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COUNCIL ORGANIZES EXCLUSIVE INTEXPO IN ETHIOPIA & KENYA

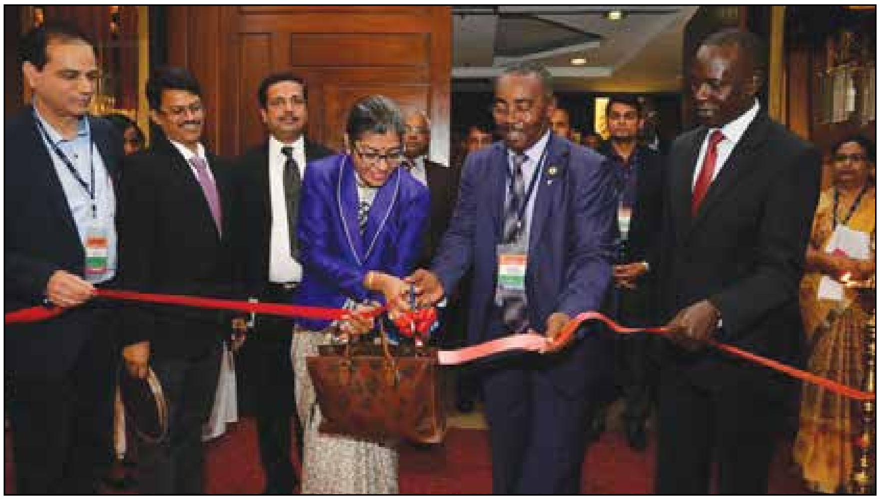
The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) organized exclusive Indian Textile Exhibitions INTEXPO in Ethiopia and Kenya during 6th – 10th March 2017 as part of its Export Promotion Initiatives for the year 2016-17 of the 'Focus Africa' sector as defined by the Ministry of Textiles. M/s Exposition UK Ltd, who were the Event Management Agency for the previous edition of Ethiopia and Sudan in 2014 were retained as the EMA for this edition also.

H. E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava, Ambassador of India to Ethiopia along with Rotarian Rajeev Kumar Sharma, Committee Member of the India Business Forum inaugurating the INTEXPO in Addis. Ababa, Ethiopia

Participation

Ten Indian textile companies participated in both the exhibitions and displayed their latest range of textile products, including yarn, fabric, ladies dress materials, shirting and suiting, uniform fabrics and home furnishings.

The INTEXPO in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia was held on 6th and 7th March 2017 at Hotel Addis Sheraton, Addis Ababa and INTEXPO in Nairobi, Kenya on 9th & 10th March 2017 at Hotel Laico Regency, Nairobi



H. E. Mrs. Suchitra Durai, High Commissioner of India to Kenya along with Mr. James Mureu, Vice Chairman, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce, Chairman, National Economic Diplomacy Committee and Mr. Samson Wangusi, Sr. Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Trade & Co-operatives, Govt. of Kenya inaugurating INTEXPO in Kenya.

Inauguration of the Exhibitions:

INTEXPO Ethiopia was inaugurated at Hotel Sheraton Addis by H. E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava, Ambassador of India and Rotarian Rajeev Kumar Sharma, Committee Member of the India Business Forum. The Honorable Ambassador in his Key Note address outlined the trade between the two countries and the opportunities available to promote Indian Man-made Textile Products also detailing the challenges of a closed economy. He warmly welcomed the exhibitors and wished them luck for a fruitful visit. This was followed by Mr. Endalkachew Sime, Secretary General, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations delivering his address to the gathering. H.E. Mr. Anurag Srivastava and Mr. Endalkachew Sime, along with members of the trade associations and our Embassy officials visited the stalls of the member companies.

INTEXPO Kenya was inaugurated at Hotel Laico Regency by H. E. Mrs. Suchitra Durai, High Commissioner of India to Kenya, Mr. James Mureu, Vice Chairman, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce, Chairman, National Economic Diplomacy Committee and Mr. Samson Wangusi, Sr. Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Trade & Co-operatives, Govt. of Kenya.

The Hon'ble High Commissioner spoke at length on the long and warm association shared by the two countries and of the opportunities offered by the Kenyan market to the participants. Mr. James Mureu in his speech highlighted the opportunities available to Indian exporters. Mr. Samson Wangusi threw light on data and statistics of the Kenyan economy. H.E. Suchitra Durai and the other officials and dignitaries visited the stalls of the member companies.

Response from Importers & Buyers:

The two-day Exhibition in Ethiopia attracted 241 visitors. The main response was for Suiting, Shirting, Polyester Yarn and Poly viscose Fabrics. As per the feedback from the exhibitors, business of about US$ 250000 was under negotiation. There is expected to emerge a huge market for Home Furnishings in the near future as 1000 Hotel Rooms shall be coming up within the next couple of years in Addis Ababa.

The Exhibition in Kenya drew 171 visitors during the two days. The main response was for Suiting, Shirting, Home Furnishings, Uniform and Interlock Fabrics. As per the feedback from the exhibitors, an estimated business of about US$ 300000 were under negotiation.

Presentation at the Indian Embassy in Ethiopia:

The Embassy of India had also organized for a presentation by the committee members of 'India Business Forum' a body of Resident Businessmen of Indian Origin. The India Business Forum is a body, operating under the active support and guidance of the Embassy to facilitate Bilateral Trade and Indian Investment in Ethiopia. The various speakers highlighted the benefits of investing in a country which is among the top growing economies in the world with facts and figures to support their views. This was followed by a light dinner organized at the Embassy

TAWANESE DELEGATION VISITS SRTEPC

A Taiwanese Delegation led by Ms. Minerva Liao of Taiwan Textile Federation and representatives from some leading Taiwanese textiles manufacturers visited the Council's Head Office in Mumbai on 11th April 2017 and had an Interactive Meeting with some of Council's member companies.


Shri Ronak Rughani, Vice-chairman of the Council welcoming Ms. Minerva Liao of Taiwan Textile Federation (TTF)

The objective of the Interactive Meeting with the Taiwanese Delegation was to exchange and understand the textile industry of both the countries, the types of textile products manufactured and sourced for clothing and other technical purpose, market analysis and trends and explore possibilities of mutual business and investment opportunities with the Taiwanese companies.


A view of the Interactive Meeting with Taiwanese Delegation

The Taiwanese Delegation consisted of Ms. Kelly Hsu, General Manager, YouHome International LLC.; Ms. Fen Shen, Sales Assistant, Goang Lih Machinery Industrial Co.Ltd.; Mr. Wen Hou Hsueh, Full Men Fabric Co., Ltd.; Ms. Rachel Tseng, Manager NuCotton; Ms. Susan chen, Zong Sine Industries Inc.; Ms. Doris Lo, Premier Fashion Corp; Ms. Daphne Chen, Zong Sine Textile Ind. Ltd.; Mr. Charlie Lin, VP of Sales and Marketing, Ecolot Textile Co., Ltd. and Ms Cindy Chang, Merchandiser Manager, Great Union Corp.

The members of the Taiwanese Delegation and representatives of member companies of the Council had discussion for development of bilateral textile trade. It was felt that both the countries – Taiwan and India should come together and work for mutual benefit.

Market Observations

Ethiopia

- Ethiopia has the 2nd largest populations in Africa, 99.39 million. 50% of the population is of less than 20 years of age.
- Ethiopia is the 2nd fastest growing country in the Sub-Saharan region with a nominal GDP of USD 61.54 billion in 2015.
- Ethiopian economy experienced a growth rate of an average 11% for nearly a decade ending 2013-14.
- Ethiopia's garment and apparel industry grew at an average of 51% over the last six years.

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Editor: **V. ANIL KUMAR**

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Dear Member,

I am glad to inform you that the export scenario looks promising with the latest reports about the country's merchandise exports showing that it has gone up by 27.59% in March to US$ 29.2 billion. This has been attributed to an overall rise in exports in almost all the sectors including textiles. The most noteworthy aspect about the increase is that it is at the fastest pace in almost six years and the seventh consecutive month of rise in exports. This is indeed a positive sign and has brought about cheer and buoyancy in the economy. Friends, I am sure that this trend will continue and although last year was not very good for the exports of textiles in general and MMF textiles. I am optimistic that the new financial year will be a good year for Textiles exports with a slew of policy packages and much more are expected to come. The new Textile Policy has set the target of US$ 300 billion for the textile industry for the year 2024-25. It is my request to you all member-exporters to continue your efforts with regained spirit and strive towards achieving the target so that our share in the Global exports can be enhanced as envisaged.

The process of implementation of the Goods & Services Tax (GST) is proceeding as expected and after its implementation in July 2017, it will also expected to bring about good discernable changes for growth and exports for the textile industry. As you are aware, the textile sector has requested for a uniform lowest rate of taxes for the entire value chain under GST with no exemptions.

I would like to inform you that Council's participation in EXPOCOMER, Panama was a success and highly appreciated by the organisers of the Show. The member companies of the Council along with other Indian participants of the Show were allotted stalls in a specially earmarked location named 'India Pavilion'. The Pavilion was inaugurated by H. E. Ms. Shamma Jain, Ambassador of India to Panama along with Mr. Fernando Arango Morrice, President of CCIAP Exhibitions and Events Organizing Committee of EXPOCOMER Fair. I am grateful to the Embassy of India for their patronage and help in organizing participation of our member exporters. I also place on record our gratitude to the Ambassador for inaugurating the India Pavilion and for the overall guidance to make the event successful. My thanks are also due to the organisers for their assistance and guidance.

