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COUNCIL'S EXHIBITIONS IN SUDAN & ETHIOPIA

The Council organized its first-ever exclusive Exhibitions (INTEXPO) in Khartoum, Sudan and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia during August 2014. The INTEXPO Sudan was held for two days on 10th & 11th August, 2014 followed by the Exhibition at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 13th & 14th August, 2014.

H.E. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador of India, Sudan and Mr. Hasab El-Rasoul Mohamed Ahmed, Head of the Import of Textiles & Fabrics, Sudanese Chamber of Commerce & Industries jointly inaugurating the Indian Textile Exhibition in Khartoum, Sudan.

The Exhibition in Sudan was organized by the Council with the active guidance of the Embassy of India in Sudan and support of the Chambers of Commerce Association and Sudanese Chambers of Industry Association. The Exhibition in Ethiopia was held in close association with the Embassy of India in Ethiopia and strong support of the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce & Sectoral Association.

The basic objective for holding the Exhibitions were to showcase the strength and capability of the Indian MMF Textile industry and help interaction between exporters and buyers in forging fruitful long-term trade relationships.

The Exhibitions in Sudan and Ethiopia attracted a large number of importers / agents, converters and retailers (120 trade visitors in Sudan & around 270 trade visitors in Ethiopia), which enabled the member-participants of the Exhibitions to establish business contacts, besides receiving trade enquiries and on-the-spot bookings for the participants. It also helped the participants to evaluate the requirements of these African markets, which are significant, since most of the participants were new entrants to the Sudanese and the Ethiopian markets. The participants were satisfied with the combined programmes and the outcome on the business contact, besides the enquiries generated and the orders received.

Initial feedback reports show that business to the tune of over ₹ 5.16 crores (spot order : ₹ 1.56 crores & Business under negotiation : ₹ 3.60 crores) were generated during the Exhibition in Sudan, whereas an estimated amount of business of ₹ 3 crores (spot order : ₹ 12 lakhs & business under negotiation : ₹ 2.88 corores) was reported by the participants in the other Exhibition in Ethiopia.

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The Indian Textile Exhibition in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia being jointly inaugurated by Mr. Gashaw Debebe, Secretary General of the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce & Sectorial Associations (ECCSA) and Mr. Utpal Aich, First Secretary, Embassy of India in Addis Ababa.

VIEW OF STALLS IN COUNCIL'S EXCLUSIVE INDIAN TEXTILE EXHIBITION IN ETHIOPIA

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Member,

I am glad to inform you that a presentation on Action Plan for improving the market share pertaining to MMF textiles along with major challenges and suggestions to implement the strategy was made before the Secretary (Textiles) on 13th Sept. 2014 in Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi. The meeting was called in the backdrop of the recent call by the Hon'ble Prime Minister for evolving "Made in India" brand based on "zero defect and zero effect (on environment)" and envisioned India emerging as the preferred destination for global manufacturing and Indian goods acquiring reputation amongst the global consumers based on quality. The objective of the meeting was to crystallize the design and execution of a clear strategy to accomplish the vision for the textile sector by gathering valuable inputs from various Textile related EPCs.

In the deliberation we have highlighted the issues constraining the MMF textile's growth and export including suggestions to over come them. We could convince with facts and figures that today we are able to provide global quality products at competitive prices though the sector has been affected by multiple issues. We have requested for Secretary's attention on a continuous basis for its resolve and happy to inform you that Secretary has assured that the issues flagged by us would be taken up for appropriate solutions urgently with various concerned departments in Ministry of Commerce, Finance, and also with the RBI. It was argued that adequate policy support and liberal incentive measures are required to unleash the growth and attain the ambitious export targets. Special attention was sought in the case of MMF textiles, as unlike other segments in the entire textile sector, while it has been burdened with a slew of taxes in the domestic market, in the export market its growth has been increasingly affected by imposition of anti-dumping duties by various countries. Hence it was suggested that MMF textiles need immediate support measures like abolition of various taxes and also continuation of interest subvention scheme, enhanced drawback rates and reduced interest rates similar to that of the priority sector lending for enhancing its growth and exports at competitive global market levels. It was assured that it has the capacity to absorb the stimulus and deliver enhanced outcome and export manifold in the near future. We have also sought for immediate support, both financial and diplomatic level, for fighting Anti-dumping cases.

You may be aware that as per the latest data on MMF textiles 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. It is heartening to see that the exports are increasing, the concerned may take note that time is appropriate for support measures, which along with the recent fillip in the GDP and the manufacturing growth with reference to Industrial Production of July 2014, could help the sector grow in the wake of expected revival of the global markets.

I am happy to inform you that the Council has successfully completed the First ever exclusive Indian Textile Exhibitions in Ethiopia & Sudan during August, 2014. It has evoked good response among the buyers in both these emerging potential markets in the African region. Indian participants were also satisfied with the outcome and were successful in garnering fruitful business orders in both these countries having potential for future growth for MMF textiles. I wish to thank H.E. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador of India in Sudan and Mr. Hasab El-Rasoul Mohamed Ahmed, Head of the Import of Textiles & Fabrics, Sudanese Chamber of Commerce & Industries and Mr. Gashaw Debebe, Secretary General of the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce & Sectorial Associations (ECCSA) and Mr. Utpal Aich, First Secretary, Embassy of India in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for their guidance and support to ensure success of these Exhibitions. I hope their sincere efforts will go a long way in spurring our textile trade with these countries.

You may be aware that Council is organizing two important INTEXPO exhibitions in our neighboring countries, INTEXPO Bangladesh during end of Sept. 2014 and INTEXPO Burma during 15-16 October. We are also organizing exclusive Indian Textile Exhibitions in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in month of December 2014. I request you to take advantage of the opportunity and participate with renewed interest in the upcoming events.

In case you have not renewed your membership please renew the same at the earliest to enable the Council to provide the regular services to you on continued basis.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

RAKESH MEHRA
CHAIRMAN

VIETNAM

Textile and garment industry top foreign exchange earner

The textiles and garment sector is one of the largest industries in Vietnam and a top foreign currency earner. Its textile and garment export turnover touched US$ 2.2 billion in August 2014, with an increase of 0.2 per cent over July 2014.

However, despite the high turnover the value added of the industry remained relatively low due to its reliance on imported raw materials.

The latest figure had raised the sector's export value for the first eight months to US$ 13.65 billion, a 19.7 per cent year-on-year increase.

The sector is under pressure to develop domestic material sources and modernize production models to improve product quality, as several free trade agreements between Vietnam and foreign partners are due to be materialized soon.

BANGLADESH

Exports buoyant

Bangladesh's export witnessed 2.07 percent growth due to moderate performance of the key knitwear, leather and leather products touching US$ 5,142.24 million in the first two months (July-August) of the current fiscal (2014-15). However, it is 9.16 percent lower than the strategic target of US$ 5,660.60 million.

The single month export earnings in August totaled US$ 2,159.50 million with a 7.25 percent growth but fell 17.46 percent short of the target.

The export target for the current fiscal (FY15) was set at US$ 33,200 million. Total exports during the last fiscal (FY14) reached US$ 30,186.62 million.

According to data, knitwear fetched the bulk of the earnings during the July-August period with US$ 2206.34 million, representing a 4.97 percent growth over the same period (July-August) last year while woven garments earned US$ 2025.42 million, with a drop by 1.60 percent and export of home textiles totaled US$ 115.99 million with a fall of 0.79 percent.

Export of man-made filaments and staple fibers totaled US$ 13.72 million while other manufactured products earned US$ 21.23 million.

Specialized textiles including terry towel, special woven fabric and knitted fabrics marked a negative growth of 28.74 percent earning at US$ 14.68 million in July-August.

ITALY

Textile industry gains in the first four months of 2014

The Italian textile industry recorded 7.6% production gains in the first four months of 2014, it has been reported. The data showed that Italian textile exports went up by 4.2% in the first four months of the year, while imports grew by 7.5%.

As far as exports, knits rose by 14.8%, followed by wool fabrics at 4.1%. The 28 European Union member countries made up 55.3% of export destinations, with textile sales to the EU up 8.2% between January and April during the year. The United States was also one of the exporters of Italian fabrics this year (+14.9%), while exports fell to China (-10.2%), Turkey (-8.1%), and Hong Kong (-7%). China is the prime supplier of Italian textile firms, with 26.3% of market share and growth of 7.7% in January-April, while Turkey is the second partner at 12.8% growth in the same period.

USA

Imports of MMF apparel up in July 2014

US apparel imports remained stable in July, actually hiding a dramatic shift from cotton to man-made fiber apparel.

US apparel imports were same in volume terms in July 2014 from the same month a year earlier, in sharp contrast with the 8.4% annual surge experienced in June 2014.

July 2014 data actually reflect the long-term trend of US apparel import market, with shipments only rising 0.15% in volume terms and even slightly declining 1.19% in value terms, as unit value is down by 1.35%.

