INFO SRTEPC

Vol. No.5 | Issue No.9 | December, 2016 | ₹ 50/- | MUMBAI

R.N.I. No. MAHENG / 2012 / 45923
Published on 20th December, 2016 (Pages : 36)

THE SYNTHETIC AND RAYON TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL (SRTEPC) SUCCESSFULLY ORGANIZED 2ND EDITION OF "INTEXPO" MYANMAR IN YANGON

The Council successfully organized 2nd edition of its flagship export promotional programme - "INTEXPO" in Yangon, Myanmar from 11 to 12 December, 2016. The event was organised jointly with Embassy of India, Yangon and support from Indo Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industries. It was held at Park Royal Hotel which is centrally located at the heart of the Yangon City.

H. E. Mr. Vikram Misri, Ambassador, Embassy of India, Yangon; Mr. Ashok Murarka, Vice President, Indo-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Mr. Sri Narain Aggarwal, Vice President, SRTEPC and Shri V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director, SRTEPC jointly inaugurating the INTEXPO Myanmar.

OBJECTIVES

"INTEXPO" in Myanmar aimed primarily at the growing potential of the Myanmar market for Man-made fibre and blended textile products especially with the background of GSP plus status offered to Myanmar by European Union (EU) whereby all the textile products from Myanmar enjoy duty free entry into the EU countries. This effort is also in line with the "Act East" Policy of the Government of India. Through this event, it was also intended to showcase the wide range of latest Indian textile products of international quality which the Myanmar textile buyers may source at competitive rates.

PARTICIPANTS AND PRODUCTS

Eighteen member companies of the Council participated and displayed their varieties of Man-made fibre and blended textile products which they have sampled specially for Myanmar. The products displayed by the participating companies during the two-day event were mostly fabrics like 100% polyester, 100% cotton, polyester-cotton, polyester- viscose, suitings, shirtings, gray fabrics, embroidered fabrics, ladies dress materials, which are of high demand in Myanmar. Selected varieties of yarns were also displayed during the event.

Shri V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director, SRTEPC making a presentation at the Press Meet held on the occasion of INTEXPO, Myanmar

PRE-EVENT PRESS MEET

A pre-event Press Meet was organized from 2 pm to 4.30 pm on 9th December at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI). Mr. Ashok Murarka, Vice President, Indo Myanmar Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Ms. Shweta Singh, First Secretary (Eco & Com), Embassy of India, Mr. V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director, SRTEPC and other leading Myanmar textile industry people were also present during the Press meet. A power point presentation was made by Mr. V. Anil Kumar giving details about the Indian participating companies with their product profiles and about the importance of the Programme. The dynamics and strength of Indian Manmade fibre and blended textiles industry were also presented before the Myanmar media during the Press Meet. It was attended by 35 journalists both from Print Media and local TV channels.

INAUGURATION

The Exhibition was inaugurated jointly by H.E. Mr. Vikram Misri, Ambassador, Embassy of India, Yangon, Mr. Sri Narain Aggarwal, Vice Chairman, SRTEPC, Mr. Ashok Murarka Vice President Indo Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Mr. V. Anil Kumar, Executive Director, SRTEPC.

The inaugural ceremony was also attended by Media people, leading local dignitaries, buyers and representatives of the Indian participating companies.

INTERACTION OF INDIAN AMBASSADOR

H.E. Mr. Vikram Misri, Ambassador of India to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar visited Indian stalls after the inaugural ceremony was over and interacted with the

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company representatives. The Ambassador appreciated the efforts of the Council in exploring the markets like Myanmar which is emerging as an epicenter for textile activities in the ASEAN region. He also informed that Myanmar is appropriate basically in view of the country coming up as the prime hub for garmenting in South East Asian region. He also informed that Myanmar can export its garments to European Union at zero duty under its Generalised System Preferences (GSP) Scheme and hence the market has substantial potential for exports of Indian Man-made textiles particularly fabrics which may be converted in Myanmar and re-exported to EU countries. The Ambassador has insisted that such export promotional efforts in Myanmar may be continued to increase India's market share in the market. He has emphasized that the Indian companies should give importance in maintaining Quality and standards and also giving priority for skill development for the Myanmar workers.