The Council is also gearing up for its mega event – Textiles India 2017. As you may be aware the event is being held in Gandhinagar from 30th June to 2nd July 2017. This year the event has more significance since the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi is expected to inaugurate the Show. Moreover, this year the Show will be organized with more grandeur and on a larger scale with *many major events like Fashion Show, Seminar, B2B meeting, Workshops, etc. Prominent speakers from abroad are also being invited for the event.*

The event is a specialized comprehensive business to business fair of the Indian Textiles Sector and hence the Ministry of Textiles is sparing no effort to make this event a grand success. I am confident that this Event will become a 'Must Visit' programme on the calendar of many International Buyers, Buying Houses and related companies.

Given its stature and prospects and the fact that more than 2500+ International Buyers shall be assembled under one roof, it is my earnest appeal to one and all of our members to participate as an Exhibitor. Confirmation of booth space will be done on a first-come-first-served basis and I am sure that you would not like to miss this unique opportunity to book your booth at the earliest. I request members to come forward and register their applications before it is too late.

I would also take this opportunity to remind our members to renew their membership to enable us to continue our services to them. I look forward for your continued support for strengthening Council's membership by encouraging new members to join the Council to avail our facilities.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

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

U.S.A.

Textile and apparel industry improves

The U.S. textile and apparel industries have seen revenues slowly rise over the last seven years as free-trade agreements and rising Asian prices have given local textile and clothing makers a bit of a reprieve.

In 2016, production of U.S. man-made fiber and filament, textiles, and apparel shipments totaled nearly US$75 billion, an 11 percent increase from 2009.

That slight annual increase in production is good news after the apparel and textile industries were walloped with major overseas competition in the 1990s and early 2000s.

Yarns and fabrics accounted for US$30.3 billion, or nearly half the shipments sent out, while carpet, home furnishings fabrics and other non-apparel sewn products made up US$24 billion in revenues. Apparel came in at US$12.7 billion.

One of the U.S. textile industry's saviors has been free-trade agreements that require that regional yarns and fabric be used in production. If you look at the US$13 billion man-made fiber, yarn and fabrics exported from the United States, a big chunk, US$4.4 billion, is sent to Mexico, US$1.6 billion is shipped to Canada, and another US$1.3 billion is earmarked for Honduras. The Dominican Republic receives US$759 million in shipments. All these countries are members of either the North American Free Trade Agreement or the Dominican Republic Central America Free Trade Agreement.

NAFT-the free-trade agreement between the United States, Canada and Mexico-went into effect in 1994 but still has trade-preference levels written into it. Trade-preference levels allow a certain amount of yarns and fabric produced outside the free-trade-agreement region to be used in apparel production as long as the non-regional goods are cut and sewn within the free-trade countries.

Currently, Mexico is allowed to bring in 45 million square-meter equivalents of yarn and fabric a year from places such as China, which it normally uses up halfway through the year. Canada has an annual allotment of 88 million square-meter equivalent units, although it most recently used only about 25 million of that. This is believed to be a degradation of the yarn-forward requirement [for the free-trade pacts], and that is a problem.

When President Trump discusses changes to NAFTA, the U.S. textile industry would like to see these trade-preference levels eliminated. Doing away with these loopholes would undoubtedly boost U.S. textile exports, textile producers said.

When NAFTA was being negotiated more than 25 years ago, Canada asked for a TPL because it did not have a strong textile industry.

Still, the U.S. textile industry believes NAFTA is a pillar upon which the U.S. textile supply chain has been able to grow. Canada and Mexico are the biggest U.S. textile markets. Also, Mexico has a lot of apparel factories sewing clothing for retailers and manufacturers who need a quick turnaround on goods.

The U.S. textile industry would like to see several steps taken to encourage more domestic production. It also fully supports the Trump administration's call to negotiate more bilateral free-trade agreements that would have yarn-forward regulations encouraging the use of American fibers, yarns and fabrics. However, the trade group is opposed to a free-trade agreement with Vietnam, now the No. 2 maker of clothing imported into the United States.

The U.S. textile industry is hoping to add to the 565,000 people employed in the industry last year with 131,300 working in apparel manufacturing and another 113,900 employed in yarns and fabrics.

The U.S. textile industry is recovering from some hard times experienced in the late 1990s through the early part of the 21st century, when business was dropping 10 percent each year.

But things are turning around. Investments in U.S. textile fiber, yarn, fabric and other non-apparel textile production grew to US$1.7 billion in 2015, a 75 percent rise from the US$960 million invested in 2009.

Source : www.apparelnews.net

BELARUS

The new European technical textile production centre

The announced plans to build a new industrial cluster on the basis of Mogilevkhimvolokno, the largest producer of polyester fibres and yarns in Europe may make Belarus a new European technical textiles production centre. The new cluster will operate on full cycle basis, from the processing of raw materials to the manufacture of finished products. To date, the company has completed the process of technical modernisation, which took place through the installation of new German production equipment.

According to Mogilevkhimvolokno, during the first stage of the project the new cluster will focus on the production and processing of technical yarns. At the same time, the second stage involves the production of a wide range of products mostly intended for export, including tent cloth, rubber technical goods, and others. It is planned that the establishment of the new production will allow to significantly improve financial performance of Mogilevkhimvolokno and will contribute to the rise of profitability of the entire Belarussian technical textiles industry. In recent years, the profitability level at Mogilevkhimvolokno has significantly declined and is currently estimated at 3%, which became mainly due to the devaluation of the local currency – ruble – and the overall financial uncertainty in the country. Currently, investors and the country's government are hoping to see an increase in exports of finished products to the EU, and in particular to Germany, where the demand for nonwovens and technical textiles has significantly increased in recent years. In addition to the EU, part of the production of the new cluster will be exported to the North American region. The government is hopeful that the successful implementation of plans will create conditions for the growth of the entire Belarussian technical textiles industry by 30%, and for the increase of the company's profits by 80% to US$ 20 million per year. However, achieving these figures may be offset by volatile global prices for raw materials.

The government plans to provide benefits and concessions to foreign investors, which will mostly include both customs and tax benefits. According to the government, significant growth in technical textiles production, which is planned for the next several years, will provide an opportunity to the country to start exporting, which should help to attract additional exchange earnings, which is an acute need for the country's struggling economy. According to the government's plans, Belarus should become the largest producer of technical textiles in the post-Soviet space and one of the largest in Eastern Europe by 2018-2019, overtaking Russia. In addition to the new cluster at Mogilevkhimvolokno, the plan also includes creating conditions for the increase of production at SvetlogorskHimvolokno, another Belarussian leading technical textiles and nonwovens producer, which is based in Svetlogorsk, one of the centres of the country's petrochemical industry. Several months ago, the company had successfully launched a new line for the production of technical textiles and nonwoven materials and there is a possibility that its production capacities will continue to grow in due course. At the initial stage, the capacity of the new line will amount to 30,000 tonnes of technical textiles and nonwovens per year, with a possibility of a significant increase of production during the next several years. This will allow processing of the already produced nonwoven polypropylene materials, and in particular, SpunBel and AquaSpun. Overall, the company plans to implement at least six investment projects in the field of nonwovens during the next five years, which will take place at different production facilities throughout Belarus. A particular attention will be paid to a significant increase in production of nonwovens for construction applications. In the case of nonwovens, according to the government's plan, successful implementation of these projects will allow to increase the annual volume of nonwovens production in the country up to 1.5 billion m2 by 2019 and up to 2.2-2.3 billion by 2021. Over the past 10 years, the volume of nonwovens production in Belarus has increased by 4,1 times.

Source : www.innovationintextiles.com

VIETNAM

Textile and garment exports garnered $ 4 billion in the first months of 2017

Vietnam earned US$4.006 billion from textile and garment exports in the first two months of 2017. According to preliminary data, of the total exports, exports of yarn accounted for US$472.967 million and fabric and garment exports contributed the remaining US$3.533 billion.

Fabric and garment exports from Vietnam increased at 8.4 per cent year-on-year to US$3.533 billion during January-February 2017. Of this, the US alone accounted for nearly 50 per cent or US$1.717 billion, followed by Japan and South Korea with exports to these countries valued at US$437.869 million and US$377.181 million, respectively.

Vietnam also exported 180,370 tons of yarn earning US$472.967 million during the year, registering an increase of 30.3 per cent and 34.4 per cent year-on-year, respectively, according to the data. Of this, China imported around 55 per cent or US$258.354 million, followed by US$18.528 million by India.

On the other hand, Vietnam imported 212,335 tons of cotton and 120,199 tons of yarn, valued at US$370.622 million and US$249.274 million, respectively, during the two-month period under review. Fabric imports during the period were valued at

US$1.351 billion. Thus, Vietnam's total spending on import of cotton, yarn and fabric amounted to US$1.971 billion, which is nearly half of the value of its exports.

Source : Fibre2fashion

BRAZIL

Exports of textiles and apparel to Arab countries up by 87.5%

Brazilian textiles and clothing exports to Arab countries increased by 87.5 percent to US $ 3 million in January and February this year from US$ 1.6 billion from the comparable period in 2016, according to Brazilian Textile and Apparel Industry Association (Abit).

The increase was almost exclusively a result of synthetic fabric and sisal rope for use in ships and rigs. According to Texbrasil exports of beachwear, textile yarns and intimate wear also went up in the first two months of the year, but the amount was not relevant to total sales numbers. Ropes accounted for some US$ 1 million.

Texbrasil is a program designed by Abit and the Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (Apex-Brasil) to foster Brazilian textile and apparel industry exports. Kaddissi said that exports to Arab countries by companies affiliated with the program widened by 40% last year, from USD 2.9 million in 2015 to USD 4.1 million in 2016.

In Abit's total export numbers, the United Arab Emirates bought the most from the Brazil textile and apparel industry in January and February. Next come Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, and Lebanon. Arab countries are important buying markets for Brazilian companies, especially in party wear, children's wear, and beachwear.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

ZIMBABWE

Textile and clothing exports up 165% in 2016

ZIMBABWE'S clothing and textiles manufacturing sector has experienced a growth trajectory over the past five years, with exports growing 165% to $8,2 million in 2016 from 2012 figures it has been reported.