China continued gaining market shares in July 2014, due to a rise of 2.16% in volume terms, whereas imports from other nations dropped by 1.45%.

Although production costs are rapidly rising in China, this is more than offset by a shift to man-made fiber apparel.

Total US imports of man-made fiber apparel still rose 6.11% in volume terms in July, while imports of cotton apparel were dropping by 5.7%.

Man-made fiber apparel are not only cheaper, but their average unit price is also more significantly declining (-1.64%) than that of unit value of cotton apparel imports (-0.68%).

CHINA

New record of highest value of exports of Textiles and Apparel

Exports of textiles and apparel from China continued its upward trend and set a new record of highest value in a single month in August 2014, it has been reported.

According to data China's textile and apparel exports registered US$ 30.53 billion, breaking the US$ 30 billion-mark for the second consecutive month.

Category-wise, the exports of textiles, including yarn, fabric and related products, fetched US$ 9.96 billion, showing a year-on-year growth of 6.1 percent, while exports of apparel and clothing accessories earned US$ 20.57 billion, achieving a growth of 10.3 percent.

From January to August, 2014, China's textile and apparel exports totaled US$ 193.36 billion, growing at 5.7 percent year-on-year. Of this, the textile category accounted for US$ 73.36 billion, up 4.7 percent, whereas clothing exports rose at 6.4 percent to US$ 120 billion.

PAKISTAN

Exports of Textiles and Garments falls marginally

The exports of textiles and garments from Pakistan dipped marginally by 2.37 percent year-on-year to US$ 1.169 billion in the first month of fiscal year 2014-15 that began on July 1, according to the data.

In July 2014, Pakistan's knitwear exports grew by 21.66 percent year-on-year to US$ 238.733 million, while export of cotton fabric declined by 8.13 percent to US$ 211.587 million.

Similarly, bedwear exports fetched US$ 195.876 million, showing an increase of 14.54 percent in July 2014, over US$ 171.009 million worth of exports made in the corresponding month of last year. Readymade garment exports increased by 3.76 percent to US$ 186.236 million, whereas cotton yarn exports fell by 35.32 percent to US$ 131.297 million during the month under review.

On the other hand, the import of synthetic fibre by Pakistan surged 55.37 percent year-on-year to US$ 43.448 million, whereas imports of synthetic and artificial silk yarn witnessed a growth of 41.14 percent to US$ 61.401 million.

Meanwhile, the value of textile machinery imports made by Pakistan during the month rose by 23.26 percent year-on-year to US$ 41.731 million, which shows that enterprises are continuing to invest in new machinery, in view of the European Union's Generalised System of Preferences Plus (GSP Plus) status achieved by Pakistan from the beginning of this year.

To boost export of value-added textile items, the Government of Pakistan has announced repayment of customs duty paid on imported raw materials used in the manufacture of textile goods meant for export.

The repayment of duty would be available on the export of 100% cotton or blended polyester/cotton/ Trevira (all blends) dyed THPC fire or flame retardant woven fabric; 100% cotton dyed THPC fire or flame retardant (Provatex ACS special) woven garments; blended cotton/ polyester/Trevira (all blends) dyed THPC fire or flame retardant (Provatex ACS special) woven garments and many other textile products.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Textile and clothing industry sales up by 10.7% in first half of 2014

The textile and clothing industry sales in the Czech Republic increased by 10.7 percent year-on-year to 26.6 million crowns in the first half on 2014, which is the highest sales value recorded after the economic crisis in Czech, it has been reported.

The production of textiles increased by 12 percent, while the production of garments increased by 2.1 percent. The sales in the textiles sector was worth 23.4 million crowns and the sales in the clothing sector were worth 3.2 billion crowns. The total combined sales in the textiles and clothing industry increased by 10.7 percent, as compared to sales in the corresponding period of the previous year.

The exports in the textile industry were relatively higher than the exports in the clothing industry during the first half of 2014, although the imports in the clothing industry exceeded the value of exports. Textile exports grew by 13.6 percent year-on-year, while clothing exports increased by 10 percent. Meanwhile, both textile and garment imports grew at 16.4 percent during the six-month period.

SRI LANKA

Textiles and Garment exports up 25%

Textiles and garment exports, which account for 45.3 percent of total exports, grew by 25 percent year-on-year to US$ 446 million in June 2014, contributing more than 50 percent to the overall growth in exports in June 2014, it has been reported.

Sri Lanka's textile and clothing exports to the EU grew by 34.6 percent, while to the US by 12.1 percent. However, a sharper growth of 44.5 percent was witnessed in exports to non-traditional markets.

Strategies such as backward integration and promotion of new Sri Lankan brands in the international market have helped the industry to grow rapidly.

The maintenance of safety and other international standards also helped the textile and garment industry in Sri Lanka to face the strong competition in international markets.

In January-June 2014, Sri Lanka's textiles and garments exports surged 20.6 percent to US$ 2.412 billion, as against exports of US$ 2 billion made during the corresponding period of last year. On the other hand, imports of textiles and textile articles increased by 8.6 percent to US$ 1.048 billion during the first half of this year, compared to imports worth US$ 965.9 million 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$ 4.508 billion, while its value of imports declined by 9.7 percent year-on-year to US$ 2.045 billion.

JORDAN

Exports of textiles and apparel up 18.55%

The exports and imports of textiles and apparel from Jordan increased by 18.55 percent and 10.97 percent year-on-year, respectively, in May 2014, it has been reported.

The exports of textiles and apparel by Jordan increased by 18.55 percent to 65.007 million dinars in the May 2014, compared to exports of 52.943 million dinars made during the corresponding period of last year.

During May 2014, the exports of knitted or crocheted fabrics by Jordan increased by 22 percent, from 0.072 million dinars in May 2013 to 0.098 million dinars in May 2014.

Likewise, exports of knitted apparel increased by 19.2 percent, from 51.073 million dinars in May 2013 to 63.243 million dinars in May 2014. However, the exports of non-knitted apparel decreased by 7.2 percent, as compared to 1.797 million dinars in May 2013, coming down to 1.666 million dinars in May 2014.

On the other hand, the imports of textiles and apparel by Jordan increased by 10.97 percent to 56.806 million dinars in the May 2014, compared to exports of 50.61 million dinars made during the corresponding period of last year, the data showed.

In May 2014, Jordan's imports of knitted or crocheted fabrics increased by 35.21 percent, from 21.792 million dinars in May 2013 to 33.636 million dinars in May 2014.

Similarly, imports of knitted apparel increased by 2.74 percent to 13.884 million

dinars in May 2014, as compared to imports worth 13.503 million dinars made in May 2013. However, imports of non-knitted apparel decreased by 25.2 percent to 7.197 million dinars during the month, as against imports of 9.631 million dinars in the corresponding month of last year.

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(Excerpts taken from Fibre2fashion and other textile related websites)

Plans for setting up of new textile parks

The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles (Independent Charge), Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar has said that Government would set up new textile parks at the earliest, it has been reported. It is learnt that the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, has received several applications in connection to new textile parks.

The Hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley had announced in the Budget 2014-15 that the Government would set up 25 new textile parks .

Shri Gangwar also informed that the Union Government would hold a meeting of textile ministers of all states in this year, to fine-tune the draft of the new textile policy, which is expected to be announced soon.

He also said that a textile venture capital fund would be created with an initial capital of ₹ 350 million. He informed that the Government is providing a subsidy of ₹ 700 million for setting up a textile processing park, and for this initiative it has set aside a sum of ₹ 5 billion.

Need to change the labour laws says Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles

The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles, Shri Santosh Gangwar highlighted the need for a rejig in labour laws and said that the government has already started working in this direction, to achieve the objectives of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), it has been reported.

The Hon'ble Minister emphasized that there is a need to change the labour laws in the country and the process has already begun. However, the objectives of MGNREGA which was introduced for labour welfare are not being met.

The Textiles Minister recently conveyed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi requesting that the entire textile sector be linked to MGNREGA. If the proposal is accepted, it will guarantee minimum wages to workers in the textile sector and ensure adequate availability of labour for manufacturers.

The textile industry has been grappling with a shortage of labour during the peak demand season, as many workers prefer to work under MGNREGA Scheme that guarantees minimum wages for a minimum 100 days in a year for every household.

Moreover, the new draft National Textile Policy has also pointed out the need for immediate labour law reforms to draw investments and compete better globally.

The Minister also stressed on the need to develop mega clusters for manufacturing to boost the MSME sector.

Government keen to target exports to new markets

The government is exploring new markets by holding shows in Russian Federation, Israel, Eastern Europe, Latin American countries and other non-traditional markets to give textile exports a boost, it has been reported.

The Government through its various schemes like the Market Access Initiative and Market Development Assistance Scheme is helping organize promotional programmes in the new markets.

The grants include assistance to textiles exporters for export promotion activities abroad; assistance to textiles export promotion councils (EPCs) to undertake export promotion activities for their products and commodities; assistance to approved organisations/ trade bodies in undertaking exclusive non-recurring activities connected with export promotion efforts for their members.

