C market. The region's T&C industry collectively employed over 55 million people directly and nearly 90 million indirectly in 2005. This included an estimated 38 million in India, 15 million in Pakistan, 2 million (8 million indirect) in Bangladesh, 300000 (1.5 million indirect) in Sri Lanka and over 200,00 in Nepal.

Exports of Clothing and Textiles from South Asia in 2013

	Textiles	Clothing	Total	Share of Textiles	Share of Clothing
India	3461334	179887	3641221	95%	5%
Pakistan	796496	7882	804378	99%	1%

	Textiles	Clothing	Total	Share of Textiles	Share of Clothing
Bangladesh	174502	21136	195638	89%	11%
Sri Lanka	529635	146658	676293	78%	22%
Total	4961967	355563	5317530	93%	7%

Source : UN Comtrade

- SAARC can play an important role in sustaining high growth rates in the region in future.
- Trade within SAARC can be increased substantially by diversifying the trade by increasing competitiveness by obtaining less expensive and better quality inputs from neighboring countries.
- However, SAARC countries have maintained very high level of protection within the region, which has affected trade adversely.





MUMBAI CUSTOMS

Re-organisation of existing Customs Commissionerates of Mumbai Customs, Zone-I – Reg.

Trade Notice No. 52/2014 dated 13.10.2014

The trade is hereby informed that the Government of India vide Notification No. 77/2014-Customs(N.T.) dated 16.09.2014 notified the jurisdiction of (i) Principal Commissioner of Customs (General), (ii) Commissioner of Customs (Import-I), (iii) Commissioner of Customs (Import- II), (iv) Commissioner of Customs (Export-I), (v) Commissioner of Customs (Export-II) and (vi) Commissioner of Customs (Appeals) in Mumbai Customs, Zone-I by re-organizing the existing three Commissionerates.

2. The Mumbai Customs, Zone-I will be headed by the Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs. The jurisdictions of Commissionerates pursuant to re-organization are as under:

S. No.	Commissionerate	Charges
1	General	Admn. Estt. (including cadre control) of all cadres, Vigilance, CIU, Preventive Services including Unaccompanied Baggage & Disposal, Sports, Records, Telecom & Correspondence, Accounts, Container Cell, CAT Cell, TRC, Legal, Review, TCU, Prosecution Cell (Apprg), Statistics, Inquiry/Disciplinary Authority, CHA, Audit, Computerisation, Revenue Control, CFS-Mulund, SIIB, Lab, Work related to renovation of Customs House, construction of residential/office accommodation and matter related to Welfare Fund.
2	Import – I	Appraising Groups IV, VA, VB & VI, Contract Cell, Import Noting, Appraising (Main & General), Legal & prosecution, Tribunal Coordination Unit, Statistics, SIIB , Review, RTI, Adjudication, Tax Recovery, Docks and MCD.
3	Import – II	Appraising Groups I, IA, IIA, IIB & III, SVB, Bonds, Tax Recovery, Postal Appraising Section, DEPB Monitoring Cell, SIIB, Review, RTI, Adjudication and Refunds.
4	Export - I	Appraising Groups VII A, VII H, VII I , DFRC, DEEC Monitoring Cell in respect of Licences Registered before 30.09.2014, SIIB, Policy & Technical, Legal, Zonal EDI, Administration, Prosecution, Review, RTI, Adjudication, Modvat Cell, Tax Recovery, Refunds, License Section and work related to Release Advice and MCD.
5	Export - II	Appraising Groups VII D, VII U, VII G, DEEC Monitoring, EPCG Monitoring, Export Assessment, Export Examination, Drawback, Refunds, SIIB, Legal, Licence Section and work related to Release Advice, Tax Recovery, Review, RTI, Adjudication, Prosecution, Policy & Technical.

3. The re-organisation will come into effect from 15th October 2014.

4. The trade are requested to carefully note the changes in the jurisdiction of the Commissionerates. All the members of the Trade Associations are requested to circulate the Trade Notice among their constituent members for information and guidance.

SD/-

(A.K. KAUSHAL)

CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS

(Issued from File No. S/I-4(06)/2014- CCO I (Unit-I))





EXPORTS OF INDIAN SYNTHETIC AND RAYON TEXTILES DURING APRIL – SEPTEMBER 2014-15

Exports of Indian MMF textiles during April-Sept 2014-15 were US\$ 2532.75 Million against US\$ 2307.08 Million during the same period of the previous year, showing a growth of 9.78%.