INTERACTIVE MEETING BETWEEN MR. SRI NARAIN AGGARWAL, VICE CHAIRMAN, SRTEPC AND MGMA MEMBERS

On the first day of the event, a B2B meeting was organized in which representative/s of selected participating companies participated. From the Myanmar side the dignitaries present were Dr. Aung Win, Vice Chairman, Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA), Mr. Naing Min Kyu, Deputy General Manager, No (3) Heavy Industries, Ministry of Industry, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Mr. Aung Win, Vice Chairman, Myanmar Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Ashok Murarka Vice President Indo Myanmar Chamber of Commerce other dignitaries.During the meeting it was informed that Myanmar is presently in the CMP (cutting, making and packing) format. Presently, it is sourcing its required textile intermediaries from countries like, China, Korea, Thailand, etc. However, if India can tie up with the Garment manufacturing companies in Myanmar then both countries can be mutually benefitted.

BUSINESS VISITORS

The event received an encouraging response from the Myanmar textile buyers, importers, agents, wholesalers and fashion designers. On the 1st day around 150 trade visitors visited the stalls, saw the displayed samples and discussed business possibilities with senior representatives of the Indian participating companies. On the 2nd day, about 100 business visitors visited the Exhibition and enabled the participants to establish contacts with them and receive trade enquiries. Since, most of the participating companies were new to the Myanmar market; the event also gave opportunity to the participants to understand the market, their requirements, business practices, etc. Participating companies could also meet and build cordial business relationship with the Indian origin businessmen from Myanmar, importers, and agents who are presently importing from countries like China, Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, etc. It is understood that most of the participating companies have been successful in materializing spot orders and received trade enquiries for their products. **As per the upfront feedback received from the participating companies about US$ 1.5 million business has been on the spot and total estimated amount of business under negotiation is reported to be around US$ 3 million.**

Shri Sri Narain Aggarwal, Vice Chairman, SRTEPC addressing the High Level Business Meeting at Myanmar

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

The Council has association with the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) which is the main textile body in Myanmar. The office bearers of MGMA also visited the Programme. MGMA proposes that there should be exchange of textile delegations between India and Myanmar. In this connection, the Council proposed that it may invite leading Myanmar textile companies to India for having Buyers Sellers meet in future. MGMA agreed it in principle. During the discussions with our Ambassador, Embassy of India, HE Mr. Vikram Misri informed that Myanmar Government is trying to revive its textile industry and hence there are opportunities for investment in the Myanmar textile industry. He informed that Indian textile companies may explore the possibilities for investing textile sector in Myanmar and assured that all the necessary advice, help and coordination in this matter.

TEXTILE AND APPAREL INDUSTRY IN MYANMAR

With the change in the political scenario, Myanmar is trying to establish itself as a leading manufacturing hub. Textile industry is one of the major mainstays in the Myanmar economy. The ongoing quest for low cost production has drawn manufacturers' attention to the clothing industry in Myanmar. The country has a long history of making yarn, fabric and garment. Currently, there are around 400 garment factories in Myanmar, employing about 50,000 people. Most of these factories are privately held.

MARKET POTENTIAL

India has been a major trading partner of Myanmar. Since the signing of India and Myanmar trade agreement in 1970, bilateral trade has been growing steadily.

Since opening up of Myanmar economy new players have started to enter the country aggressively both for trade and investment. There is a huge potential for bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation with Myanmar.

India is the fifth largest trade partner of Myanmar (3rd largest export destination for Myanmar and 7th largest source of imports into Myanmar).

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Printed, published and edited by **V. ANIL KUMAR** on behalf of **THE SYNTHETIC & RAYON TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL,** Printed at **Kukreja Arts, Regd. office :** A-202 Andheri Manish Garden, Plot 2/3/4, J.P. Road, 4 Bunglows, Andheri (w), Mumbai - 400 053 & Published from **The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council,** Resham Bhavan, 78 Veer Nariman Road, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400 020.