It also includes assistance for export promotion programmes in specific regions abroad; residual essential activities connected with marketing promotion efforts abroad; to defend India's interests abroad against protectionist measures and non-tariff barriers; exploring non-traditional markets, etc.

In addition, Market Linked Focus Product Scheme (MLFPS) incentivises export of products that have high employment intensity in rural and semi urban areas, to offset infrastructure inefficiencies and other associated costs involved in marketing of these products.

Indo-Turkish trade ties brighten

Trade relations between India and Turkey have improved rapidly over the past decade. Trade volume between Turkey and India was US$ 2.3 billion and US$ 4 billion in 2009 and 2010, respectively.

It is learnt that bilateral trade between Turkey and India reached US$ 6 billion in 2012-2013. But as per Turkish data the trade deficit is against the target, as it only had 20 percent of the total bilateral trade.

The major Indian exports to Turkey are cotton, chemicals, steel, mobile handsets, clothing and apparel. Turkey's exports to India include textile machinery, automotive parts and steel.

The Governments of both countries are keen to strengthen trade ties and have encouraged increased bilateral trade visits with separate trips over the past six years.

Government to announce new Foreign Trade Policy soon

The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Commerce & Industry (Independent Charge) Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman has said that the new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) to be announced by the government soon would be "different" from the earlier policies, it has been reported.

The Commerce Ministry is scheduled to announce the new five-year Foreign Trade Policy (2014-19) as it seeks to boost manufacturing and exports, among other things.

The new policy would focus on a wide range of issues, including services exports, standards and branding of products.

India's exports in the last three years have been hovering around US$ 300 billion, and steps are on to boost it further and enhance its contribution in the world trade.

Services sector contributes about 55 per cent to the country's gross domestic product. During May this year, services exports were about US$ 14 billion.

During April-June period of the current fiscal, exports grew 9.31 per cent to US$ 80.11 billion.

India's exports in 2013-14 were worth US$ 312.35 billion, lower than the targeted US$ 325 billion.

The country's exports stood at US$ 300.4 billion in 2012-13 and US$ 307 billion in 2011-12.

New Textile Policy on the anvil

The Union Textile Ministry is expected to finalise a National Textile Policy soon and has held meetings in the context in Delhi and Mumbai. The same is being synchronised with the manufacturing policy.

The draft vision paper, given to the Ministry in July, aims at bringing investment of US$ 120 billion, so the sector can achieve US$ 650-billion growth by 2024-25. Also, the textile sector needs 35 million workers to achieve the growth target.

The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar has called a meeting of stakeholders by the end of this month to finalise the policy. It is learnt that cotton production in the country has been on the rise and a favourable textile policy will be important to create a market for the produce, specially when the Chinese demand for cotton is declining.

In a meeting with stakeholders recently, Ministry officials emphasised the need to increase the foreign direct investment (FDI) in the sector. They also said start-ups should be given importance. According to officials, there was a need to push FDI in the Indian retail sector, as it would help Indian brands grow and enhance their visibility at the global level. The Ministry aims to make India a net exporter of finished products.

Growth in economy to be 5.6% during 2014-15

According to the latest Economic Outlook Survey by FICCI the Indian economy is expected to expand by 5.6 per cent during 2014-15 even as the Reserve Bank is not likely to cut interest rates this year, it has been reported.

The RBI will consider a cut in policy rates only in the first quarter next year, as household inflationary expectations remain high. The RBI will wait and watch until there are definite signs of inflationary pressure abating.

Retail inflation is expected at 7.8 per cent this fiscal, in sync with RBI's indication earlier this year.

The minimum and maximum range for GDP growth in the current fiscal is indicated at 5.3 per cent and 6 per cent respectively, as against 5.3 per cent estimated in the previous round of the Survey by FICCI.

This reflects a clear return in optimism and economic activity is expected to continue with this momentum in the second half of the current fiscal year.

While agricultural growth is expected to remain steady despite a weak monsoon, outlook for the industrial sector seems to have improved considerably. It is expected to grow by 4.7 per cent in FY15, which is 1.6 percentage points more than the growth estimate in the previous survey round held in June.

The growth in the services sector is expected to remain pretty much at similar levels as was reported last time. The sector is likely to grow by 6.9 per cent in FY 15.

The prognosis made by economists with regard to exports and current account deficit reflected no imminent risks. The GDP ratio for FY15 was projected at 1.9 per cent. It was also felt that the macro-economic fundamentals are gradually strengthening and the overall health of the economy is set to improve going ahead.

The economists also identified priority areas for the Government: developing world-class infrastructure; provision of uninterrupted power supply; resolving labour issues; reducing cost and duration of land acquisition; minimising procedural hassles and fast-tracking approvals and development of innovation hubs with world class amenities including lab and testing facilities.

The economists are of the view that Government should enhance credit to small and medium enterprises; simplify taxation policies to bring down the time and cost involved in filing returns; and introduce Goods & Services Tax at the earliest.

Export growth sluggish in August 2014

India's merchandise exports have been hit by the economic slowdown in Europe and softening global petroleum prices, which rose 2.35 per cent in August, which is least in this financial year. During the month, exports stood at US$ 26.95 billion, against US$ 26.33 billion in the previous year, it has been reported.

This was the second consecutive month of single-digit growth in exports, prompting exporters to demand the government announce incentives for them in its coming foreign trade policy to be further competitive in the international market.

Imports grew at 2.08 per cent during August 2014 to US$ 37.79 billion compared to US$ 37.02 billion in August 2013.

Trade deficit in August 2014 was at US$ 10.83 billion, which was higher than last year's US$ 10.68 billion. But the deficit was lower than last month's US$ 12.28 billion.

For the first five months of this financial year, exports rose 7.31 per cent to US$ 134.79 billion from US$ 125.61 billion in the corresponding period the previous year, while imports fell 2.69 per cent from US$ 196.22 billion to US$ 190.94 billion. As a result, trade deficit for April-August fell to US$ 56.15 billion from US$ 70.6 billion during the same period in the previous year.

There was an overall fall of 2.69 per cent in imports in the first six months of the on-going fiscal to US$ 19.09 billion compared to US$ 19.62 billion in the comparable period of the previous fiscal.

Trade deficit in the first six months of 2014-15 was at US$ 337.21 billion, which was lower than US$ 405.84 billion in the same period of 2013-14.

India to rank among world's fifth largest exporter of goods by 2030

A HSBC Trade Forecast has stated that India has the potential to become the world's fifth largest exporter of goods by 2030 in value terms.

This is despite the fact that India's near-term growth prospects remain lacklustre, with the economy likely to expand by 5.3 per cent in 2014 and 6.3 per cent in 2015 which is well below the rapid growth rate of around 8 per cent a year in 2001-11.

The UAE is likely to remain India's top export destination by 2030, and China is forecasted to emerge as the second largest export market, displacing the US.

Among others sectors textiles will help accelerate overall export growth.

Indo-Vietnam to strengthen bilateral relations

Vietnam and India have identified garments and textiles as one of the important areas of potential growth in bilateral trade, it has been reported.

Both the countries have agreed to enhance the economic partnership and strengthen the trade and investment linkages between the public and private sectors of both countries, including forging joint ventures.

Both the sides welcomed the strong growth in bilateral trade in recent years and urged business to further expand and diversify trade to achieve the bilateral trade target of US$ 15 billion by 2020.

The leaders of the both the countries have agreed to strengthen and deepen bilateral cooperation on the basis of the Strategic Partnership with focus on political, defence and security cooperation, economic cooperation, science and technology, culture and people-to-people links, technical cooperation and multilateral and regional cooperations.

Appraisal of imports by the Commerce Ministry

The Commerce Ministry has introduced a mechanism for periodic and regular appraisal of imports, it has been reported.

The Commerce Secretary, Shri Rajeev Kher has said that there are several areas where imports need to be appraised and his Ministry is trying to evaluate on how they can encourage industry to manufacture those products and thus reduce dependence on imports.

Exports growth slipped in July after witnessing a double-digit expansion in the previous two months, pushing up the trade deficit to one-year high of US$ 12.22 billion.

In 2012-13, the country's trade deficit touched an all time high of US$ 190 billion.

Meanwhile it is learnt that while the global environment still remains challenging, policy action in India has been repositioned so as to better tackle the negative impact of external shocks.

According to current rankings, India is the 19th largest exporter (with a share of 1.7 per cent) and 12th largest importer (with a share of 2.5 per cent) of merchandise trade in the world.

In commercial services, India is the sixth largest exporter (with a share of 3.3 per cent) and seventh largest importer (with a share of 2.9 per cent).

Further it said the export diversification policy pursued by the government needs to be accelerated by expanding both the range of products and number of countries.