It is believed that despite a plethora of challenges affecting the clothing and textile industry, the sector was still bringing in foreign currency through exports.

Zimbabwe's major export destination for clothing and textiles was South Africa with a share of 80%, while the rest of SADC contributed 16%.

According to reports, the global import bill for clothing and textiles was worth US$428 billion in 2015, with the United States, Germany, Japan and the United Kingdom being the largest importers.

To capacitate players in the clothing and textile sector, ZimTrade recently conducted the Marketing and Branding for International Competitiveness Training Programme for 12 companies in the sector.

The training was part of its export capacity building initiatives aimed at inculcating an export culture amongst local companies.

They also had the opportunity to be coached on how to conduct business using online and social media platforms.

Market surveys conducted by ZimTrade in Mozambique, Zambia, Angola, Namibia and the Democratic Republic of Congo have identified opportunities for clothing and textiles.

The tourism hubs of Tanzania and Namibia are niche markets for safari wear.

Source : www.newsday.co.zw

UZBEKISTAN

Efforts to push exports of textiles

A new foreign trade organization, Uztuqimachilikexport, is being established in Uzbekistan for expansion of exports of Uzbek light-industry products and technological upgrade of domestic textile enterprises.

Manufacturers of cotton, mixed and silk fabrics, textile, knitwear products, hats, socks, textile haberdashery and accessories in Uzbekistan are exempt from the income tax and property tax, and small businesses and micro firms are exempted from single tax payment and mandatory contributions to the Republican Road Fund until January 1, 2020. Cancellation of compulsory sales of a part of foreign currency proceeds from exports to authorized banks as of January 1, 2017 is another important factor to scale up export capacity of local light industry enterprises.

Exports of yarn, ready-made garments, knitted fabrics, tablecloths, fabrics, children's clothes and other light industry products have been growing dynamically. The number of Uzbek trading houses abroad has been expanding. More than 40 trading houses have been operating in Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, China, and Turkey. In the future, the specialized foreign trade organization Uztuqimachilikexport is expected to contribute to the establishment of ten more trading houses in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Belarus, and some European states.

Source : Times of Central Asia

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New textile policy targets US$ 300 billion textile exports by 2024-25

The new textile policy aims to achieve US$300 billion textiles exports by 2024-25 and envisages creation of additional 35 million jobs with focus on a three-pronged approach to boost the growth of Indian handicraft sector facing tough competition from international players.

The Textiles Ministry is currently engaged in consultation with stakeholders including states and working out the financial implications of the policy with its finance counterpart.

An expert committee headed by Ajay Shankar, member secretary, national manufacturing competitiveness council was set up by the Textiles Ministry for review and revamp of the textile policy 2000.

According to sources, the approach involves incentivising expansion of production base for quality manufacturing of handicraft products used for interior decoration and lifestyle purposes.

It has been reported that they are focusing on promoting premium handicraft products for the niche market along with preservation and protection of heritage and endangered crafts.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

Exports in March up at a fastest rate

India's merchandise exports increased at the fastest pace in almost six years in March led by an overall rise in exports across sectors even as a steeper rise imports due to firmer commodity prices widened the trade deficit.

Buoyed by textiles, petroleum, engineering goods and gems and jewellery, exports zoomed 27.59% in March to US$29.2 billion but a 45.25% increase in imports on the back of higher gold imports led to a trade gap of US$10.4 billion.

This is the seventh consecutive month of rise in exports this year. Twenty-five out of 30 sectors showed an increase in exports led by iron ore. India's imports in March were US$39.6 billion of which gold imports were US$4.1 billion, up 329% year-on-year. Imports too rose at a six-year high.

However, the robust monthly data failed to boost annual exports to the US$300-billion mark.

India exported goods worth US$274.6 billion in 2016-17, 4.7% higher than US$262.2 billion in FY16. Trade deficit in 2016-17 was US$105.7 billion.

The pace of growth of non-oil, non-gold imports firmed up to 19.8% indicating strengthening domestic demand.

Oil imports in March saw a 101% spike to at US$9.7 billion while nonoil imports were up 33.21% at US$29.9 billion. The pickup in non oil merchandise exports was led by engineering goods, gems & jewellery and textiles.

India's healthy export numbers have come when Chinese overseas shipments last month jumped the most in two years. Global merchandise trade is expected to rebound this year, with the World Trade Organization forecasting a growth of 2.4% in 2017 as compared to 1.3% in 2016.

Source : The Economic Times

Textile sector appeals for a uniform rate of 5% GST

The textile industry has urged the Government to apply the lowest Goods & Services Tax (GST) rate of 5 per cent across all value chains in the textile and apparel sector, to avoid any possibility of tax evasion.

While the final decision on the rate is yet to be decided, the draft rules propose four slabs -- 5, 8, 12 and 18 per cent of tax under GST. Currently, the applicable rates vary between 5 and 7 per cent, depending upon the use of raw materials and production of finished products.

The demand assumes significance in the wake of textile sector being the largest employer of skilled and unskilled workforce after farming.

The textile industry provides direct employment to 45 million individuals and generates 60 million indirect jobs. The industry also contributes 10 per cent to manufacturing production in the country. With textiles commodities holding a seven per cent weightage in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), it is an essential commodity in the Indian consumption basket. Its functioning, therefore, has a considerable ripple effect not only on the economy, but also on the lifestyle of individuals.

A multi-tiered GST rate structure, on the other hand, will lead to distortions in production and consumption. It will also compromise fibre neutrality with producers moving to manufacturing garments made from fabrics that are taxed lower. Such a structure may also lead to disputes in the classification of textile products to different tax categories, experts believe.

According to trade sources, a comprehensive uniform low GST rate has the potential of not only removing inefficiencies associated with exemptions and cascading in the sector, but also of increasing the government's revenue three fold. Currently fabrics are exempted from taxes. They account for as much as three–fourth of total consumption spending on textiles, estimated to be around Rs 4.34 lakh crore in 2015-16. Extension of the tax base to fabrics and assuming 50 per cent of compliance, the government would generate Rs 10,850 crore.

Source : The Business Standard

Global trade to grow at 2.4% forecasts WTO

Global merchandise trade is expected to rebound this year, with the World Trade Organisation forecasting a growth of 2.4% in 2017 compared to 1.3% in 2016.

However, this is contingent on recovery of the global economy as expected and governments pursuing the right policy mix.

The organisation blamed the sluggish rate of trade growth in 2016 on low investment spending in the United States, China's drive towards consumption that dampened import demand last year and slowdown in emerging market economies. It has pegged global merchandise trade to pick up slightly in 2018 and grow 2.1-4%.

WTO said the unpredictable direction of the global economy in the near term and the lack of clarity about government action on monetary, fiscal and trade policies raises the risk that trade activity will be stifled.

In 2016, the weak trade growth was partly due to cyclical factors as economic activity slowed across the board.

Source : The Economic Times

Cotton prices might withdraw next season

The International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) warned that cotton prices will get down next season, regardless the smaller world inventory. The industry body had previously estimated average cotton prices in 2017-18 at 73 US dollar cents a pound, as measured by the Cotlook A index of physical values. If meeting this forecast, prices would come 5 cents lower than the 78 cents a pound expected for 2016-17, on an August-to-July basis, and bring to an end the recovery from the multi-year low of 70 cents a pound recorded last season, summed up analysts from 'Agri Money'.

The forecast comes amid growing uncertainty in cotton markets, as investors closely watch the dichotomy of the currently strong demand for U.S. exports of cotton and the prospect of a surge in the country's plantings this year. On the latter, the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued in early April a production outlook, pegging cotton plantings this year at 12.2m acres, what implies a 21 percent YoY increase. Furthermore, this estimate means 800,000 acres more than investors had expected, according to a Reuters survey. "Global consumption may recover by 1 percent in 2017-18… as cotton prices decrease" The ICAC acknowledged that "high yields and firm prices will encourage farmers in the U.S. to expand cotton area in 2017-18".

However, the intergovernmental group said that "Production is expected to remain unchanged from 2016-17 at 3.8m tonnes [17.5m bales] as the average yield is assumed to be closer to the five-year average." Global consumption may recover by 1 percent in 2017-18… as cotton prices decrease, and growth in the global economy is expected to be much stronger in 2017 and 2018

Source: Fashion United.

Get PAN, TAN in one day

To further enhance ease of doing business, the Income-Tax Department has joined hands with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) to issue Permanent Account Number (PAN) and Tax Deduction Account Number (TAN) in one day, if not in just a few hours. Official data reveal that as many as 19,704 companies were allotted PAN in this manner till March 31, 2017. During March 2017, of the 10,894 newly incorporated companies, PAN was allotted within four hours in 95.63 per cent of the cases and within one day in all cases, said the Ministry. Similarly, TAN was allotted to all such companies within four hours in 94.7 per cent cases and within one day in 99.73 per cent cases. "Applicant companies submit a common application form SPICe (INC 32) on MCA portal and once the data of incorporation is sent to the Central Board of Direct Taxes by MCA, the PAN and TAN are issued immediately without any further intervention of the applicant. The CBDT has also introduced the Electronic PAN Card (E-PAN) which is sent by email, in addition to issue of the physical PAN Card, to all applicants including individuals where PAN is allotted. The move is expected to significantly improve the ranking of India in the Ease of Doing Business Study of the World Bank by reducing the number of processes of registration for companies as well as making it simpler to set up businesses. In the 2017 rankings, India ranked 155 in setting a business, falling four places from the 2016 ranking, when it was at 151.

Source: Business Line

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Camp for downloading of BHIM App

The Council on the occasion of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's birth anniversary (14th April 2017) organized a camp in Bhiwandi, being the Textiles manufacturing hub on 10th April, 2017 to educate members on downloading and using of the Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) App devised for quick and easy payment transactions.