Value in USD Mn

	April-Sept 2014-2015	April-Sept 2013-2014	Grw/decline (%)
Fabrics	1044.96	927.14	12.71
Yarn	692.90	698.43	-0.79
Made-ups	611.52	492.25	24.23
Fibre	183.38	189.25	-3.11
Total	2532.75	2307.08	9.78

Source: Port data

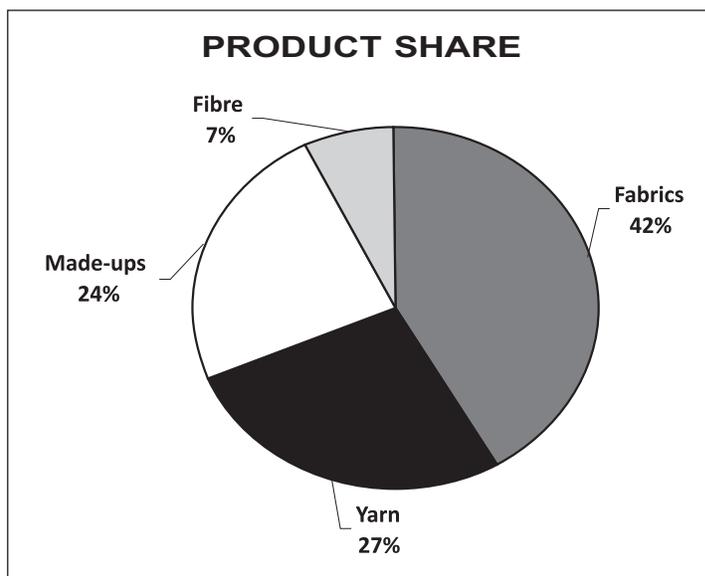
HIGHLIGHTS

- Overall exports in April–Sept 2014-15 grew by 10% compared to the same period of the previous year.
- Fabrics and made-ups segments have witnessed encouraging growth during April-Sept 2014-15; Viz, Fabrics by 12.71% and Made-ups by 24.23% but export of Yarn and Fibre declined by 0.79% and 3.11% respectively.
- Exports of Fabrics dominated with 42% share followed by Yarn 27%, Made-ups 24% and Fibre 7% of the previous year.
- The value-added products like fabrics and made-ups were the main export items, accounting for 65% share of exports.
- Polyester Filament Fabrics (USD 368.94 Mn) remained the main fabric in exports of the fabrics category followed by Synthetic Filament Fabrics (USD 250.48 Mn) and Polyester Viscose Fabrics (USD 153.41 Mn)
- Exports of Synthetic blended fabrics and Viscose Spun Fabrics have witnessed excellent growth of 186.38% and 172.47% respectively during the period.
- Exports of Polyester-Cotton Yarn witnessed significant growth during the period.
- In Made-ups segment, exports of Shawls/Scarves, Mufflers were the major items with USD 84.23 Mn and USD 65.52 Mn respectively.
- Exports of Shawls/Scarves witnessed growth of 61% while Mufflers witnessed decline of 26% during the period.
- Exports of blankets have recorded growth of 77% during the period.

- Exports of Polyester Staple Fibre witnessed decline whereas viscose and acrylic staple fibre witnessed growth.
- USA continues to be the largest market for Indian MMF textiles with 14% share in total exports followed by UAE.
- Exports to our neighbouring markets like Bangladesh and Pakistan have recorded significant growth of 97% and 20% respectively during the period.
- Neighbouring market Pakistan has emerged as the 5th largest market for Indian MMF textiles during the period.
- Other major markets during April-Sept 2014-15 were Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Italy, Belgium, Sri Lanka, Brazil, Spain, Benin, Hong Kong, Netherlands, etc.
- From the Euro Zone, Italy has emerged as one of the leading markets for our exports during April-Sept 2014-15 with exports US\$ 83.69 Mn.
- The USA has remained the main leading market for Indian MMF made-ups.
- Exports of Indian MMF Yarn to Brazil showed a decline of 34% during April-Sept 2014-15 as compared to the same period of last year.

PRODUCT SHARE

During April-Sept 2014-15, exports of Fabrics dominated in total exports with 42% share, followed by Yarn 27%, Made-ups 24% and Fibre 7%.