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(Excerpts taken from various Financial & textile newspapers)

India International Fabric Expo in Ahmedabad during October 2014

The Powerloom Development & Export Promotion Council (PDEXCIL) is scheduled to organize India International Fabric Expo (IIFE Ahmedabad 2014) from 14th-16th October 2014. In this connection it was informed that the Council is inviting Foreign Buyers of fabrics, made-ups including home textiles from different overseas destinations. An amount of ₹ 28,090/- is fixed for participation for a booth of 9 sq. mtrs. in the Expo.

Since participation in IIFE is open to all, members may like to directly contact
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REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP (RCEP): ITS IMPORTANCE AND IMPLICATIONS

Over the past twenty years, countries around the world have increasingly embraced trade agreements at both the country-to-country (bilateral) level and amongst (often geographical) groupings of multiple countries (regional level). With rapidly integrating economies, Governments are more frequently taking initiatives to form/reform their trading arrangements through direct negotiations. Given the protracted process of multilateral trade negotiations of WTO – as evidenced by the Doha Round – bilateral and regional trade agreements (such as Free Trade Agreements [FTA]) are setting the framework for trade liberalisation in the 21st century. The role of bilateral and regional trade agreements is increasingly important due to the emergence of the comprehensive trade agreements, such as the current Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations, which seek to have a greater impact on the international trading environment than existing FTAs. Moreover, the emergence of the comprehensive Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement demonstrates that the recent global economic downturn has not inhibited progress towards greater trade liberalisation at a broader Asia- Pacific level.

Right Time for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership

Having realised the importance of Regional Trade Integration, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) initiative was conceived among the ASEAN Leaders in November 2011 during the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia. The RCEP as a 16 Member Free Trade Agreement was launched by the Leaders of the ASEAN and their 6 FTA Partners viz., Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea and New Zealand at the 21st ASEAN and Related Summits in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The negotiations for the RCEP are expected to be concluded by end-2015.

The Leaders established the RCEP as an ASEAN led process through which ASEAN would broaden and deepen its economic engagements with its FTA partners. The RCEP are likely to lead to greater economic integration, support equitable economic development and strengthen economic cooperation among the countries involved.

The Largest Regional Free Trade Agreement

The RCEP envisages regional economic integration leading to the creation of the largest regional trading bloc in the world amounting for almost 45% of the world population with a combined gross domestic product of $22 trillion. It aims to cover trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical cooperation, competition and intellectual property.

Significance for India

Joining the RCEP is important for India since it is not a part of the other two mega regional trade deals that are under negotiations — the trans-pacific partnership (TPP) and transatlantic trade and investment partnership (TTIP) which are led by the US. Form RCEP India's interests lie especially on trade in textiles and pharma. It will also be helpful for India to remove technical barriers to trade like sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures of these products.

Under the new government at the centre, India is embarking upon providing a fresh push for manufacturing and services sectors and a refreshing review of reorienting its global engagement. It is expected that RECP will help India in accessing the region in a better way which will consequently help it in improving India's manufacturing and services delivery efficiency and will make it more competitive.

The RCEP has already completed five rounds of negotiations in the areas of trade in goods, services and investment and likely to complete the negotiations by 2015-end.

Huge Market for Man-made fibre textiles

The RCEP accounts for nearly 30% (USD 50 Bn.) of global trade in Man-made fibre textiles and this share is growing rapidly. Moreover, the shifting of production of textile products from the west to the east is increasing both intra and inter-national textiles trade in this region. Thus, there is substantial scope for India to gain from RCEP by ways of increase exports to these partner countries.

Region/ Country	Exports from India (In USD Mn.)	Imports from World (In USD Mn.)	India's Share in %
ASEAN	458	23143	1.98
Australia	33	863	3.82
New Zealand	8	271	2.95
South Korea	35	3127	1.12
Japan	38	3177	1.20
China	70	13335	0.52

India needs to play safe

China is the leading member country of the proposed RCEP both in terms of production and export of textile products. India has both offensive and defensive interest with the member countries of RCEP in the textiles area. Exports of Textile products from India have scope to accelerate in countries like Japan, Australia and New Zealand. India also promises a huge textile market for all the member countries including China. However, while India will be maintaining a single schedule, hence, it will need to have adequate flexibility to address its sensitivities which may differ for each individual participating country which are also India's competitors like China.

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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. The last date for confirmation of participation is 30th September 2014.

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.

POSITIVE EXPORT TRENDS IN THE ECONOMY

The year 2013-14 was a challenging one for the Indian economy and exports. Indian exports were severely affected due to the Euro zone crisis and global slowdown. According to the World Bank, of the 95 countries, India's exports-to-the-GDP ratio was 19th from bottom during 2013. To improve the situation the Government need to take adequate remedial measures which will improve the export trends. Through its proactive policy regime it is expected that the Indian exports will receive the necessary boost, thus triggering growth in the economy.

The total value of exports during the year 2013-14 was to the tune of US$ 4 65.90 billion of which merchandise exports comprise US$ 314.40 billion. The Government has set target of US$ 500 billion for the year 2014-15 with merchandise exports expected to be US$ 340 billion. Merchandise exports have registered double digit growth for the month of May and June 2014 (12.4% & 10.22%) respectively and for July 2014 it registered a growth of 7.33%. India is the 19th largest exporter with a share of 1.7% and 12th largest importer with a share of 2.5% of merchandise trade in the world. India' share in the world trade has increased from 1.77% in 2008 to 2.27 in 2013. And the goal is to enhance it to 3.5% by 2018-19.

Towards this endeavour the Government has taken up many initiatives. A select list is given below :

- Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) will be a comprehensive and composite one focusing on products which are winners and potential winners, targeted at global engagements, branding, packaging measures, etc.
- Trade Promotion and Reforms – Reduction in transaction costs through initiatives for simplification of documents and procedures, digitization of various processes, specific measures to facilitate the entry of new entrepreneurs and manufacturers in global trade by providing them the required training, better electronic data interface) EDI connectivity in ports, etc.
- Extensive review of Special Economic Zones for re-energizing manufacturing led exports. Governance reforms in SEZs, etc.
- Mainstreaming of states in trade
- Process initiated by Government (as a result of DOC's initiative) to enhance export of items from the defence sector.
- Forging stronger relationships in our immediate neigbourhood.
- Initiatives for Africa
- E-procurement
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Initiatives through PSUs under DOC
- Improving Production standards and building brand India

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CONTRIBUTION OF TEXTILES SECTOR IN GDP PERFORMANCE DURING THE FIRST QUARTER (APR-JUN) 2014

Buoyed by performance of mining, manufacturing and services sector, Indian economy has bounced back to record a growth rate of 5.7 per cent for the April-June quarter, highest in the past two-and-half years. **Better performance of the Textiles segment has helped the manufacturing sector to contribute more in the GDP growth rate. During the April – June 2014 textiles witnessed a growth of around 5% as compared to a growth of 3% of entire manufacturing sector. During April-July 2014 also the performance of the textiles segment looks better.**

India's gross domestic product had expanded by 4.7 per cent April-June quarter of the last fiscal ended March 31.

According to latest data released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), manufacturing sector recorded a growth of 3.5 per cent in the first quarter of 2014-15 as against a contraction of 1.2 per cent in Q1, 2013-14.

Among the services sectors bank credits have shown growth rates of 13.3 per cent as on June 2014 as against growth of 13.5 per cent as on June 2013.

With the long-term impact of all the new initiatives taken by the Government setting in, it is expected that the impact in the coming quarter would be much larger.

QUARTERLY ESTIMATE OF GDP AT FACTOR COST IN Q1 (APRIL-JUNE) OF 2014-15

(at 2004-2005 prices) Industry					
APRIL-JUNE (Q1)					
(₹ crore) Gross Domestic Product for Q1 of				**Percentage change Over previous year Q1**	
	2012-13	**2013-14**	**2014-15**	**2013-14**	**2014-15**
GDP at factor cost	1300221	1360757	1438488	4.7	5.7
Manufacturing	208756	206340	213470	-1.2	3.5

SOURCE: CSO (www.mospi.nic.in)

Further, Statement below gives the Quick Estimates of growth rate of the Index of Industrial Production at 2 digit level of National Industrial Classification (NIC-2004) for the months till July 2014, along with the cumulative growth rates over corresponding month of previous year:

Industry code	**Description**	**Percentage growth**						
		Apr'14	**May'14**	**Jun'14**	**Jul'14**	**Apr-May 2014-15**	**Apr-June 2014-15**	**Apr-Jul 2014-15**
17	Textiles	7.1	7.0	1.1	1.1	6.9	4.8	3.8
18	Wearing apparel	-22.1	10.6	-6.6	-7.4	-9.4	-8.6	-8.2
15-36	Manufacturing	2.6	4.8	1.8	-1.0	3.7	3.1	2.3
	General	3.4	4.7	3.4	0.5	4.0	3.9	3.3

SOURCE: CSO (www.mospi.nic.in)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)

Question: Who are the authorised agencies in India for issuing the certificate of origin?