A Large number of people were sensitized that this App is simple and does not require any filling out of bank details repeatedly and facilitates direct bank-to-bank payments and instant collection of money using mobile number and payment addresses. Some of the interested textile workers with their compatible mobiles downloaded the BHIM App in their mobiles. However, number of major textile workers did not have compatible Android versions in their mobile handsets, hence; they could not download the BHIM App. There was an awareness which was created among them for the procedure for downloading the BHIM App.

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) in the month of February 2017 declined by 1.2% over the index of February, 2016.
- The Cumulative overall growth of IIP registered growth of 0.4% during the period of April-February 2016-17 as compared to the same period of the previous year.
- The Index of Industrial production for the month of February 2017 for Textiles sector declined by 4.1% as compared to February 2016. The cumulative growth in Textiles Sector during April-February 2016-17 over the corresponding period of 2015-16 has been 0.7%.
- The manufacturing sector has declined by 2.0% during the month of February 2017, while there was cumulative decline of 0.3% during the period of April-February 2016-17 over the corresponding period of the previous year.

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

Industry code	Description	Percentage growth				
		April '16	Jan '17	Feb'17	Apr-Jan 2016-17	Apr-Feb 2016-17
17	Textiles	3.4	-0.3	-4.1	1.2	0.7
18	Wearing apparel	1.0	9.5	10.7	-2.6	-1.4
15-36	Manufacturing	-3.1	2.3	-2.0	-0.2	-0.3
	General	-0.8	2.7	-1.2	0.6	0.4

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

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THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP) AGREEMENT

US Withdrawal from TPP may aid Indian Exporters

The TPP incarnation

- For easy flow of goods,
- Aimed at promoting investment, trade links and services between member nations and
- To strengthen the rules on labour standards, environmental issues, origin criteria and intellectual property among Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Vietnam, Singapore, Brunei and Malaysia.

The above countries constitute 40 per cent of the global trade.

India not part of TPP

India, being a non-TPP trading partner, worried that signatory countries would benefit from the reduction in tariffs. The US is one of the largest textile markets in the world. Zero duty from the US would have provided further advantage to Vietnam. India would suffer losses if the agreement went through.

Withdrawal of US from TPP

On 21st November 2016, US President-elect Donald Trump announced that he planned to withdraw the United States from the TPP after he took office; on 23rd January, 2017, President Trump signed a presidential memorandum to withdraw.

Economic Analysis on TPP

Mainstream economic analyses by the US International Trade Commission, the Peterson Institute for International Economics, the World Bank and the Office of the Chief Economist at Global Affairs Canada found that the final agreement would, if ratified, lead to net positive economic outcomes for all signatories, while a unusual economic analysis by two Tufts University economists found that the agreement would adversely affect the signatories.

RCEP offers hope after TPP leaves the table

After the US withdrawal, negotiations continued on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, which adds China but does not include any countries in the Americas. RCEP puts less emphasis on labour and environmental standards, and more on infrastructure and lowering of tariffs.

Many Indian companies feared they would lose substantial business in the US if it had ratified the agreement with 11 other countries, as US is India's second largest trading partner and largest export destination.

How India stands to benefit from the US pulling out of TPP ?

- **Access to lucrative US market to be cut for India's export competitors:**

  The TPP positioned textile manufacturer Vietnam and information technology outsourcing powerhouse the Philippines in a favourable position to get access to the high-value American market. India's domestic textile industry has been continuously eclipsed by nations like Bangladesh and Vietnam with cheaper production costs and aggressive marketing. "Of India's $40-billion of textile export, $9 billion goes to the US. If Vietnam gets greater market access, India will see a decline of $2-3 billion.

- **The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) deal to come into focus:**

  The RCEP is a proposed trade deal between the 10 countries of the Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and FTAs with six other countries including Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and New Zealand. Negotiations, which formally began at the end of 2012, have progressively become more complicated after 15 rounds and four ministerial meetings. The absence of TPP will give member nations more reason to push for a successful RCEP at the earliest.

- **Pressure to conform with TPP standards in ongoing trade negotiations to slide:**

  There has been pressure on India to conform to stricter standards of labour, intellectual property and investment. Countries present at the TPP and RCEP trade deals had been arguing in favour of it. India, however, has been opposed to such demands.

- **India's concerns over trade diversions and other non-tariff barriers to lessen:**

  India had been cautious of the effect of TPP on its own trade. Major issues of concern for the country have been the increase of non-tariff barriers (NTB) to trade as a result of TPP and greater trade diversion. Trade experts had warned that NTBs, which constitute various forms of trade restrictions like quotas, embargoes and sanctions, might be imposed on India by nations signatory to the TPP to keep the balance of trade with other member nations. Trade diversion was also a significant concern with TPP commanding great influence in dictating trade among third party nations and acquiring markets still untapped.

- **Greater chance of bilateral boost to trade by India and US:**

  The TPP had been billed as a battle between the US and manufacturing powerhouse China over domination of global trade. Even if the US does not enter TPP to contain China, the nature of global commerce goes against isolationism. Thus, experts point out that the US will have to step up bilateral understandings on trade matters, even with India.

TPP scrapping may benefit Indian textiles

- Withdrawal from the TPP policy will have a positive effect on the Indian business, especially textiles as TTP trade deal followed the rule of ‘yarn forward. If the TPP trade policy is to be ratified, Indian textile and apparel sector will incur huge loss.
- If the TPP policy is scrapped, it will be a boon for the Indian textile market. Hopefully, more focus will now be on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership deal. However, in terms of exporting to the US market, China is a strong competitor of India.

Conclusion

- The decision taken by Trump will help him gain credibility with some of his base by actually fulfilling one of his more controversial campaign promises, but that base is weak to begin with, and unless there are physical gains in manufacturing jobs (due to other factors), the electoral impact is likely to be negligible.
- The same can also be said of the potential benefits of negotiating/ renegotiating new trade pacts by US on a one-to-one basis with a win-win proposition. If that were to be the case, the US withdrawal from TPP could turn into a net positive for all nations concerned.
- However, to see that happen, it would take many years and painful negotiations down the road, and Trump would probably need to remain in power for eight years to have a hope of accomplishing that under his watch, even if he were to begin in 2017.

  Source:- thehindu.com/ business-standard.com/ .thedollarbusiness.com/ caionline.in/ Fibre2Fashion.com

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FAQ'S ON GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

Overview of Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Q 1. What is Goods and Services Tax (GST)?

- Destination based tax on consumption of goods and services.
- Proposed to be levied at all stages right from manufacture up to final consumption with credit of taxes paid at previous stages available as setoff.
- Only value addition will be taxed and burden of tax is to be borne by the final consumer.

Q 2. What exactly is the concept of destination based tax on consumption?

- The tax would accrue to the taxing authority which has jurisdiction over the place of consumption which is also termed as place of supply.

Q 3. Which of the existing taxes are proposed to be subsumed under GST?

- The GST would replace the following taxes:

Taxes levied & collected by Centre	State taxes that would be subsumed under the GST
(a) Central Excise duty (b) Duties of Excise (Medicinal and Toilet Preparations) (c) Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) (d) Additional Duties of Excise (Textiles and Textile Products) (e) Additional Duties of Customs (commonly known as CVD) (f) Special Additional Duty of Customs (SAD) (g) Service Tax (h) Central Surcharges and Cesses so far as they relate to supply of goods and services.	(a) State VAT (b) Central Sales Tax (c) Luxury Tax (d) Entry Tax (all forms) (e) Entertainment and Amusement Tax(except when levied by the local bodies) (f) Taxes on advertisements (g) Purchase Tax (h) Taxes on lotteries, betting and gambling (i) State Surcharges and Cesses so far as they relate to supply of goods and services

➢ The GST Council shall make recommendations to the Union and States on the taxes, cesses and surcharges levied by the Centre, the States and the local bodies which may be subsumed in the GST.

Q 4. What principles were adopted for subsuming the above taxes under GST?

- The various Central, State and Local levies were examined to identify their possibility of being subsumed under GST. While identifying, the following principles were kept in mind: -
  - ➢ Should be primarily in the nature of indirect taxes, either on the supply of goods or on the supply of services.
  - ➢ Should be part of the transaction chain which commences with import/ manufacture/ production of goods or provision of services at one end and the consumption of goods and services at the other.
  - ➢ Should result in free flow of tax credit in intra and inter-State levels.

- The taxes, levies and fees not specifically related to supply of goods & services should not be subsumed under GST.
- Revenue fairness for both the Union and the States individually would need to be attempted.

Q 5. Which are the commodities proposed to be kept outside the purview of GST?

- Alcohol for human consumption is kept out of GST by way of definition of GST on constitution.
- Five petroleum products viz. petroleum crude, motor spirit (petrol), high speed diesel, natural gas and aviation turbine fuel have temporarily been kept out and GST Council shall decide the date from which they shall be included in GST. Furthermore, electricity has been kept out of GST.

Q 6. What will be the status in respect of taxation of above commodities after introduction of GST?

- The existing taxation system (VAT & Central Excise) will continue in respect of the above commodities.

Q 7. What type of GST is proposed to be implemented?

- It would be a dual GST with the Centre and States simultaneously levying it on a common tax base.
- The GST levied by the Centre on intra-State supply of goods and / or services would be called the Central GST (CGST) and that to be levied by the States/ Union territory would be called the State GST (SGST)/ UTGST.
- Similarly, Integrated GST (IGST) will be levied and administered by Centre on every inter-state supply of goods and services.

Q 8. Why is Dual GST required?

- India is a federal country where both the Centre and the States have been assigned the powers to levy and collect taxes through appropriate legislation. Both the levels of Government have distinct responsibilities to perform according to the division of powers prescribed in the Constitution for which they need to raise resources. A dual GST will, therefore, be in keeping with the Constitutional requirement of fiscal federalism.