PRODUCT-WISE EXPORT PERFORMANCE APRIL-SEPTEMBER 2014

Value in USD MN

Products	April-Sept 2014-15	April-Sept 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
FABRICS (Woven + non-woven + knitted)				
Polyester Filament	368.94	339.81	29.13	8.57
Synthetic Filament	250.48	202.13	48.35	23.92
Polyester Viscose	153.41	138.88	14.53	10.46
Polyester Blended	77.78	63.86	13.92	21.80
Synthetic Non Specified	50.05	54.64	-4.59	-8.40
Polyester Wool	23.35	18.89	4.46	23.61
Synthetic Cotton	22.85	21.6	1.25	5.79
Polyester Cotton	19.26	21.97	-2.71	-12.34
Polyester Spun	18.28	26.49	-8.21	-30.99
Synthetic Blended	12.83	4.48	8.35	186.38
Nylon Filament	12.46	10.19	2.27	22.28
Viscose Spun	9.7	3.56	6.14	172.47
Acrylic Spun	5.87	2.61	3.26	124.90
Artificial Filament	4.63	3.38	1.25	36.98
Viscose Filament	4.49	3.59	0.9	25.07
Other Fabrics	10.58	11.07	-0.49	-4.43
Total Fabrics	1044.96	927.15	117.81	12.71
YARN				
Polyester Filament	326.05	367.39	-41.34	-11.25
Polyester Cotton	98.74	72.52	26.22	36.16
Polyester Viscose	66.22	63.39	2.83	4.46
Polyester Spun	47.4	52.08	-4.68	-8.99
Viscose Spun	36.3	34.02	2.28	6.70
Viscose Filament	26.85	25.67	1.18	4.60
Acrylic Spun	20.64	19.04	1.6	8.40
Synthetic Spun	15.76	15.61	0.15	0.96
Polyester Wool	12.83	9.01	3.82	42.40
Artificial Spun	12.69	11.1	1.59	14.32
Nylon Filament	5.61	4.83	0.78	16.15
Acrylic Cotton	5.61	4.28	1.33	31.07
Synthetic Non Specified	5.02	3.02	2	66.23
Viscose Cotton	4.12	3.61	0.51	14.13
Polypropylene Filament	2.31	1.7	0.61	35.88
Other Yarn	6.79	10.98	-4.19	-38.16
Total Yarn	692.9	698.25	-5.35	-0.77

Products	April-Sept 2014-15	April-Sept 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
MADE-UPS				
Bulk Containers	176.75	116.81	59.94	51.31
Shawls/Scarves	84.23	47.57	36.66	77.07
Muffler	65.52	90.52	-25	-27.62
Motifs	37.73	22.63	15.1	66.73
Blanket	22.76	15.33	7.43	48.47
Dress Material	21.47	17.86	3.61	20.21
Fishing Net	18.89	12.82	6.07	47.35
Bedsheet	14.98	18.71	-3.73	-19.94
Bed Linen	14.97	14.93	0.04	0.27
Rope	11.24	8.34	2.9	34.77
Sacks and Bags	5.87	2.84	3.03	106.69
Braids	5.79	5.6	0.19	3.39
Dish-cloths/Dusters	5.56	11.38	-5.82	-51.14
Life Jacket	5.52	4.76	0.76	15.97
Furnishing Articles	4.18	5.35	-1.17	-21.87
Curtains	4.11	3.92	0.19	4.85
Labels	2.26	1.94	0.32	16.49
Lace	2.24	2.76	-0.52	-18.84
Table Linen	1.69	1.83	-0.14	-7.65
Wadding	1.59	3.16	-1.57	-49.68
Tulles	1.29	1.42	-0.13	-9.15
Hose Piping	1.18	0.77	0.41	53.25
Other Made-ups	101.68	80.96	20.72	25.59
Total Made-ups	611.5	492.21	119.29	24.24
FIBRE				
Polyester Staple	90.93	116.69	-25.76	-22.08
Viscose Staple	64.93	45.87	19.06	41.55
Acrylic Staple	15.88	10.11	5.77	57.07
Acrylic Filament	5.72	5.72	0	0.00
Synthetic Staple	3.39	7.58	-4.19	-55.28
Other Fibre	2.53	3.27	-0.74	-22.63
Total Fibre	183.38	189.24	-5.86	-3.10

* 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, flowable 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