Answer: The authorised agencies in India for issuing the certificate of origin are listed in Appendix 35 of the Handbook of Procedures Vol-1 under the Foreign Trade Policy. These are:

Agreement	Agencies authorised to issue Certificate of Origin
Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA)	Export Inspection Council (EIC); Export Development Authorities; Development Commissioners of EPZs and SEZs; FIEO
Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP)	EIC for all products; Tobacco Board, Guntur for tobacco and tobacco products
India Afghanistan PTA	EIC
India ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement	EIC
India Chile PTA	EIC
India JAPAN CEPA	EIC
India Mercosur PTA	EIC
India Singapore CECA	EIC
India South Korea CEPA	EIC
South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA)	EIC

Question: What is the procedure for obtaining the certificate of origin?

Answer: The exporters would need to apply to the authorised agencies for issuance of the certificate of origin. The fee structure i.e. for the sale of blank form, certification fee and other charges (such as tatkal services) are available on the website of Export Inspection Council (EIC) at www.eicindia.gov.in.

Question: What are the rules and regulation relating to certification and verification of origin?

Answer: For the purposes of claiming the preferential tariff treatment for an originating good of the exporting Party, a certificate of origin is submitted to the customs authority of the importing Party by the importer, together with the documents required for the importation of the good in accordance with the laws and regulations of the importing Party. The details regarding certification and verification are set out in the individual FTA provisions.

Question: What are SPS and TBT measures? Do they figure in FTAs?

Answer: SPS measures is an acronym for *"sanitary and phytosanitary"* measures and broadly includes measures for the protection of plant, animal and human health. S.No 1 of Annex A of the World Trade Organisation's (WTO's) SPS Agreement5 describes these measures in detail. TBT is an acronym for *"technical barriers to trade"* and broadly includes standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures as defined in WTO's TBT Agreement. Since SPS and TBT could be barriers to trade, many FTAs deal with them.

Question: What are other non tariff measures (NTMs) that are dealt in FTAs?

Answer: Some of the other non tariff measures that figure in FTA chapters are:

- customs procedures
- import licencing procedures
- trade documentation
- pre-shipment inspections

Question: How should stakeholders bring these NTMs to the notice of FTA negotiators?

Answer: The stakeholders encountering NTMs (including SPS and TBT measures) can bring these to the notice of the territorial divisions of the Department of Commerce. A database of such NTMs is also available on the website of the Department. Any such inputs from stakeholders would enable to update this database.

Question: What is the mechanism for implementation of FTA tariff concessions?

Answer: The tariff concessions in an FTA are implemented at the ground level through customs notifications. In the case of phased implementation of concessions, the notifications are issued on a yearly basis and are available on the website of the Central Board of Excise and Customs.

Question: Are there provisions for review and implementation of FTAs?

Answer: Yes, the FTAs have provisions for review and implementation. This is normally done at specified intervals and there is an institutional mechanism to undertake such a review. It is important for stakeholders to provide a regular feedback on the operation of the FTAs for this mechanism to be effective. For example, problems faced in SPS/TBT measures or other NTMs need to be highlighted.

INDIA-ASEAN TRADE IN GOODS AGREEMENT

Question: What is the ASEAN-India Framework Agreement for CECA?

Answer: ASEAN and India signed a Framework Agreement for Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) on October 8, 2003. In 2003, only the goods trade was negotiated at the first instance and the services and investment trade is under negotiation. Under the Framework Agreement ASEAN and India agreed to negotiate a Free Trade Agreement covering trade in Goods, trade in Services and Investment. The complete details are available at http://commerce.nic.in/trade/international_ta_indasean.asp

Question: When did India sign the Agreement on Trade in Goods with ASEAN ?

Answer: India and the ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) comprising Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam signed the Trade in Goods Agreement under the broader framework of Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between India and the ASEAN on 13 August, 2009.

Question: When did the India-ASEAN Agreement on Trade in Goods come into force and what is the period the tariff reduction?

Answer: The India-ASEAN Agreement on Trade in Goods came into force on 1 January 2010 in the case of Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand; 1 June, 2010 for Vietnam; 1 September, 2010 for Myanmar; 1 October, 2010 for Indonesia; 1 November, 2010 for Brunei; 24 January, 2011 for Laos; 1 June, 2011 for Philippines; and 29 July, 2011 for Cambodia. The last period for tariff reduction or elimination under the various tariff categories like normal tracks 1 & 2, sensitive track and highly sensitive track (HST) / special products would be 2019 for ASEAN non LDCs barring Philippines; 2022 for Philippines; and 2024 for all LDCs like Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam.

Question: What are the different types of tariff concessions offered?

Answer: Tariff concessions are offered either through (1) tariff elimination or (2) tariff reduction. The List of items for which

- tariffs are to be eliminated (including through phasing out periods) is called the Normal Track,
- tariffs are to be reduced to 0% and 5% is called the Sensitive Track and
- tariffs are to be reduced to certain pre-determined levels is called the Highly Sensitive List/Special Products.

Question: What are the tariff concessions offered by India and ASEAN to each other in Merchandise Trade?

Answer: The Agreement will eliminate tariffs on 80% of the tariff lines accounting for 75% of the trade in a gradual manner starting from 1st January, 2010. Considering domestic sensitivities, India has excluded 489 tariff lines (HS6 Digit level) from the list of tariff concessions and 590 tariff lines from the list of tariff elimination to address sensitivities in agriculture, textiles, auto, chemicals, petrochemicals, crude and refined palm oil, coffee, tea, pepper etc. ASEAN countries have also maintained country wise exclusion list from the proposed tariff concessions or eliminations.

Question: What are the Special Products (Highly Sensitive List) in India's Schedule of Tariff Commitments?

Answer: India's Schedule of Tariff Commitments consists of 40 items placed under Special Products.

This is also referred to as India's Highly Sensitive List. These items belong to 5 products namely Crude Palm Oil (CPO), Refined Palm Oil (RPO), coffee, pepper and tea.

Question: What is the Exclusion List? How is it different from the Negative List?

Answer: Exclusion List or Negative List is a list of all items on which no tariff concessions / any other form of barrier reduction have been offered by individual Parties. The India-ASEAN Trade in goods agreement uses the term EL (Exclusion List) which in common parlance is referred to as Negative List.

Question: Which textile products are included in India's Exclusion List?

Answer: Key textile items in India's Exclusion list are: Woven Fabrics of Cotton including dhoti, saree, shirting, casement, upholstery, etc, polyester yarn, certain synthetic fabrics of filament yarn, etc,

Question: Why does India have two Schedules of Tariff Commitments?

Answer: Owing to the commitment under the Framework Agreement, India and Philippines have a different time-line for tariff liberalization compared to India and other ASEAN countries. Therefore, India has one Schedule of Tariff Commitment for Philippines and another for the rest of the ASEAN Member Countries. However, but for the timelines, the tariff reduction/ elimination offers are identical in both the Schedules.

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For any other specific query, member exporters can write to us at es@srtepc.org

Japantex, Tokyo, Japan
12-14 November 2014

The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL) proposes to organize group participation of member exporters of all the Textile EPCs in JAPANTEX 2014 Fair in Tokyo from 12 – 14 November, 2014. The Show is supported by the Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry (METI), Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) and The Association of the Promotion on International Trade, Japan.

JAPANTEX has been approved under the Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme of the Ministry of Commerce, and therefore, the participation fee for a standard stall of 9 sq. mtrs is fixed at a subsidized rate of ₹ 1,50,000. A standard stall of 9 sq. mtrs. size will include 3 spotlights, Fascia, 1 power point socket, Carpet, 1 table, 3 chairs, 3 shelves and 1 waste basket.

Members may kindly note that as the Event is subsidized under MAI scheme no MDA grant will be available to participant.

In view of the above, those interested to participation in the above Fair in Japan are requested to directly contact Mr. Shailesh Martis, Tel: 22-2363 2910 to 12 under intimation to the Council for undertaking necessary follow ups. You are also free to contact Shri Srijib Roy, Joint Director, SRTEPC Tel : 22-22048797, 22048690 Fax : 22-22048358, E-mail : srtepc@srtepc.org/tp@srtepc.org for confirming your company's participation.

CBEC – CENTRAL EXCISE

Seeks to amend Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004

Notification No. 25/2014-Central Excise (N.T.) dated 25th August, 2014

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 37 of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944) and section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the CENVAT Credit Rules, 2004, namely:-

1. (1) These rules may be called the CENVAT Credit (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 2014.

   (2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the CENVAT Credit Rules, 2004, in rule 12AAA, after the words “first stage and second stage dealer”, the words “provider of taxable service” shall be inserted.

http://www.cbec.gov.in/excise/cx-act/notfns-2014/cx-nt2014/cent25-2014.htm

MUMBAI CUSTOMS

New Module in ICES 1.5 for finalization of Provisionally Assessed Bills of Entries (BEs) - reg

Public Notice No. 48/2014 dated 15th September, 2014

Attention of all the Importers/ Customs Brokers is invited with regard to the new module implemented in ICES 1.5 for Finalization of Provisionally Assessed Bills of Entries - a process which has so far been carried out manually.