Q 9. Which authority will levy and administer GST?

- Centre will levy and administer CGST & IGST while respective states /UTs will levy and administer SGST/ UTGST.

Q 10. Why was the Constitution of India amended recently in the context of GST?

- Currently, the fiscal powers between the Centre and the States are clearly demarcated in the Constitution with almost no overlap between the respective domains.
- The Centre has the powers to levy tax on the manufacture of goods (except alcoholic liquor for human consumption, opium, narcotics etc.) while the States have the powers to levy tax on the sale of goods. In the case of inter-State sales, the Centre has the power to levy a tax (the Central Sales Tax) but, the tax is collected and retained entirely by the States. As for services, it is the Centre alone that is empowered to levy service tax.
- Introduction of the GST required amendments in the Constitution so as to simultaneously empower the Centre and the States to levy and collect this tax.
- The Constitution of India has been amended by the Constitution (one hundred and first amendment) Act,

2016 for this purpose. Article 246A of the Constitution empowers the Centre and the States to levy and collect the GST.

Q 11. How a particular transaction of goods and services would be taxed simultaneously under Central GST (CGST) and State GST (SGST)?

- The Central GST and the State GST would be levied simultaneously on every transaction of supply of goods and services except the exempted goods and services, goods which are outside the purview of GST and the transactions which are below the prescribed threshold limits.
- Further, both would be levied on the same price or value unlike State VAT which is levied on the value of the goods inclusive of CENVAT. While the location of the supplier and the recipient within the country is immaterial for the purpose of CGST, SGST would be chargeable only when the supplier and the recipient are both located within the State.

Q12. What are the benefits which the Country will accrue from GST?

- Introduction of GST would be a very significant step in the field of indirect tax reforms in India.
- It would diminish the ill effects of cascading and pave the way for a common national market. For the consumers, the biggest gain would be in terms of a reduction in the overall tax burden on goods, which is currently estimated at 25%-30%.
- Introduction of GST would also make our products competitive in the domestic and international markets. Studies show that this would instantly spur economic growth.
- There may also be revenue gain for the Centre and the States due to widening of the tax base, increase in trade volumes and improved tax compliance.
- It would be easier to administer, because of its transparent character.

Q13. What is Integrated GST (IGST)?

- Under GST regime, an Integrated GST (IGST) would be levied and collected by the Centre on inter-State supply of goods and services.
- Under Article 269A of the Constitution, the GST on supplies in the course of interState trade or commerce shall be levied and collected by the Government of India and such tax shall be apportioned between the Union and the States in the manner as may be provided by Parliament by law on the recommendations of the Goods and Services Tax Council.

Q14. Who will decide rates for levy of GST?

- The CGST and SGST would be levied at rates to be jointly decided by the Centre and States. The rates would be notified on the recommendations of the GST Council.

Q15. What would be the role of GST Council?

Ans. A GST Council would be constituted comprising Union Finance Minister (who will be Chairman of the Council), Minister of State (Revenue) and the State Finance/Taxation Ministers to make recommendations to the Union and States on :

(i) the taxes, cesses and surcharges levied by the Centre, the States and the local bodies which may be subsumed under GST; (ii) the goods and services that may be subjected to or exempted from the

GST; (iii) the date on which the GST shall be levied on petroleum crude, high speed diesel, motor sprit (commonly known as petrol), natural gas and aviation turbine fuel; (iv) model GST laws, principles of levy, apportionment of IGST and the principles that govern the place of supply; (v) the threshold limit of turnover below which the goods and services may be exempted from GST; (vi) the rates including floor rates with bands of GST; (vii) any special rate or rates for a specified period to raise additional resources during any natural calamity or disaster; (viii) special provision with respect to the North East States, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand; and (ix) any other matter relating to the GST, as the Council may decide.

Q16. What is the guiding principle of GST Council?

- The mechanism of GST Council would ensure harmonization on different aspects of GST between the Centre and the States as well as among States. It has been provided in the Constitution (one hundred and first amendment) Act, 2016 that the GST Council, in its discharge of various functions, shall be guided by the need for a harmonized structure of GST and for the development of a harmonized national market for goods and services.

Q17. How will decisions be taken by GST Council?

- The Constitution (one hundred and first amendment) Act, 2016 provides that every decision of the GST Council shall be taken at a meeting by a majority of not less than 3/4th of the weighted votes of the Members present and voting.
- The vote of the Central Government shall have a weightage of 1/3rd of the votes cast and the votes of all the State Governments taken together shall have a weightage of 2/3rd of the total votes cast in that meeting.
- One half of the total number of members of the GST Council shall constitute the quorum at its meetings.

Q18. Who is liable to pay GST under the proposed GST regime?

- Under the GST regime, tax is payable by the taxable person on the supply of goods and/or services. Liability to pay tax arises when the taxable person crosses the turnover threshold of Rs.20 lakhs (Rs. 10 lakhs for NE & Special Category States) except in certain specified cases where the taxable person is liable to pay GST even though he has not crossed the threshold limit. The CGST/SGST is payable on all intra-State supply of goods and/or services and IGST is payable on all inter- State supply of goods and/or services. The CGST/SGST and IGST are payable at the rates specified in the Schedules to the respective Acts.

Q19. What are the benefits available to small tax payers under the GST regime?

- Tax payers with an aggregate turnover in a financial year upto [Rs.20 lakhs & Rs.10 Lakhs for NE and special category states] would be exempt from tax.
- Further, a person whose aggregate turnover in the preceding financial year is less than Rs.50 Lakhs can opt for a simplified composition scheme where tax will payable at a concessional rate on the turnover in a state. [Aggregate turnover shall include the aggregate value of all taxable supplies, exempt supplies and exports of goods and/or services and exclude taxes viz. GST.]
- Aggregate turnover shall be computed on all India basis. For NE States and special category states, the exemption threshold shall be [Rs. 10 lakhs]. All taxpayers eligible for threshold exemption will have the option of paying tax with input tax credit (ITC) benefits. Tax payers making inter-State supplies or paying tax on reverse charge basis shall not be eligible for threshold exemption.

Q 20. How will the goods and services be classified under GST regime?

- HSN (Harmonised System of Nomenclature) code shall be used for classifying the goods under the GST regime.
- Taxpayers whose turnover is above Rs. 1.5 crores but below Rs. 5 crores shall use 2-digit code and the taxpayers whose turnover is Rs. 5 crores and above shall use 4-digit code.
- Taxpayers whose turnover is below Rs. 1.5 crores are not required to mention HSN Code in their invoices. Services will be classified as per the Services Accounting Code (SAC)

Q 21. How will imports be taxed under GST?

- Imports of Goods and Services will be treated as inter-state supplies and IGST will be levied on import of goods and services into the country.
- The incidence of tax will follow the destination principle and the tax revenue in case of SGST will accrue to the State where the imported goods and services are consumed. Full and complete set-off will be available on the GST paid on import on goods and services.

Q22. How will Exports be treated under GST?

- Exports will be treated as zero rated supplies.
- No tax will be payable on exports of goods or services, however credit of input tax credit will be available and same will be available as refund to the exporters.
- The Exporter will have an option to either pay tax on the output and claim refund of IGST or export under Bond without payment of IGST and claim refund of Input Tax Credit (ITC).

Q 23. What is GSTN and its role in the GST regime?

- GSTN stands for Goods and Service Tax Network (GSTN).
- A Special Purpose Vehicle called the GSTN has been set up to cater to the needs of GST.
- The GSTN shall provide a shared IT infrastructure and services to Central and State Governments, tax payers and other stakeholders for implementation of GST.
- The functions of the GSTN would, inter alia, include:

  (i) facilitating registration; (ii) forwarding the returns to Central and State authorities; (iii) computation and settlement of IGST; (iv) matching of tax payment details with banking network; (v) providing various MIS reports to the Central and the State Governments based on the tax payer return information; (vi) providing analysis of tax payers' profile; and (vii) running the matching engine for matching, reversal and reclaim of input tax credit.
- The GSTN is developing a common GST portal and applications for registration, payment, return and MIS/ reports.
- The GSTN would also be integrating the common GST portal with the existing tax administration IT systems and would be building interfaces for tax payers.
- Further, the GSTN is developing back-end modules like assessment, audit, refund, appeal etc. for 19 States and UTs (Model II States).
- The CBEC and Model I States (15 States) are themselves developing their GST back-end systems.
- Integration of GST front-end system with back-end systems will have to be completed and tested well in advance for making the transition smooth.

Q24. How are the disputes going to be resolved under the GST regime?

- The Constitution (one hundred and first amendment) Act, 2016 provides that the Goods and Services Tax Council shall establish a mechanism to adjudicate any dispute- (a) between the Government of India and one or more States; or (b) between the Government of India and any State or States on one side and one or more other Sates on the other side; or (c) between two or more States, arising out of the recommendations of the Council or implementation thereof.

Q25. Whether transaction in securities be taxable in GST?

- Securities have been specifically excluded from the definition of goods as well as services. Thus, the transaction in securities shall not be liable to GST.

Source: CBEC

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Why you should become member of SRTEPC?

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) is one of the oldest Export Promotion Councils in the country. Started in 1954, the Council has over the last six decades established itself as an essential link between the Indian exporters and the overseas buyers. SRTEPC has played a transforming role to take exports to its present level.