Markets	Apr-Sept 2014-15	Apr-Sept 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
USA	290.55	250.95	39.60	15.78
UAE	242.83	196.94	45.89	23.30
SAUDI ARABIA	238.79	214.39	24.40	11.38
TURKEY	133.67	121.93	11.74	9.63
PAKISTAN	101.00	84.50	16.50	19.53
ITALY	83.69	81.55	2.14	2.62
BELGIUM	75.18	65.29	9.89	15.15
SRI LANKA	58.88	56.46	2.42	4.29
BRAZIL	56.11	83.42	-27.31	-32.74
SPAIN	50.16	43.70	6.46	14.78
BENIN	47.10	40.04	7.06	17.63
HONG KONG	46.31	41.92	4.39	10.47
NETHERLANDS	44.78	46.25	-1.47	-3.18
EGYPT	39.45	4.38	35.07	800.68
KOREA, DEM	38.34	33.23	5.11	15.38
VIETNAM, DEM	33.78	38.22	-4.44	-11.62
BANGLADESH	31.06	15.77	15.29	96.96
CROATIA	28.92	23.84	5.08	21.31
CHINA	28.76	28.48	0.28	0.98
PERU	27.40	28.65	-1.25	-4.36
FRANCE	27.37	22.78	4.59	20.15
JAPAN	25.71	25.01	0.70	2.80

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF FABRICS

Value in USD MN

Markets	Apr-Sept 2014-15	Apr-Sept 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
USA	208.69	173.64	35.05	20.19
UAE	161.98	132.10	29.88	22.62
SAUDI ARABIA	63.08	52.08	11.00	21.12
PAKISTAN	48.16	48.07	0.09	0.19
SRI LANKA	45.94	43.32	2.62	6.05
HONG KONG	37.11	30.53	6.58	21.55
VIETNAM, DEM	29.36	34.61	-5.25	-15.17
BANGLADESH	20.25	9.10	11.15	122.53
SPAIN	19.93	18.69	1.24	6.63
EGYPT	19.19	0.76	18.43	2425.00
ITALY	17.77	19.33	-1.56	-8.07
KOREA, DEM	17.56	15.41	2.15	13.95
SINGAPORE	15.13	22.69	-7.56	-33.32
KUWAIT	15.04	10.56	4.48	42.42
CHINA	14.45	17.99	-3.54	-19.68
SENEGAL	14.21	7.27	6.94	95.46
BELGIUM	13.69	11.56	2.13	18.43

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF YARN

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Sept 2014-15	Apr-Sept 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
TURKEY	122.58	106.95	15.63	14.61
USA	61.11	57.06	4.05	7.10
BRAZIL	51.03	79.43	-28.40	-35.75
PAKISTAN	30.79	39.64	-8.85	-22.33
BELGIUM	28.75	29.74	-0.99	-3.33
COSTA RICA	19.65	31.18	-11.53	-36.98
PERU	19.56	16.48	3.08	18.69
UAE	17.98	12.36	5.62	45.47
KOREA, DEM	16.59	13.18	3.41	25.87
EGYPT	16.23	2.61	13.62	521.84
MOLDOVA, REP	16.12	22.40	-6.28	-28.04
GUADELOUPE	15.42	15.69	-0.27	-1.72
KOREA, REP	13.82	2.32	11.50	495.69
NETHERLANDS	13.62	17.71	-4.09	-23.09
ITALY	10.85	12.89	-2.04	-15.83
SAUDI ARABIA	10.06	10.84	-0.78	-7.20
JAPAN	9.66	4.12	5.54	134.47

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF MADE-UPS

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Sept 2014-15	Apr-Sept 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
USA	95.60	80.69	14.91	18.48
SAUDI ARABIA	70.59	63.75	6.84	10.73
ITALY	41.25	31.55	9.70	30.74
BENIN	37.69	24.69	13.00	52.65
UAE	34.22	23.46	10.76	45.87
SPAIN	26.62	20.72	5.90	28.47
CROATIA	24.92	19.73	5.19	26.31
NETHERLANDS	19.15	14.39	4.76	33.08
BELGIUM	17.70	10.61	7.09	66.82
FRANCE	14.06	12.72	1.34	10.53
AUSTRALIA	11.63	7.25	4.38	60.41
GERMANY	9.75	8.50	1.25	14.71
UK	9.59	7.99	1.60	20.03
CANADA	9.27	6.58	2.69	40.88
HONG KONG	7.46	9.87	-2.41	-24.42
BANGLADESH	6.41	3.95	2.46	62.28
NEW ZEALAND	5.16	3.27	1.89	57.80
ZAMBIA	4.89	5.45	-0.56	-10.28
VIETNAM,	4.63	1.48	3.15	212.84





SRTEPC HOLDS ITS 60TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN MUMBAI

(Continued from Page 1)

brand” based on “zero defect and zero effect (on environment) and envisioned India emerging as a preferred destination for global manufacturing and Indian goods acquiring reputation amongst the global consumers based on quality. Chairman hoped that with the concerted efforts of the Government and the industry we would gain on these fronts.