2. As is the case with manual finalization, the Importers / Customs Brokers are requested to approach the concerned group officers for finalization in ICES 1.5. The finalization is carried out by Assessing Officer in ICES 1.5, who then forwards the bills of Entry to the Group AC/DC (in similar manner to normal assessment). Then the finalization will be carried out by the concerned group AC/DC on the ICES 1.5 system. The Assessing Officers and Group AC/DC will use different roles specifically created in ICES 1.5 for this purpose.

3. If there is any increase in the duty liability due to finalization (by changing CTH, CETH, UPI etc.):

   a. Importers / Customs Brokers are requested to approach the concerned section for taking Challan copy of the BE for payment of duty. The system calculates the duty amount and interest and shows the same in the challan copy. The duty message is then forwarded to Banks through ICEGATE for payment of differential duty through E-payment / Branch.

   b. Accordingly, the Importers / Customs Brokers are required to pay the differential duty amount through E-payment / Branch. The duty paid message is then integrated in ICES 1.5, as is the case with duty payment integration of Normal Bills of Entry.

   c. After the duty gets integrated, the Importers / Custom Brokers are requested to approach the concerned section for bond credit / closure.

4. In case the duty liability remains unchanged or reduced at time of finalization, Importers / Customs Brokers may approach Group AC/DC for the bond credit/closure directly after the Bills of Entry are finalized on the ICES by the Group AC/DC. (step 3 outlined above is skipped in such cases as no additional duty payment is required).

Note :

In case where the duty liability is reduced after finalization on ICES 1.5, the refund procedure remains unchanged as before.

5. After duty integration and Bond credit/closure is carried out, the Importers / Customs Brokers are requested to approach the concerned section for getting the print of finally assessed BE.

   The system generates the finally assessed BE copies in Two sets viz.,Customs copy and Importer's Copy. The provisionally assessed BE copy shall be handed over to the concerned Group Appraiser before collecting the finally assessed BE copy.

6. Any difficulties faced in the implementation of this module may kindly be brought to the notice of the Assistant Commissioner (EDI) for further necessary action.

http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/writereaddata/PublicNotice/1081_PN%2048-2014.pdf

SAHAR AIR CARGO COMPLEX

Declaration of Standard Unit Quantity Code (UQC) & complete description of Export Goods – reg.

Public Notice No. 12 / 2014 dated 6th September, 2014

Attention of Exporters / Customs Brokers is invited to the C.B.E.C's Circular No. 26/2013-Customs dated 19.07.2013 wherein the Board has, inter alia, observed that Standard Unit Quantity Codes (UQC) indicated in the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 are not being uniformly declared by exporters for the same items across different Customs locations. This impacts data quality and makes comparisons and aggregations difficult.

The use of non-uniform UQC's for the same items also vitiates the quality of NIDB data and reduces its utility in ascertaining the contemporaneous values or assessment practice of a given item in different Customs locations.

2. The Customs Tariff Act, 1975 prescribes only a single 'Unit Quantity Code (UQC)' against each Tariff item and it is the requirement of the law that the same is properly declared by exporters / Customs Brokers in the Shipping Bills.

3. Further, Directorate General of Valuation has observed that description of goods mentioned by the exporters in the Shipping Bills / invoices are either vague, incomplete or are not standard. It is emphasized that the detailed description of goods including parameters having a bearing on value, viz, composition/ percentage of the product, grade, configuration, denier, gsm, size, type / brand, machine / hand made, other special attributes, etc., should be declared in the Shipping Bills and export invoices.

4. It is, therefore, brought to the notice of all the Exporters / Customs Brokers that they should declare complete & relevant description of the export goods in the shipping bills, including vital parameters which influence the valuation of the goods, viz., composition / percentage of the product, grade, configuration, denier, gsm, size, type / brand, machine made or handmade, etc. with the correct and prescribed Standard Unit Quantity Codes (UQC) as per the Customs Tariff Act, 1975. Deviation from the prescribed norms may lead to delayed clearance and / or cancellation of exports due to consequential scrutiny and investigation with penal actions.

http://www.accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2014/public_notice_12_2014.pdf

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

Exports of Indian MMF textiles during April-August 2014-15 were US$ 2053.70 Million against US$ 1906.97 Million during the same period of the previous year, showing a growth of 7.69%.

Value in USD Mn

	April-August 2014-15	April-August 2013-14	Grw/decline (%)
Fabrics	845.27	766.31	10.30
Yarn	562.98	578.09	-2.61
Made-ups	492.08	404.94	21.52
Fibre	153.38	157.64	-2.70
Total	**2053.70**	**1906.97**	**7.69**

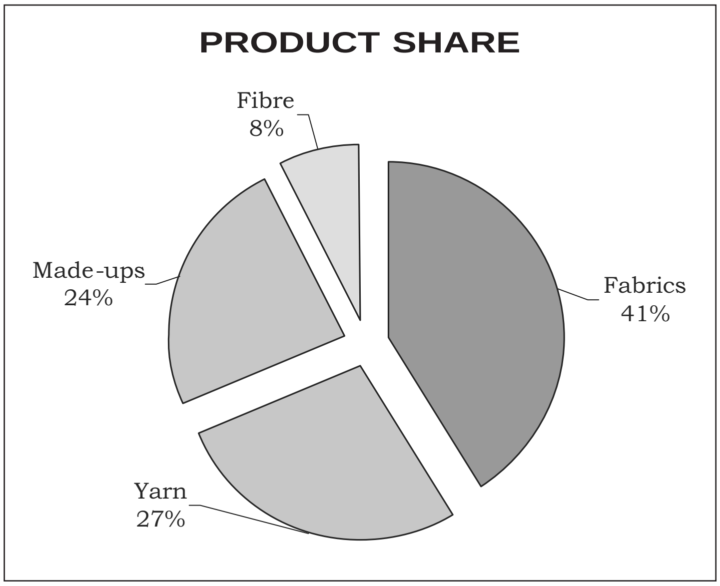
Source: Port data

HIGHLIGHTS

- Overall exports in April-August 2014-15 grew by 8% compared to the same period of the previous year.
- Fabrics and made-ups segments have witnessed encouraging growth during April-August 2014-15; Viz, Fabrics by 10.30% and Made-ups by 21.52% but export of Yarn and Fibre declined by 2.61% and 2.70% respectively.
- Exports of Fabrics dominated with 41% share followed by Yarn 27%, Made-ups 24% and Fibre 8% of the previous year.
- The value-added products like fabrics and made-ups were the main export items, accounting for 65% share of exports.
- Exports of Polyester Filament Fabrics continued to dominate total fabrics exports with a share of 36%.
- Exports of Polyester-Cotton Yarn witnessed significant growth during the period.
- In Made-ups segment, exports of Shawls/Scarves, Muffler were the major items with USD 48.80 Mn and USD 39.85 Mn respectively.
- Export of Shawls/Scarves witnessed growth of 64% during the period.
- Exports of Polyester staple fibre witnessed decline where viscose and acrylic staple fibres witnessed growth.
- USA (USD 234 Mn) continues to be the largest market for Indian MMF textiles followed by UAE.
- Other major markets during April-August 2014-15 were Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Turkey, Italy, Belgium,, etc.

PRODUCT SHARE

During April-August 2014-15, exports of Fabrics dominated in total exports with 41% share, followed by Yarn 27%, Made-ups 24% and Fibre 8%.