The Council makes exports simple and easy to understand for its member companies and acts as a consultancy organisation and accordingly plans export activity for the Indian Exporters. The Council also :

- Introduces them to appropriate overseas buyers.
- Provides up-to-date information and identifies markets for their products.
- Conducts market studies and surveys and keeps the exporters updated on market information, trade opportunities, etc.
- Provides information on the trends for product development and adaptation to suit the overseas market requirements.
- Collection and dissemination of trade statistics including export statistics for the benefit of exporters.
- Dissemination of information on markets and trade enquiries among the members.
- Keeps members abreast with the latest developments through monthly publication, circulars, e-mails, e-alerts, etc.
- Undertakes integrated export promotion programmes through participation in Trade Fairs/Exhibitions, organising Buyer-Seller Meets.
- Conducts publicity abroad to build up goodwill for the Indian Industry and Products.
- Provides market entry service by sponsoring delegations and sales teams to overseas markets
- Help in settlement of trade disputes with overseas buyers.
- Conducts Workshops, Seminars concerning marketing/management, product, finance, export services, etc.
- Helps in availing funds through TUF for modernization of productive set up to stay competitive in the global market.
- Maintains liaison with the authorities to convey to them the requirements of the industry and trade and arranges adaptation of policy framework accordingly and assists the industry and trade in understanding the export policies and procedures.
- Identifies bottlenecks in production and measures to remove those in order to make the product competitive in price and quality.
- Identifies infrastructural inadequacies and take steps to overcome those.
- Encourage quality upgradation and modernisation.
- Suggest adequate policy and procedural measures to Government to expand exports.
- Defending Indian exporters in Anti-Dumping and similar investigations by foreign countries.

The Head Office in Mumbai and Regional Office in Surat maintains a Trade Centre which is a one-stop buying point for overseas buyers. It has on display the latest range of products of its member-companies free of cost which can be seen by overseas buyers and thus lead to trade enquiries and subsequent business deals.

The Trade Centre also :

- Organises Meetings for visiting buyers with appropriate suppliers.
- Provides latest information on Indian exporters.
- Provides information to Indian exporters on the emerging international fashion trends.

The Council has always aimed at serving its member-exporters which has materialized into reaching out to its members through social media viz. Twitter, Facebook and WhatsApp. And towards this initiative the Council will soon be able to come closer to all its member companies by keeping them updated on the new developments in the textile sector, MMF textiles as well as Council's promotional programmes.

(Continued from Page 2)

Council Organizes Exclusive INTEXPO in Ethiopia & Kenya

- International Investors have licensed more than 65 textile investment projects in Ethiopia.
- Its National Industrial Policy has been designed within the frame-work of free market economy philosophy with the following underlying principles :
  - ✓ Private capitalist is the engine of the industrial development strategy.
  - ✓ Following Export-led industrialization.
  - ✓ Focus on labour intensive industries
  - ✓ Using co-ordinated foreign and domestic investment
  - ✓ Mobilizing the whole society for industrial development.
- Its Industrial Policy has identified Textile & Garment sector, among a few others, which deserve attention to build the required platform for the industry to play its key role in the economy of the nation.
- There are 122 textile and garment factories, 21 ginning companies, 3 spinning mills, 18 weaving and knitting mills, 13 integrated mills, 60 garment and 7 traditional handloom companies in Ethiopia.
- 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.
- Advantages, the country offers, for those engaged in the Ethiopian textile and garment industry are as follows :
  - ✓ The textile industry is treated as the number one priority sector by the Government's Industrial Development Strategy.
  - ✓ Availability of around 3 Million hectare of land, and a climate, which is suitable for organic cotton cultivation.
  - ✓ Ethiopia is known as the "Water tower" of Africa, and accordingly, it provides one of the cheapest hydroelectric power supplies in the world.
  - ✓ Low cost and easily trainable labour force.
  - ✓ Duty and quote free market access to the EU and US as well as COMESA markets and more than 16 bilateral trade agreements.
  - ✓ Easy access to land on lease fee-ranging from 0 to 3 USD/m^2 in regional states for a lease period of 60-80 years – depending on the specific investment location.
- The Ethiopian Industrial Zones Development Corporation was established in 2012 under Ministry of Industrialization, it was re-established as the Ethiopian Industrial Park Development Corporation which is mandated to develop and operate a wide range of Industrial parks.
- 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.
- Ethiopia is Africa's oldest independent country and one of the region's most stable ones. 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 and plastics.
- Major suppliers of textile products to Ethiopia are China, Indonesia, India, USA, Thailand, and Germany.
- Following market opportunities available in Ethiopia:
  - ✓ Second largest domestic market in Africa with about 90 million consumers.
  - ✓ Proximity to the markets of the Middle East Asia and Europe.
  - ✓ Stable exchange rate
  - ✓ Access to markets of 19 member states of COMESA (Common Market for Eastern and South Africa) with a population of over 400 million with a preferential tariff rates.
  - ✓ Preferential access to European Market under

the EU's Everything-But-Arms (EBA) initiative.

- ✓ Preferential access to Austria, Canada, Finland, Japan, Norway, Sweden, USA and most other EU countries.
- ✓ Countries under Generalized System of Preference (GSP).
- ✓ Under the African growth and Opportunities Act (AGOA) programme, Ethiopia is entitled to duty free U.S. market access.
- ✓ Ethiopia is the largest recipient of long-term concessional loan from India in the entire African region.
- ✓ Indian Embassy in Addis Ababa supports the India Business Forum (IBF), which focus on promoting bilateral trade and investment between India and Ethiopia.
- ✓ AdValorem tariffs are applied on CIF (Cost, Insurance and freight) value of an imported item into Ethiopia.
- ✓ Ethiopia applies a VAT of 15%, which is applied to the sum of CIF value plus import duty and any applicable excise tax.

Kenya

- Kenya has one of the highest population of youth with more than 60% of its 46.05 million population below 25 years of age.
- Kenya's GDP of USD 63.40 billion is the highest in Sub Saharan Africa
- Under Kenya Vision 2030 the country aims to achieve an annual growth rate of 10%
- Kenya has approximately 170 medium and large companies and more than 74000 small and micro companies in the apparel sector. 80% of their output is sold to US.
- Product wise, six of its top ten exports are cotton products while four are man made textile products
- Kenya Vision 2030 aims to transform Kenya into a Newly Industrialized country as:
  - ✓ Leader in both Sub Sahara Africa and East African Community.
  - ✓ Using labour market efficiency, innovation, financial development and business sophistication.
  - ✓ Attractive Investment destination, one of the top 100 outsourcing destinations in the world.
  - ✓ A regional Logistics and Transport Hub, staging point for regional market entry.
  - ✓ ICT as a foundation for broader ITES growth.
- Kenya is among the largest recipients of FDI in East Africa Community with almost USD 1 billion in invested funds
- Kenya has 52 textile mills of which only 15 are operational. Capacity utilization is also low at 40 to 50%
- The leading countries supply Synthetic Textiles to Kenya are China, India, Singapore, Korea, Indonesia and Japan.
- The market size for Textile and Clothing in Kenya is USD 2.02 billion
- Kenya applies VAT at a standard rate of 16% on the customs value of imports

  An import declaration fee (IDF) of 2.25% of the CIF value is payable.

  Duty is payable after Customs assessment based on value and applicable duty rate

Conclusion:

Both Ethiopia and Kenya are potential markets in the Focus Africa region and are expected to flourish in the coming years.

The exclusive Exhibitions in both the countries provided participating companies an excellent opportunity to interact with the Ethiopian & Kenyan buyers and to understand their specific requirements better. It also helped in projecting India as a reliable source of Indian Textiles. It is therefore, hoped that this exhibition would help immensely in giving a big boost to the already growing exports of Indian Synthetic and Rayon Textiles to this Textile Importing market in the near future.

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NOTICE

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY					
DGFT					
Sr. No.	**Heading No.**	**Date**	**Subject**	**Description**	**Download the Link**
(1)	Notification No. 42/2015-2020	21.03.2017	Amendments in Chapter 4 (Duty Exemption/ Remission Schemes) of the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20	Amendments made in Para 4.22 relates to Export Obligation, Para 4.29 relates to Validity & Transferability of DFIA (Duty Free Import Authorisation) and Para 4.29 relates to Validity & Transferability of DFIA (Duty Free Import Authorisation) of Chapter 4 of FTP 2015-20.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/NOT/NOT16/Notification %20No.42% 20% 28E% 29 dated 21.03.2017. pdf
(2)	Public Notice No. 62/2015-2020	24.03.2017	Amendments in Appendix 4J of Hand Book of Procedures 2015-20 relating to Export Obligation Period under Advance Authorizations.	Amendments made in Serial No. 11 (Fabrics including interlining under Special Advance Authorization Scheme for export of Articles of Apparel and Clothing Accessories (Para 4.04A of FTP) of Appendix 4J (Export Obligation Period for Specified Inputs with pre- import condition) of Hand Book of Procedures 2015-20.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/PN/PN16/PN6217.pdf
MINISTRY OF FINANCE					
CBEC - CUSTOMS					
Sr. No.	**Heading No.**	**Date**	Subject	**Description**	**Download the Link**
(1)	Notification No. 11/2017 Customs (T)	31.03.2017	Seeks to amend Notification No. 69/2011-Customs, dated 29.07.2011	Amendments made in the Notification No. 69/2011-Customs, dated 29th July, 2011 so as to provide deeper tariff concessions in respect of specified goods imported under the India-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IJCEPA), w.e.f. 01.04.2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-tarr2017/cs11-2017.pdf
(2)	Notification No. 8/2017 Customs (T)	23.03.2017	Inclusion of Hazira (Surat) Port in the list of ports mentioned in Export Promotion (EP) Schemes Notifications	Amendments in each of the notifications given in column (2) of the Table in the Notification, which shall be further amended in the manner specified in the corresponding entry in column (3) of the said Table,	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-tarr2017/cs08-2017.pdf
(3)	Notification No. 38/2017 Customs (NT)	13.04.2017	Amendment to notification no. 78/2014-Customs (N.T.) dated 16.09.2014	In the said notification, in the Table, for serial numbers 3 and 5 and the entries relating thereto, the serial numbers and entries shall respectively be substituted.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt38-2017.pdf