Meeting with Secretary Textiles

Chairman mentioned that during his recent meeting with the Secretary Textiles the issues constraining the MMF textile’s export growth, including suggestions to overcome them were highlighted. Council had convinced with facts and figures that India today is able to provide global quality products at competitive prices though the MMF sector has been affected by multiple issues.

Chairman further informed that the Council has requested the Secretary Textiles for his support and guidance on a continuous basis to resolve the issues of exporters of MMF textiles and the Secretary has assured appropriate solutions in co-ordination with various concerned departments in Ministries of Commerce, Finance and also the RBI.

Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) in the Recent WTO meeting

Shri Mehra remarked that trade is an engine of growth, especially for developing countries such as India hence the required momentum is needed for the TFA in the WTO level. Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) was the outcome of a pledge taken by 160 member countries including India in December, 2013 in Bali. It was a pledge to cut red tape from customs procedures aiming to reducing Customs related paper work, customs procedures making more transparent, reducing clearance delays at ports, etc. Further for its implementation financial assistance would be provided both through the WTO and the World Bank.

Promotional Programmes

Elaborating on the Council’s Promotional Programmes the Chairman mentioned that in the year 2013-14, Council participated in the international Fairs in Korea, China, and Cambodia & Saudi Arabia and also organized exclusive textile exhibitions INTEXPO in Colombia (Bogota & Medellin) and Iran. He said that these Exhibitions have yielded satisfactory results and more importantly there have been significant increase in exports of our items in those markets where Council organized promotional programmes.

Export target

Shri Mehra, Chairman stated that as per the latest data, Indian MMF textile exports during April-August, 2014-15, has reached US \$ 2.44 billion registering a growth of 6.75% compared to the corresponding period last year. The Chairman was glad that exports were increasing and that the Council had not only achieved but surpassed the ambitious target of US\$ 6 billion fixed for the year 2013-14. This he believed was possible only due to the coordinated efforts and commitment of SRTEPC members, leadership and guidance by the COA and support from Ministry of Textiles and Ministry of Commerce & Industry. He informed that the Council has set an ambitious export target of US\$ 6.5 billion during the year 2014-15. He expressed confidence of achieving the same with the continued efforts and positive policy support from the Government of India.

The Chairman mentioned that the Council had suggested some of the urgent measures to be taken in this regard to the Government on following issues :

Enhanced Government support

The Chairman said that India’s export of MMF Textiles is about US\$ 6 BN which is barely 10% of China. Considering even a 10% shift of Chinese business to India, MMF Textile exports can be double USD 12 BN, there by needing Government support to achieve this due to below mentioned reasons.

The structure of the domestic MMF industry is such that it allows the domestic producers of staple fibre



to charge import parity prices which are 20% higher than ex-mill prices of fibre being a disadvantageous position vis-à-vis its competitors. The Chairman further said that Indian MMF industry does not enjoy the luxury of natural resources. The price of MMF fibres too fluctuates with crude oil prices thus bringing about uncertainty. MMF textiles exports also face the challenge of anti-dumping duties levied by large importing countries. Each country is trying to protect its domestic industry. This phenomenon exists only in MMF textiles amongst all the segments of India's textile exports. What is more worrying is that exports of MMF textiles are only at 2.8% of World which is less than the WTO threshold limit of 3.25% of World trade. The Chairman urged the Government to extend maximum possible benefits under Chapter 3 of the FTP to the MMF textiles in preference to the other segments in the Indian Textile Export.

AEPC Proposal

Expressing deep concern over AEPC consistently seeking Duty free import of Man-made fabrics on one pretext or the other, he said that due to high fiscal duties levied on MMF textiles, resultant fabric becomes expensive in the domestic market. For export of garments made out of domestic fabrics, the high fiscal levies are neutralized by All Industry Drawback Rates.