PRODUCT-WISE EXPORT PERFORMANCE APRIL–AUGUST 2014

Value in USD MN

Products	April-Aug 2014-15	April-Aug 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
FABRICS (Woven + non-woven + knitted)				
Polyester Filament	306.22	281.94	24.28	8.61
Synthetic Filament	201.63	164.97	36.66	22.22
Polyester Viscose	118.05	115.06	2.99	2.60
Polyester Blended	60.88	53.60	7.28	13.58
Synthetic Non Specified	39.94	46.03	-6.09	-13.23
Polyester Wool	18.26	14.89	3.37	22.63
Synthetic Cotton	18.02	18.37	-0.35	-1.91
Polyester Cotton	16.99	17.57	-0.58	-3.30
Polyester Spun	15.08	21.57	-6.49	-30.09
Synthetic Blended	10.67	3.94	6.73	170.81
Nylon Filament	9.23	8.43	0.80	9.49
Viscose Spun	8.97	3.18	5.79	182.08
Other	21.33	16.76	4.57	27.27
Total Fabrics	**845.27**	**766.31**	**78.96**	**10.30**
YARN				
Polyester Filament	267.76	304.54	-36.78	-12.08
Polyester Cotton	74.27	57.15	17.12	29.96
Polyester Viscose	53.70	52.80	0.90	1.70
Polyester Spun	38.65	43.23	-4.58	-10.59
Viscose Spun	30.62	28.17	2.45	8.70
Viscose Filament	22.62	21.32	1.30	6.10
Acrylic Spun	16.87	16.04	0.83	5.17
Synthetic Spun	12.39	12.76	-0.37	-2.90
Artificial Spun	10.99	9.32	1.67	17.92
Polyester Wool	10.75	7.69	3.06	39.79
Acrylic Cotton	4.88	3.73	1.15	30.83
Nylon Filament	4.51	4.22	0.29	6.87
Synthetic Non Specified	3.97	2.70	1.27	47.04
Viscose Cotton	3.36	2.85	0.51	17.89
Other	7.64	11.57	-3.93	-33.97
Total Yarn	**562.98**	**578.09**	**-15.11**	**-2.61**
MADE-UPS				
Bulk Containers	139.98	92.99	46.99	50.53
Shawls / Scarves	65.63	40.01	25.62	64.03
Muffler	52.34	72.70	-20.36	-28.01
Motifs	29.63	18.42	11.21	60.86
Dress Material	19.19	15.27	3.92	25.67
Blanket	18.74	12.47	6.27	50.28
Fishing Net	15.05	10.72	4.33	40.39
Bedsheet	13.25	16.83	-3.58	-21.27
Bed Linen	12.37	12.46	-0.09	-0.72
Rope	9.13	6.98	2.15	30.80
Braids	4.93	4.68	0.25	5.34
Dish-cloths / Dusters	4.42	10.43	-6.01	-57.62
Life Jacket	4.28	4.10	0.18	4.39
Sacks and Bags	4.07	2.28	1.79	78.51
Curtains	3.59	3.13	0.46	14.70
Furnishing Articles	3.24	4.59	-1.35	-29.41
Other	92.26	76.89	15.37	19.99
Total Made-ups	**492.10**	**404.95**	**87.15**	**21.52**
FIBRE				
Polyester Staple	78.46	98.07	-19.61	-20.00
Viscose Staple	51.46	38.74	12.72	32.83
Acrylic Staple	14.4	6.89	7.51	109.00
Acrylic Filament	4.74	4.41	0.33	7.48
Synthetic Staple	2.66	6.36	-3.70	-58.18
Other	1.66	3.17	-1.51	-47.63
Total Fibre	**153.38**	**157.64**	**-4.26**	**-2.70**

* 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-Aug 2014-15	Apr-Aug 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
USA	233.84	207.54	26.30	12.67
UAE	190.90	175.74	15.16	8.63
SAUDI ARABIA	189.84	153.57	36.27	23.62
PAKISTAN	106.64	100.35	6.29	6.27
TURKEY	83.04	69.23	13.81	19.95
ITALY	72.47	67.45	5.02	7.44
BELGIUM	63.00	54.02	8.98	16.62
SRI LANKA	46.60	45.84	0.76	1.66
BRAZIL	46.44	67.58	-21.14	-31.28
SPAIN	41.36	37.13	4.23	11.39
HONG KONG	38.83	35.94	2.89	8.04
BENIN	37.72	34.19	3.53	10.32
NETHERLANDS	36.53	38.26	-1.73	-4.52
KOREA, REP.	30.57	27.46	3.11	11.33
VIETNAM, DEMO	27.11	31.47	-4.36	-13.85
BANGLADESH	25.99	12.85	13.14	102.26
CHINA	24.28	24.87	-0.59	-2.37
CROATIA	23.82	19.74	4.08	20.67
FRANCE	22.88	18.75	4.13	22.03
PERU	21.58	23.73	-2.15	-9.06

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF FABRICS

Value in USD MN

Markets	Apr-Aug 2014-15	Apr-Aug 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
USA	169.59	144.27	25.32	17.55
UAE	122.10	103.33	18.77	18.17
SAUDI ARABIA	52.00	42.82	9.18	21.44
PAKISTAN	40.97	40.36	0.61	1.51
SRI LANKA	35.99	34.85	1.14	3.27
HONG KONG	30.90	25.23	5.67	22.47
VIETNAM, DEMO	23.64	28.52	-4.88	-17.11
SPAIN	16.38	16.00	0.38	2.37
BANGLADESH	16.14	7.22	8.92	123.55
ITALY	15.93	15.93	0.00	0.00
KOREA	12.50	12.48	0.02	0.16
CHINA	12.23	15.68	-3.45	-22.00
SENEGAL	12.14	5.66	6.48	114.49
KUWAIT	11.97	8.77	3.20	36.49
SINGAPORE	11.47	19.24	-7.77	-40.38
BELGIUM	11.21	10.03	1.18	11.76
COTE D IVOIRE	10.59	15.36	-4.77	-31.05
IRAQ	9.40	2.61	6.79	260.15
PANAMA	8.19	7.19	1.00	13.91
BENIN	7.90	13.46	-5.56	-41.31

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF YARN

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Aug 2014-15	Apr-Aug 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
TURKEY	97.22	87.05	10.17	11.68
USA	46.89	47.20	-0.31	-0.66
BRAZIL	42.71	64.03	-21.32	-33.30
PAKISTAN	26.31	31.85	-5.54	-17.39
BELGIUM	23.86	24.38	-0.52	-2.13
COSTA RICA	16.15	26.90	-10.75	-39.96
PERU	15.31	13.78	1.53	11.10
UAE	15.06	9.13	5.93	64.95
KOREA DEMO	14.19	10.78	3.41	31.63
MOLDOVA, REP	13.27	18.48	-5.21	-28.19
GUADELOUPE	12.36	13.11	-0.75	-5.72
NETHERLANDS	11.24	14.56	-3.32	-22.80
KOREA, REP	10.83	1.88	8.95	476.06
ITALY	9.54	9.91	-0.37	-3.73
SAUDI ARABIA	8.65	9.73	-1.08	-11.10
JAPAN	7.56	3.61	3.95	109.42
SRI LANKA	7.36	9.04	-1.68	-18.58
CHINA	6.59	4.60	1.99	43.26
DJIBOUTI	6.49	7.02	-0.53	-7.55

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF MADE-UPS

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Aug 2014-15	Apr-Aug 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
USA	75.78	65.40	10.38	15.87
SAUDI ARABIA	54.72	51.05	3.67	7.19
ITALY	34.20	27.44	6.76	24.64
BENIN	29.62	20.28	9.34	46.06
UAE	26.49	19.33	7.16	37.04
SPAIN	21.93	17.51	4.42	25.24
CROATIA	20.15	16.14	4.01	24.85
NETHERLANDS	15.23	11.93	3.30	27.66
BELGIUM	14.67	8.53	6.14	71.98
FRANCE	11.37	10.21	1.16	11.36
AUSTRALIA	9.34	6.32	3.02	47.78
GERMANY	8.24	7.13	1.11	15.57
UK	7.96	5.84	2.12	36.30
CANADA	7.29	5.29	2.00	37.81
HONG KONG	6.55	9.55	-3.00	-31.41
BANGLADESH	6.12	3.17	2.95	93.06
NEW ZEALAND	4.21	2.74	1.47	53.65
VIETNAM, DEMOCRATIC REP. OF	4.09	1.05	3.04	289.52
OMAN	3.98	2.50	1.48	59.20
TURKEY	3.91	3.61	0.30	8.31
JAPAN	3.66	4.54	-0.88	-19.38
ZAMBIA	3.59	4.49	-0.90	-20.04
IRAQ	3.53	1.80	1.73	96.11

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF MADE-UPS

Value in USD Mn

Markets	Apr-Aug 2014-15	Apr-Aug 2013-14	Net Change	% Change
PAKISTAN	39.82	17.01	22.81	134.10
USA	16.24	20.33	-4.09	-20.12
BELGIUM	13.26	11.08	2.18	19.68
ITALY	12.80	14.18	-1.38	-9.73
FRANCE	7.23	3.97	3.26	82.12
JAPAN	5.49	9.49	-4.00	-42.15
NETHERLANDS	4.78	6.99	-2.21	-31.62
CZECH REPUBLIC	4.19	5.31	-1.12	-21.09
CHINA	3.30	2.14	1.16	54.21
CANADA	3.04	6.79	-3.75	-55.23
TURKEY	2.46	5.54	-3.08	-55.60
INDONESIA	2.42	3.53	-1.11	-31.44

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Council's Exhibitions in Sudan & Ethiopia

(Continued from Page 1)

Most of the participating companies were satisfied with the facilitation by SRTEPC and rated the arrangements and facilities provided for these first-time Exhibitions as "good".

Briefing session at Sudan

The Indian Ambassador to Sudan H.E. Mr. S.K. Verma and First Secretary, Mr. Subhash Gupta addressed the representatives of the participating companies at Hotel Corinthia Khartoum, Sudan in the evening on 10th Aug 2014. Others present during the Meeting were Mr. Nicholas Borg, General Manager of Corinthia Hotel alongwith the visiting Officials of the Council. During the Meeting, the Ambassador shared valuable information with participants on opportunities offered by the Sudanese market and challenges due to economic sanctions and banking issues. The briefing was very informative and useful to all the participants.