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Dear Member,

The year 2016 will soon be a distant memory leaving behind mixed emotions, overall it was a year of many memorable events for the sector. As we embark on a fresh journey in the New Year, we may recall that the year 2016 has not been a particularly favorable year for exports of MMF textiles, which showed unprecedented decline vis a vis the previous years due to many factors, some of which beyond our control. Though exports of MMF textiles did pick up in the month of June but was short-lived and since July the situation has been the same. The Ministry on its part has come out with a segmental stimulus benefiting to the exporters of textiles and garments, but the outcome is yet to be visible. We may expect that it may take some time to stabilize and ascend the growth trajectory. The fall in exports of MMF textiles can be attributed to multiple factors, both external as well as internal, including the recent demonetization rollout.

However, the situation is expected to improve in a couple months and I am confident that exports of MMF textiles will turnaround in the positive soon. The Ministry in its bid to boost exports is providing incentives and various schemes to exporters. Recently a set of reforms, including simplified labour laws and technology upgradation were approved for the made-ups sector which includes products like towels and bedsheets. Under this scheme, the Government will provide production incentive through enhanced Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) subsidy of additional 10% for made-ups, like what is provided to garments based on additional production and employment generated after three years. This is expected to give the much-needed boost to the made-ups sector which is the second largest employer next to garment.

Friends, the implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) may be delayed by a couple of months and as the textile sector has requested for an equality of taxes for the entire textile value chain, in the meantime, the Council once again put up a representation to the Textile Ministry to address the issue of reduction in the Excise Duty from 12% to 6% on man-made fibre and yarns with the Finance Ministry. The Council has requested for a level playing field for the MMF fibe and yarn by bringing down the excise duty to a uniform rate of 6% for entire textile industry. I am hopeful that this would prepare the textile industry for a smooth transition towards GST and would be substantially revenue positive.

The Council will start its exhibition calendar for the year with Intermoda Guadalajara being held in Mexico during 17th - 20th January 2017. Twenty-two member companies of the Council are participating in the Fair. The Fair is one of the largest specialized Fairs of textiles & garments manufacturing industry of South America. Mexico is also a potential market for Indian MMF textiles and I am sure that participation in the Fair will help our member exhibitors in gaining a foothold in the Mexican market. This will be followed by Council's first-ever exclusive Exhibition in Dubai, UAE on 20th & 21st February 2017. UAE is the top most market for Indian MMF textiles and there is ample of scope to further increase our exports to this country. I request members to take advantage of this opportunity and participate in large numbers and make our Exhibition a success.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I am glad to inform you that the Council recently organized a successful Exhibition – INTEXPO Myanmar in Yangon, Myanmar on 11th & 12th December 2016. The Exhibition was organized with the active support and guidance of the Embassy of India, Yangon and the assistance and help of the Indo-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce & Industry. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to the Ambassador H. E. Mr. Vikram Misri and the Vice President of the Indo-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce & Industry for taking time off their busy schedule and inaugurating the Exhibition. I would also like to thank the officials of the Embassy of India and Indo-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce & Industry for helping us hold a successful Exhibition in Myanmar. As you are aware, with the continuance of the Look East and further to Act East Policy regime Myanmar is a promising market for Indian MMF textiles as it has a flourishing garment segment which offers tremendous scope for exports of our man-made fiber and blended textile products to both developed and emerging markets due to obvious tariff advantages and other locational factors stemming competitiveness. Moreover, the proximity of the two countries and the friendly ties between us helps for fruitful business relations with Myanmar especially for MMF textile products. I may add here that the two-day Exhibition attracted around 250 business visitors. Initial reports show that spot bookings to the tune of US$ 3 million were generated and another US$3 million are under negotiations.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that Council is holding its Annual Export Award Function on Friday 27th January 2017 at Hotel Westin, Goregoan. The Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani has consented to grace the occasion as the Chief Guest and present the awards to the outstanding performers of MMF textiles. I once again seek your whole-hearted support and guidance to make the Function a memorable one.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you a VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR. Hope the year 2017 will bring good tidings for the Indian economy in general and MMFT exports in particular.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