He reiterated that the Indian MMF textile industry today is in a position to manufacture high quality products and can match global standards of competitor countries. He cautioned that AEPC proposal will result in substantial import of MMF fabrics into India and will affect the domestic industry that is already stressed due to very high fiscal levies.

Priority Sector Lending Rate

The Chairman stated that the current interest rate at which credit is available to exporters is making us uncompetitive. He has urged the Government to make available funds to the exporting community at no more than 7% p.a. and treat such loans as Priority Sector Lending.

Abolition of Customs Duty and SAD on import of Man-Made Fibres

Speaking on the abolition of Customs Duty and SAD on import of Man-Made Fibres the Chairman said that the Council has represented that Indian Manufacturers of Man Made Fibres by their sheer size do not need any protection. The import of such Fibres is negligible. Customs Duty and SAD only increase import parity prices vis-à-vis Domestic Price and therefore the Government should abolish the same, since it will have no revenue loss to the exchequer.

Reduction in Excise Duty

The Chairman stated that the share of MMF textiles world over is 60% of the total textile trade; while the same in India is only 40%. MMF Fabrics are much cheaper, long lasting and thus used by the common man. Council had urged the Government to correct this distorted duty structure that will allow each fibre to compete on its merit and create a level playing field by bringing about duty neutrality among all fibres.

Interest Subvention

The Chairman mentioned that he has requested the concerned authority that the benefit of Interest Subvention should be extended to all exporters of the textile sector including MMF textiles irrespective of their size and investment in plant and machinery.

Duty Drawback

On the initiation in the Duty Drawback front he said that the Council had submitted the Drawback Proposal for enhancement of Duty Drawback rates for all Synthetic items during their visit to Mumbai on 13th August 2014. He further said that we have requested them to be generous with MMF Textiles in view of the fact that it is the only sector in the entire Indian textile industry that contributes towards excise duty and that too nearly ₹ 7000 crores annually.

Anti-Dumping Investigation

Showing his concern over the increasing cases of Anti-Dumping Duties/Safeguard Duties levied by Turkey, Brazil, Indonesia, Peru, Egypt and the European Union



on MMF Textiles, Chairman said that these levies of Anti-dumping duties impact our competitiveness. He further said that Turkey has initiated Sunset Review on “Yarn of Man-made or Synthetic or Artificial Staple Fibres”. He informed members that Council had taken up the matter with the Ministry of Textiles to take up the matter bilaterally through diplomatic channels and also at the WTO platform so that the anti-dumping duties on MMF Textiles may be withdrawn. Further it was also informed that defending anti-dumping cases involve high legal fees and other costs which needs Government support.

Thank You!

Shri Mehra took the opportunity to welcome Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State for Commerce & Industry and Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles and looked forward for their support and guidance to take the MMF textiles to greater heights.

He also expressed his gratitude to Dr. K S Rao, Ex-Minister for Textiles for his wholehearted support and encouragement during his tenure.

He welcomed Shri Sanjay Kumar Panda, Secretary (Textiles) and Shri Rajeev Kher, Commerce Secretary and said that the Council looks forward to their guidance and support to take exports of MMF textiles to further multi-fold growth.

He thanked Smt. Zohra Chatterji, former Secretary (Textiles), for her gracious presence during INTEXPO Iran which has been a “land mark and path breaking” event of the Council. He also thanked Shri S R Rao, Ex- Commerce Secretary for his support and encouragement during his tenure.

Chairman extended his sincere thanks to Smt. Sunaina Tomar, Joint Secretary (Exports) and said that the Council counts on her involvement and guidance for tackling the problems of exports of MMF textiles. He also thanked Smt. Monika S. Garg, former Joint Secretary (Exports) for redressing the problems of exports and carrying out Council's

activities. He welcomed Smt. Kiran Soni Gupta, Textile Commissioner, who has always been present for SRTEPC meetings and extended her guidance and support to the exporting community. He expressed his gratefulness to Shri A.B. Joshi, former Textile Commissioner for always extending his whole-hearted co-operation to Council's activities.

The Chairman also placed on record his gratitude to Dr. Soumitra Choudhuri, Chairman, Drawback Committee, who has always been supporting the Council for the enhancement of Drawback.