(4)	Notification No. 37/2017 Customs (NT)	12.04.2017	Customs (Settlement of Cases) Amendment Rules, 2017	Amendments made in the Customs (Settlement of Cases) Rules, 2007. These rules may be called the Customs (Settlement of Cases) Amendment Rules, 2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt37-2017.pdf
(5)	Notification No. 36/2017 Customs (NT)	11.04.2017	Levy of Fees (Customs Documents) Amendment Regulations, 2017	These regulations may be called the Levy of Fees (Customs Documents) Amendment Regulations, 2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt36-2017.pdf
(6)	Notification No. 33/2017 Customs (NT)	06.04.2017	Rate of exchange of conversion of the foreign currency w.e.f 07th April, 2017	CBEC notifies the exchange rate of conversion of each of the foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice versa relating to import and export of goods.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt33-2017.pdf
(7)	Notification No. 32/2017 Customs (NT)	05.04.2017	Rate of exchange of conversion of South African Rand WEF 06.04.2017	Rate of exchange of conversion of South African Rand WEF 06.04.2017 notified by CBEC.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt32-2017.pdf
(8)	Notification No. 31/2017 Customs (NT)	31.03.2017	Seeks to notify Foreign Post Offices	CBEC has notified foreign post offices for the purposes of clearance of imported goods or export goods.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt31-2017.pdf
(9)	Notification No. 30/2017 Customs (NT)	31.03.2017	Seeks to further amend notification No. 63/94-Customs (N.T) dated the 21st November, 1994	The serial number 8 and the entries relating thereto in the Table given in the Notification No. 63/94 -Customs (NT), dated the 21st November, 1994 have been omitted.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt30-2017.pdf
(10)	Notification No. 29/2017 Customs (NT)	31.03.2017	Customs (Advance Rulings) Amendment, Rules 2017	Amendments have been made in the Customs (Advance Rulings) Rules, 2002. These rules may be called the Customs (Advance Rulings) Amendment Rules, 2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt29-2017.pdf
(11)	Notification No. 28/2017 Customs (NT)	31.03.2017	Deferred Payment of Import Duty (Amendment) Rules, 2017	Amendments have been made in Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules, 2016. *These rules may be called the Deferred Payment of Import Duty (Amendment) Rules, 2017.*	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt28-2017.pdf
(12)	Notification No. 27/2017 Customs (NT)	31.03.2017	Bill of Entry (Forms) Amendment Regulations, 2017.	Amendments in the Bill of Entry (Forms) Regulations, 1976. *These regulations may be called the Bill of Entry (Forms) Amendment Regulations, 2017.*	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt27-2017.pdf

(13)	Notification No. 26/2017 Customs (NT)	31.03.2017	Regarding the Bill of Entry (Electronic Integrated Declaration) Amendment Regulations, 2017	Amendments in the Bill of Entry (Electronic Integrated Declaration) Regulations, 2011. *These regulations may be called the Bill of Entry (Electronic Integrated Declaration) Amendment Regulations, 2017.*	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt26-2017.pdf
(14)	Notification No. 25/2017 Customs (NT)	31.03.2017	Regarding amendment to Notification No. 40/2012-Customs (N.T.) dated the 2nd May, 2012	Amendments in the Notification No. 40/2012-Customs (N.T.), dated the 2nd May, 2012 on the issue of 'proper officer' under the Customs Act, 1962.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt25-2017.pdf
(15)	Notification No. 24/2017 Customs (NT)	31.03.2017	Regarding the Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas (Amendment) Regulations, 2017	Amendments in the Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations,2009, *These regulations may be called the the Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas (Amendment) Regulations, 2017.*	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt24-2017.pdf
(16)	Notification No. 22/2017 Customs (NT)	16.03.2017	Rate of exchange of conversion of the foreign currency w.e.f 17th March, 2017	CBEC notifies the exchange rate of conversion of each of the foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice versa relating to import and export of goods.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cs-nt2017/csnt22-2017.pdf
(17)	Circular No. 14/2017-Customs	11.04.2017	Delayed, incomplete or incorrect filing of Import Manifest or Import Report	It is clarified that fine/penalty imposed, if any, upon adjudication in such cases, shall be payable by the Shipping Line only or such other person as specified. No fine/penalty is required to be imposed on consignee or others.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ14-2017cs.pdf
(18)	Circular No. 13/2017-Customs	10.04.2017	Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) clearance of goods procured by EOUs/EHTP/STP units from indigenous sources – charging of Duty	It was informed to the Board by the members of Trade about the difficulties being faced in getting the certificate from the Development Commissioner. and clarifications are given in the Circular No. 13/2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ13-2017cs.pdf
(19)	Circular No. 12/2017-Customs	31.03.2017	Clarification regarding legislative changes relating to Customs Act, 1962 proposed in the Finance Bill, 2017	Kind reference is invited of the members of trade to proposals in the Finance Bill, 2017 relating to amendments in sections 46 and 47 of the Customs Act, 1962 regarding the Bill of Entry (BOE). These changes shall come into effect upon enactment of the said Finance Bill.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ12-2017cs.pdf

(20)	Circular No. 11/2017-Customs	31.03.2017	Clarification regarding amendment in Special Economic Zone Rules, 2006 in Rule 47, after sub-rule (4) dated 05.08.2016.	It may be informed that CBEC has received representations from field formations requesting clarification regarding amendments made in the Special Economic Zone Rules, 2006 by way of inserting a new Rule 47.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ11-2017cs.pdf
(21)	Circular No. 10/2017-Customs	30.03.2017	Export of carpet under duty drawback-examination of carpets for composition, price determination, etc	For speedy conduct of enquiry about composition, value etc of carpets, besides the nominated members of CEPC, members may also contact the Office of Textiles Committee, Mumbai.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ10-2017cs.pdf
(22)	Circular No. 8/2017-Customs	20.03.2017	Rebate of State Levies (ROSL) on Export of made-up articles – Implementation by CBEC	Intimation about the extension of ROSL on garment exports to exports of made-up articles covered under Chapter 63 of the AIR Drawback schedule, and it is provided based on a budgetary allocation of the Ministry of Textiles under a scheme in which the Department of Revenue/CBEC handles disbursement along with the extant Duty Drawback.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ08-2017cs.pdf

CBEC- CENTRAL EXCISE

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No. 09/2017 - Central Excise (N.T.)	12.04.2017	Central Excise (Settlement of Cases) Amendment Rules, 2017	Amendments made in the Central Excise (Settlement of Cases) Rules, 2007. These rules may be called the Central Excise (Settlement of Cases) Amendment Rules, 2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cx-nt2017/cent09-2017.pdf
(2)	Notification No. 08/2017 - Central Excise (N.T.)	31.03.2017	Central Excise (Advance Rulings) Amendment, Rules 2017	Amendments made in the Central Excise (Advance Rulings) Rules, 2002.. These rules may be called the Central Excise (Advance Rulings) Amendment, Rules 2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cx-nt2017/cent08-2017.pdf
(3)	Notification No. 06/2017 - Central Excise (N.T.)	14.03.2017	Amendment to Notification No 38/2001-C.Ex. (N.T.), dated the 26th June, 2001, regarding jurisdiction	Amendment regarding the rank of Officers of Central Excise in the Notification No. 38/2001-Central Excise (N.T.) dated the 26.06.2001.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/excise/cx-act/notifications/notfns-2017/cx-nt2017/cent06-2017.pdf

CBEC- SERVICE TAX

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No. 13/2017-Service Tax (NT)	12.04.2017	Service Tax (Settlement of Cases) Amendment Rules, 2017	Amendments are made in the Service Tax (Settlement of Cases) Rules, 2012. These rules may be called the Service Tax (Settlement of Cases) Amendment Rules, 2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-servicetax/st-notifications/st-notifications-2017/st13-2017.pdf

(2)	Notification No. 12/2017-Service Tax (NT)	31.03.2017	Service Tax (Advance Rulings) Amendment, Rules 2017	Amendments are made in the Service Tax (Advance Rulings), Rules, 2003. These rules may be called the Service Tax (Advance Rulings) Amendment Rules, 2017.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-servicetax/st-notifications/st-notifications-2017/st12-2017.pdf

MUMBAI CUSTOMS

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 45/ 2017	06.04.2017	Export of carpet under duty drawback-examination of carpets for composition, price determination, etc	The Directorate General of Export Promotion (DGEP) has provided a list of members of Carpet Export Promotion Council (CPEC), as given in the Public Notice No. 45/ 2017 dated 06.04.2017.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/site/PublicNotice.aspx?id = 2298 & mode = view
(2)	Public Notice No. 42/2017	04.04.2017	Procedure for dealing with “shipping bill copies” consequent to doing away of “Exchange Control Copy” and “Export Promotion Copy” of shipping bill vide Board Circular No 55/ 2016-Cus, dated 23rd November, 2016	It is noticed that in the case of SB processed in the system (other than manual clearances), all the details relating to clearances including LEO details are available in the system and can be referred to / used. Therefore, no useful purpose is served in retaining “Customs Copy” of SB by Customs.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/site/PublicNotice.aspx? id = 2297 & mode = download5
(3)	Public Notice No. 36/2017	21.03.2017	Errors in the bank account Nos. IFSC codes, etc given by the exporters for processing claims of duty drawback	Members of Trade are advised to immediately provide correct Bank account details, IFSC code, etc. in respect of IECs pointed out by Systems Directorate for smooth disbursal of Duty Drawback.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/site/PublicNotice.aspx?id = 2293 & mode = view
(4)	Trade Facilitation Notice No. 02/ 2017	15.03.2017	Vessel Amendment in Shipping Bill	Amendment of Vessel Name/ Rotation No. in the Shipping Bills is not required, as it will automatically get picked up from the Export General Manifest (EGM) and amend the same in the system.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/site/FacilityNotice.aspx?id = 43&mode = download