INAUGURATION OF THE EXHIBITIONS :

Exhibition in Sudan :

The Exhibition in Khartoum, Sudan was inaugurated jointly by H.E. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador of India and Mr. Hasab El-Rasoul Mohamed Ahmed, Head of the Import of Textiles & Fabrics, Sudanese Chamber of Commerce & Industries on 10th August, 2014 in the presence of local Dignitaries & Media persons.

Exhibition in Ethiopia :

The Exhibition in Ethiopia, second in the same series, was inaugurated jointly by Mr. Gashaw Debebe, Secretary General of the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce & Sectorial Associations (ECCSA) and Mr. Utpal Aich, First Secretary, Embassy of India in Addis Ababa on 13th August, 2014 amidst the presence of a galaxy of guests, and a host of journalists & television crews.

In his address Mr. Gashaw Debebe said that India is one of the leading exporters of man-made fibre textiles in the world and self-sufficient in the production of all types of raw materials required for the industry. Accordingly, it has a lot to offer to Ethiopian textile industry he stated. According to Mr. Gashaw, by joining hands, the business communities of the both the countries could benefit much from the untapped textile sector in Ethiopia. The First Secretary of the Embassy of India, Mr. Utpal Aich appreciated the initiative of the Council to organize the exhibition in this highly potential market in the African Region.

Twenty member-companies of the Council including well known textile companies such as M/s. Raymond Ltd. & M/s. Mafatlal Industries Ltd. who took part in the Exhibitions in Sudan & Ethiopia were satisfied with the outcome of the Exhibitions. The participants represented a cross section of the Indian Synthetic & Rayon Textile industry with products – ranging from yarn – fabrics to made-ups articles including heavy embroidered materials.

Visit to the Sudanese Textile Market during the Exhibition :

On the recommendation of H.E. Mr. S.K Verma, Indian Ambassador to Sudan, a visit of the participants to the "Lybia Textile Market", a big market of textiles in Khartoum was arranged. The visit helped participants get an idea about the availability of various textile items, design preferences, pricings, and specific requirements of Sudanese Buyers / Traders. The visit proved to be a very rewarding and useful experience to all the participants.

Publicity & Promotions of the Exhibitions

The Council in co-ordination with the concerned Embassies of India in Sudan & Ethiopia appointed M/s Exposition UK Ltd., a Professional Event Management Agency to make various arrangements including publicity and promotion of the Events to ensure success of the Exhibitions. Accordingly an exhaustive publicity/promotional campaign was carried out which comprised Direct mails including Invitation letters, Advertisements in leading Newspapers, Radio Commercials, Extensive tele/fax/e-mail reminders, Specially prepared Exhibitors Catalogues / Exhibition Flyers and Banners, Publicity through the local Chambers / Trade Bodies, Telemarketing & personal contacts and Coverage of the Exhibitions in local television channels.

Media Coverage

The maiden Exhibitions in Sudan & Ethiopia received extensive coverage in the Sudanese and Ethiopian media including the leading Newspapers, televisions which further facilitated in heightening the awareness about the vast capacities of the Indian Synthetic and Rayon Textile Industry, its wide range of products and the advantages of sourcing these items from India.

Market Observations – Sudan:

- ❖ Sudan is currently under comprehensive US sanctions.
- ❖ Basically a cotton producing country, and hence its textile industry is mainly cotton based.
- ❖ With the changing tradition, economy and fashion, the demand for blended and synthetic textiles are on the rise – not only in Sudan but in the African region too.
- ❖ An open economy and its government has been taking various pro-active initiatives to improve the textile industry of Sudan.
- ❖ Major part of the Sudanese textile industry is in the private sector.
- ❖ While Sudan is a net exporter of cotton, in case of Man-made fibres, it depends mostly on imports because the man-made based fibres, yarns, fabrics and made-ups are not locally manufactured in Sudan.
- ❖ During 2013, Sudan imported around US$ 500 Million of textile products from the world, in which around 40% (US$ 200 Million) was of man-made fibre textiles.
- ❖ India's share in Sudan's total import of MMF Textiles during 2013 was around US$ 27 Million – accounting for a market share of 14% only.
- ❖ Product Share in the export basket of Indian MMF Textiles to Sudan includes Fabrics 58%, made-ups 26%, and yarn 16%.
- ❖ Main countries – Sudan imported MMF Textiles from were China, India, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Indonesia, Thailand etc.
- ❖ Dyed woven fabric made out of textured polyester filament was one of the main fabrics imported by Sudan during 2013 followed by printed woven fabrics made out of textured polyester filament and bleached/unbleached woven fabrics made out of textured polyester filament.
- ❖ Textured yarn made out of textured polyester was on of the main yarn imported by Sudan during 2013.
- ❖ **India has a significant share of 46% in total import of man-made filament textiles by Sudan, while China accounts for 43%.**
- ❖ Main countries, which are currently supplying textiles made out of man-made staple fibres to Sudan are China with a share of 62% followed by India 13%, Egypt 6% etc.
- ❖ Made-ups are one of the main textile products imported by Sudan. During 2013, it imported nearly US$ 170 Million of Made-ups, in which Man-made fibre made-ups accounted for about 60% (USD 100 Million).
- ❖ Sudan is a growing market for Man-made fibre textiles during 2013-14. Exports of this textiles from India to Sudan have steadily grown over the years to reach to the tune of US$ 26.76 Million during 2013-14 – recording a growth of 28.16% compared to the previous year.
- ❖ The tariffs applied by Sudan on import of textile products are comparatively higher, which are upto 25% on fibre and upto 40% on fabrics and made-ups. This issue of high import tariffs is a serious concern, while exporting textile products to Sudan. Accordingly, the Indian Government is making consistent efforts to discuss the issue with its Sudanese counterparts, so that the tariff rates may be revised downwards.

Market Observations – Ethiopia :

- ❖ Ethiopia has the 2nd largest population in Africa – over 90 million – about 50% of the population is of less than 20 years of age.
- ❖ Ethiopia's annual export growth is of 27.4% for the past 7 consecutive years.
- ❖ Its manufacturing industry growth rate is 10.2% for the last seven years.
- ❖ The country's Industrial Policy has identified Textile & Garment sector, among a few others, which deserves attention to build the required platform for the industry to play its key role in the economy of the nation.

- Its textile and garment manufacturing companies – ranging from medium to large scale – in the area of ginning, spinning, weaving, finishing and garmenting have proliferated and, today stand more than 136.
- The Ethiopian Government is actively promoting further modernization of the textile and garment sector with the objective of attracting local and foreign investors at the same time foreign buyers.
- India and Ethiopia's long-standing economic and commercial relations, which are centuries old, can be traced back to the past 2000 years of recorded history.
- Because of the peace and security prevalent in the country as well as conducive business and investment climate, Ethiopia has also become one of the most preferred destinations for Indian businesses including textiles, leather, agriculture, and pharmaceuticals.
- As per latest information, Ethiopia imported USD 4750 Million of textile products from the world, of which USD 190 Million was of Man-made fibre textiles.
- Major suppliers of textile products to Ethiopia are China, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Germany, Turkey etc.
- Exports of Indian Man-made and blended textiles to Ethiopia are steadily increasing and during 2013-14, exports were of USD 17 Million – recording a growth of 13% – compared to the previous year.
- Export of yarn from India to Ethiopia is the dominant product with 72% share followed by made-ups 18%, fabrics 8%, and fibre 2%.

Conclusion

The first-ever exclusive Indian Exhibitions of Man-made fibre textiles organized by the Council in Sudan and Ethiopia evoked media interest as the Exhibitions were being covered extensively in the local television channels.

The Exhibitions in Sudan and Ethiopia helped participating member-companies in introducing their products effectively to the prospective Buyers / importers and their Agents in the Sudanese and Ethiopian markets in the African region.

The exclusive Indian Textile Exhibitions helped project India as a reliable source of quality MMF textile products. It is hoped that the exclusive Exhibitions organized by the Council is expected in further expanding India's MMF Textile exports to these comparatively new and highly potential markets in the African Region.

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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.

BUYERS AT VARIOUS STALLS OF MEMBER PARTICIPANTS IN COUNCIL'S EXCLUSIVE INDIAN TEXTILE EXHIBITION IN SUDAN

Postal Regn. No. MH/MR/South-354/2012-14

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

COUNCIL'S COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS

The Council has started sending all communications to its members through email to reduce the use of paper, leading to savings in costs and contributing to environmental protection. The relevant communications will also be updated on the Council's website. In this regard, you are requested to update your valid email id registered with the Council by visiting the following link http://srtepc.in/update.html and submit your consent. If you have already done so, please ignore this communication.

We would like to inform you that members who wish to receive the hard copies of the communications by courier / post will have to pay additional annual charges of ₹1123, including Service Tax.

If undelivered, return to:

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council

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