Shri Mehra welcomed Shri Pravir Kumar, Director General of Foreign Trade, for his support and guidance to the exporting community. He extended his sincere thanks to Dr. Anup Pujari, Ex-DGFT for his wholehearted support for Council's endeavors during his tenure. He also thanked Shri Arvind Mehta, Joint Secretary (MOC), Shri Jagjeet Kumar (MOC), and Shri Parveen Jargar (MOT), Under Secretaries, for their support for various proposals of the Council under the MDA/MAI Schemes which helped the Council carry out promotional programmes successfully with financial support from the Government. He extended his thanks to Shri Tapan Mazumder, Director, Ministry of Commerce for his help in various policy matters including those regarding Anti Dumping Duties. Also placed on record his gratitude to Dr. Kavita Gupta, Addl. DGFT, who served in the Mumbai regional office for her sincere support to the Council's proposals.

He expressed his deep appreciation to Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Vice Chairman for his unstinting support and unlimited professional advice to carry out his responsibilities as Chairman of the Council. The Chairman also placed on record his gratitude to the Members of the Committee of Administration who have spared their valuable time and contributed creatively to deliberations and activities of the Council, he thanked them for their unconditional support and valuable advice.

MMF export target

Addressing the gathering, the Textile Commissioner, Smt. Kiran Soni Gupta, IAS congratulated the Council



on the occasion of the 60th Annual General Meeting of the Council. She lauded the Chairman and members



Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Vice Chairman, The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) proposing the Vote of thanks at the 60th Annual General Meeting of the Council in Mumbai.

of SRTEPC for having done a great job in the field of MMF textiles. She also congratulated the Man Made Fibre Textiles Industry for not only achieving the target of US\$ 6 billion set for the MMF Textiles but also surpassing it.

The Textile Commissioner pointed out that there is always room for co-operation between Man Made Fibre Industry and Natural Fibre Industry. She said that there is a need to take care of each other and retain our competitive edge. She observed that MMF Textiles has made clothing more affordable and reachable. The Textile Commissioner observed that SRTEPC has the potential to enhance the MMF textiles manufacturing and exports to newer heights.

Smt. Kiran Soni Gupta, Textile Commissioner also said that under the leadership and guidance of the Present Chairman and members, SRTEPC can demonstrate to the whole world that India is capable of manufacturing high quality and affordable MMF textiles.

Vote of thanks!

Proposing a vote of thanks, Shri Anil Rajvanshi, Vice Chairman thanked Smt. Kiran Soni Gupta, Textile Commissioner for gracing the occasion. He said that her presence has inspired the member exporters to move ahead in exports of MMF textiles to greater heights. He also expressed his gratitude to her for being approachable and continuously keeping interest in the activities of the Council.

He thanked the Chairman, Shri Rakesh Mehra and all the former Chairmen of the Council for their continued support and guidance to the activities of the Council which has been of great encouragement to the member exporters and their contribution to the smooth functioning of the Council.

He also expressed his sincere thanks to the member exporters of the Council for their presence and constant involvement in the various activities and taking MMF exports to an all time high of ₹ 6160 million during the year 2013-14.

The SRTEPC Vice Chairman thanked the members of media and said he looks forward to their continued support to inform the exporting community and the Government the endeavors of the Council and the needs of the sector on various fronts.



A view of the members at the Annual General Meeting.

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Posted at Mumbai Patrika Channel Sorting Office on 25th & 26th of every month



Future is Bright

for Indian Man-Made Fibre Textiles

SRTEPC strives to enhance the exports of Value Added Indian MMF Textiles. Its members export Fibre, Yarns, Fabrics & Made-Ups for more than six decades.



 **has been:**

- Facilitating long term Buyer-Seller Relationship
- Providing Knowledge for growth of MMF textiles
- Organising trade fairs, exhibitions, buyer seller meets both in India and Abroad
- Providing linkages with all the stakeholders including Government authorities to create harmonious growth and conducive policy framework for exports
- Conducting market studies to keep updated on market information and trade opportunities
- Sharing information on trends for adaptation to overseas markets & product development
- Building awareness and goodwill for Indian players in MMF segment
- Conducting workshops & seminars for disseminating market information and intelligence.

**SRTEPC has been taking the above initiatives for more than six decades.
Experience and expertise you can trust on. Always**



**The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles
Export Promotion Council**

Your link to Overseas Buyers of Synthetic & Rayon Textiles

Resham Bhavan, 78, Veer Nariman Road,
Mumbai 400 020, Maharashtra, INDIA

Phone: 00-91-22-22048797 / 22048690

Fax: 00-91-22-22048358

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If undelivered, return to:

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