ANIL RAJVANSHI
CHAIRMAN
The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council

SRI LANKA

Textiles and clothing exports up by 3.6% in the first eight months of this year

Exports of textiles and garments from Sri Lanka increased by 3.6 per cent year-on-year in the first eight months of this year. During January-August 2016, Sri Lanka's export earnings from textiles and garments stood at US$3.333 billion, compared to US$3.218 billion in the same period of 2015.

However, income from export of garments declined slightly by 2.1 per cent year-on-year during August 2016. It is reported that exports of garments to the EU increased by 9.0 per cent in August 2016 compared to the same period in 2015, whereas garment exports to other destinations declined.

Textiles and apparel accounted for about 62.72 per cent of all industrial exports made by the South Asian nation during the eight-month period.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka's expenditure on imports of textiles and textile articles jumped 14 per cent to US$1.764 billion in January-August 2016, as against imports valued at US$1.547 billion in the corresponding period of the last year.

In August itself, the value of imports soared 42.7 per cent to US$220 million over US$154.2 million imports during the same month in the previous year. The increase in import expenditure on intermediate goods was driven mainly by expenditure on textiles and textile articles, which contributed 52.4 per cent to the year-on-year increase in import expenditure in August 2016.

In 2015, the island nation's export earnings from textiles and garments declined by 2.2 per cent year-on-year to US$4.820 billion, compared to US$4.929 billion in 2014.

Source : Fibre2fashion

USA

Exports of textile and clothing down 6.44%

The exports of textile and apparel from United States were down 6.44 per cent year-on-year in the first nine months of this year. The value of exports stood at US$16.799 billion during January-September 2016 compared to US$17.956 billion in the corresponding period last year.

Category-wise, apparel exports declined by 7.29 per cent year-on-year to US$4.225 billion, while textile mill products dipped 6.15 per cent to US$12.573 billion during the first nine months of 2016.

Among textile mill products, yarn exports declined by 9.11 per cent year-on-year to US$3.412 billion, while fabric and made-up article exports decreased by 5.57 per cent and 3.59 per cent respectively to US$6.495 billion and US$2.664 billion.

Country-wise, Mexico and Canada together accounted for nearly half of the total US textile and clothing exports during the period under review. The US supplied US$4.525 billion worth of textiles and apparel to Mexico during the nine-month period, followed by US$3.854 billion to Canada and US$1.120 billion to Honduras.

In recent years, the US textile and clothing exports have remained in the range of US$22-25 billion per annum. In 2011, they stood at US$22.432 billion, while the figure was US$22.656 billion in 2012, US$23.665 billion in 2013, US$24.418 billion in 2014 and US$23.737 billion in 2015.

Source : Fibre2fashion

INDONESIA

Plagued by imports of cheap textile products textile industry urges for regulating imports

The Indonesian textile industry urged its government to regulate imports of cheap textile products into the country, which are flooding the market and in the process, disrupting the domestic industry. The industry particularly pointed fingers towards China for the flood of textile imports, and requested the government to set an import reference price.

A senior official in the Industry Ministry said that production capacity in the upstream textile sector was lying idle, so the government has plans to regulate and control textile imports.

Data has revealed that the domestic textile industry suffered losses of around US$2.2 billion per annum due to illegal smuggling of textiles.

Source : Fibre2fashion

ARGENTINA

Scope for Pakistani textile exporters to tap the market

Around 60 percent of Argentina's textile products were being imported and the remaining 40 percent were being produced locally whereas the textile clothing imports have also witnessed an upsurge of 27 percent in the first quarter of 2016, which the Argentinean believe is an opportunity for Pakistani textile producers to benefit from the situation.