JNCH CUSTOMS

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 50/2017	10.04.2017	Instructions for rectification of Errors in the Bank Account No., IFSC, etc., given by exporters for processing claims of Duty Drawback and Rebate of State Levies (ROSL) Schemes	Members are advised to provide correct bank details, IFSC etc., in respect of IECs pointed out by Systems Directorate and follow up by field formation, for smooth disbursal of duty drawback and RoSL amount.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_50.pdf

(2)	Public Notice No. 49/2017	05.04.2017	Extension of facility of Direct Port Delivery to main importers and other steps taken for ease of doing business	JNCH has been decided to consider Direct Port Delivery (DPD) permission to all such importers who are Manufacturers, registered IPR holders provided their bulk of import is in FCL (Full container Load) and is being facilitated by RMS.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_49.pdf
(3)	Public Notice No. 47/2017	31.03.2017	Compilation of various Public Notices issued in relation to Direct Port Entry (DPE) Procedure	Attention of members of Trade is invited to various Public Notices issued from time in relation to Direct Port Entry (DPE) for smooth clearance of export consignments and to reduce dwell time of export.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_47.pdf
(4)	Public Notice No. 46/2017	31.03.2017	Procedure for clearance of export cargo categorised as "Hazardous Goods"	It has been decided to revisit the present practice considering the probability of smuggling in the garb of Hazardous cargo as it is never examined and allowed to be exported as it is.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_46.pdf
(5)	Public Notice No. 45/2017	31.03.2017	Compilation of various Public Notices issued in relation to DPD Procedure	Attention of members of Trade is invited to various Public Notices issued from time in relation to DPD for smooth clearance of consignments and to reduce dwell time of import.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_45.pdf
(6)	Public Notice No. 44/2017	31.03.2017	Digitization of Drawback Refund claims under section 74, Supplementary and Manual Brand rate Drawback claims at JNCH, Nhava Sheva	Consequent to the roll out of Automation of Refund claims and Manual brand rate drawback claim i.e. Digitization of Refund claims and Manual brand rate drawback claims (refer Public Notice No. 34/2017), the following category of claims filed at Drawback Section have been selected for automation process..,	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_44.pdf
(7)	Public Notice No. 43/2017	31.03.2017	Certain clarifications about DPD (Direct Port Delivery) facility	Clarification regarding procedures are prescribed in Public Notice No. 43/2017.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_43.pdf
(8)	Public Notice No. 41/2017	24.03.2017	Customs Clearance in case of RMS facilitated BEs for the import of pulses for DPD/AEO Clients –	It has been decided to streamline the import procedure for import of pulses especially when the importer is a DPD client and Bill of Entry is RMS facilitated.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_41.pdf

(9)	Public Notice No. 40/2017	24.03.2017	Acceptance of e-BRC of DGFT towards proof of realization of sale proceeds for exports with Let Export Order (LEO) date upto 31.03.2014	Monitoring of the realization of export proceeds for the Shipping Bills having LEO dates from 01.04.2014 onwards would be continued to be dealt in terms of provisions of the Public Notice 11/2017 dated 30.01.2017.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_40.pdf
(10)	Public Notice No. 38/2017	23.03.2017	Rebate of State Levies (ROSL) on Export of made-up articles – Implementation by CBEC	JNCH has informed that; 1)ROSL for Made- ups would be disbursed in similar manner as ROSL for garments, 2) For speedy disbursal, exporters may ensure that the Account No. already registered for drawback disbursal is live and valid, as the ROSL disbursal would be made to the same account.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_38.pdf
(11)	Public Notice No. 36/2017	17.02.2017	Procedure for dealing with “shipping bill copies” consequent to doing away of “Exchange Control Copy” and “Export Promotion Copy” of shipping bill vide Board Circular No 55/ 2016-Cus, dated 23rd November, 2016	It has been decided that following procedure should be followed on dealing with Shipping Bill (SB) consequent to doing away of “Exchange Control Copy” and “Export Promotion Copy” of shipping bill vide Board Circular No 55/ 2016-Cus, dated 23rd November, 2016; i. Customs will not retain “Customs copy” of SB at the time of issue of LEO, ii. “Customs copy” of SB should be submitted by exporter to shipping line as proof of “Customs clearance”.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_36.pdf
(12)	Public Notice No. 34/2017	16.03.2017	Implementation of Phase-I of Automation of Refund claims and Manual Brand rate drawback claim i.e. Digitization of Refund claims and Manual Brand rate Drawback claims at JNCH, Nhava Sheva	Intimation about roll out Phase-I of Automation of Refund claims and Manual brand rate drawback claim i.e. Digitization of Refund claims and Manual brand rate drawback claims. The automation process would be rolled out in two phases.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_34.pdf
(13)	Public Notice No. 33/2017	15.03.2017	Procedure for submitting “advance intimation” of at least 72 hours from importer availing DPD Facility to shipping lines	It is being requested /advised that there should not be any instance where for the same Container, multiple contradictory requests are made by DPD Importer / Customs Brokers. (appraisingmain.jnch@gov.in).	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_33.pdf

NOTICE

(14)	Public Notice No. 32/2017	15.03.2017	Procedure for Verification of Customs Out of Charge (OOC), Delivery Order (DO), "Container No, seal No & condition of seal" by Customs, CFS & Port Terminal, responsibilities	Clarifications and procedures for Verification of Customs Out of Charge (OOC), Delivery Order (DO), "Container No, seal No & condition of seal" by Customs, CFS & Port Terminal are prescribed in the Public Notice No. 32/ 2017.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_32.pdf
(15)	Public Notice No. 31/2017	09.03.2017	Customs Clearance on the basis of self-certified Copies of PTA/FTA certificates in case of Direct Port Delivery (DPD)/ Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) Clients	With a view to reduce dwell time and transaction cost to the importer, it has been decided in case of DPD/AEO clients of JNCH that, they can submit a self-certified copy (by importer) of the PTA/ FTA certificate.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2017/PN_NO_31.pdf
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES					
OFFICE OF THE TEXTILE COMMISSIONER					
Sr. No.	**Heading No.**	**Date**	**Subject**	**Description**	**Download the Link**
(1)	Circular No. 62/227/2016	30.03.2017	New Laboratory of the Textiles Committee at Cochin	The postal address of this new Laboratory is as follows; Textiles Committee (Govt. Of India, Ministry of Textiles), Cochin International Container Freight Station (CICFS) 1ST Floor, KSIE Building, Anavathil Junction (Old), Container Road, Udyogamandal (P.O.), Cochin- 683501. Tel. 0484 2540455 Email: tckochin@gmail.com	
(2)	Circular No. 9 (2016-2017 Series)	27.03.2017	Inclusion of Machinery Manufacturer under Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS)	With regard to allowing machinery under ATUFS purchased from machinery manufacturers/ suppliers from abroad, decisions were taken in this regard.	http://storage.unitedwebnetwork.com/files/63/9f45f99c6d624446aeb8c261618101ad.pdf
(3)	Office Memorandum – F.No.12020 / 1 / 2016 - IT	16.03.2017	Scheme guidelines on Pradhan Mantri Paridhan Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMPRPY) Plan Scheme	Intimation about extension of Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Paridhan Protsahan Yojana (PMPRPY) Plan Scheme to made-ups Sector of Textile.	http://texmin.nic.in/sites/default/files/PMPRPY-Extension%20to%20Made-Up%20Sector%20of%20Textiles.pdf

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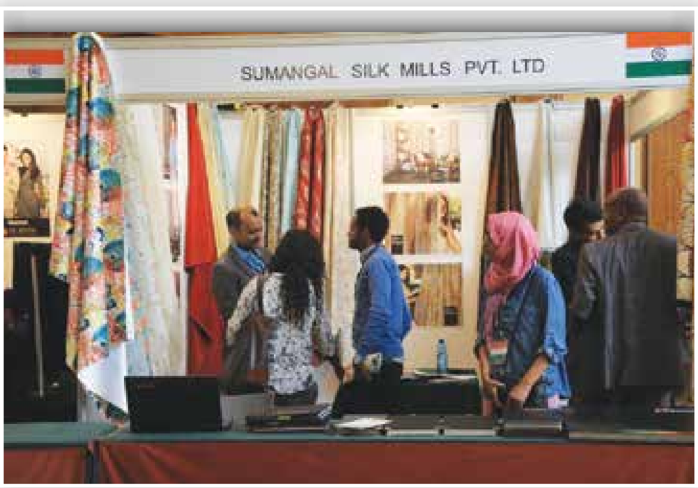
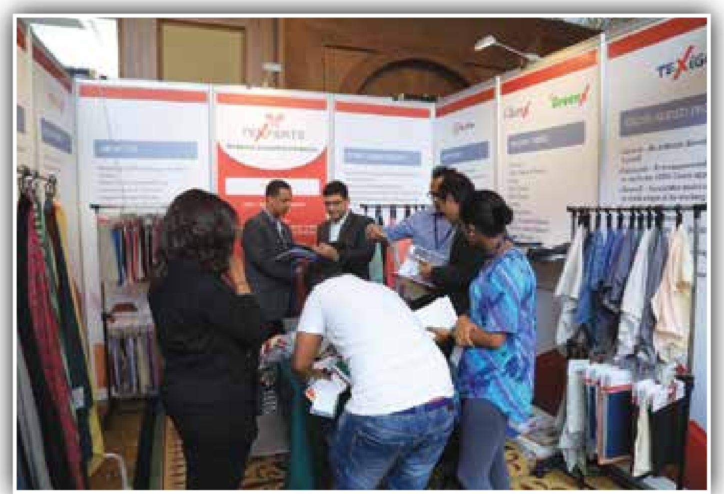
BUYERS INTERACTING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER COMPANIES AT

INTEXPO ETHIOPIA





INTEXPO KENYA

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