It is reported that though Pakistan has been exporting various products including textile products, clothing, sports and leather goods etc. but the exporters have to look for more possibilities of enhancing their share in the Argentinean market and they must also focus on branding which was very essential in all the fields.

It is noted that during FY15-16, Pakistan's exports to Argentina were recorded at around US$52 million as against exports of US$44 million in the previous year, showing an increase of 17 percent whereas, Pakistan's imports from Argentina stood at US$194 million during FY15-16 as compared to US$141 million in the same period last year, reflecting a rise of 37 percent.

Source : Dunya News Pakistan

PAKISTAN

Textile exports drop by 4.35% in the first four months of 2016-17

Textile exports fell 4.35 percent to US$4.082 billion in the first four months of the current fiscal year of 2016/17; although value-added sector, especially bedwear and readymade garments. It is reported that textile exports had fetched $4.268 billion for the country in the July-October period of 2015/16.

Bedwear exports increased four percent to US$707.366 million, while exports of readymade garments improved 2.62 percent to $698.403 million.

Usually, textile exports increase ahead of December’s winter holidays in the western world. The shopping spree in European Union and US –Pakistan’s major exporting destinations – boosts manufacturing activities in the country.

However, exports of knitwear, which is also a major revenue spinner, decreased 1.85 percent to US$802.894 million in the period under review.

In October, textile exports rose 9.63 percent to US$1.053 billion as compared to September. They inched up 0.59 percent over the same month a year earlier.

Exports of readymade garments rose 10.19 percent month-on-month (MoM) in October, followed by knitwear (3.38pc) and bedwear (4.25pc).

Bedwear exports rose 7.66 percent year-on-year (YoY), followed by knitwear (4.89pc) and readymade garments (1.4pc). Overall exports, in July-October 2016, fell 6.31 percent to US$6.431 billion.

Imports, however, rose 8.51 percent in the period under review.

Machinery group posted the biggest growth both in terms of percentage (53.27pc) and value (US$3.727 billion).

Source : The News International

TANZANIA

Efforts being taken to protect the domestic textile market

Tanzania is making efforts to protect its domestic textile market. For that, efforts are being made to introduce them in local markets instead of cheap imports. More manufacturers were moving huge sales to the regional markets of the East, Central and Southern Africa than they did to the local markets. Also, instead of dealing with second-hand clothes, traders can start buying and selling locally manufactured garment and earn maximum returns.

Trade of second-hand clothes popularly known as (mitumba) trade has become the mainstay of millions of informal traders. It has in fact created employment down to the village level, although essentially not contributing to the nations' economic development. As used-clothes trade flourished, textile industries miserably declined and many of them have closed shop.

Their products could not compete with second-hand imported clothes in quality or price.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

ETHIOPIA

Plans afoot to increase the export from the textile and garment industry

The Ethiopian government’s second Growth and Transformation Plan II (GTP II) has a plan to increase the export from the textile and garments sector by one billion USD by the end of GTP II. The government is demonstrating commitment in investing in the sector. The sector is also expected to create more than 300,000 jobs during the plan period.

According to the Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC) in addition to the suitable policy concerning the sector, the nation is placed in the disadvantageous position with easy access to international value chain and it has abundant and competitive workforce.

On the other hand, different incentives have been provided for foreign investors and local small scale and medium textile and garment associations in order to encourage the sector. According to reports small and medium industries have been given support in terms of structure, training, work shops, loan, machinery lease, finance, advice services, market linkages and the like.

Textile and garment fields still serve as bench marks for the growth of other industries. In Ethiopia, there is also a huge and untapped potential for cotton production which is the major input for the industry. Therefore, strengthening access and incentives for small and medium textile and garment industries, and most of all improving the competency of the labour force in the sector should be given due attention. The sector also need committed and modern management system in a way that can raise the small industries baselines to the higher ones.

Aiming at improving support methods for small and medium textile and garment industries, a four-day capacity building training took place recently. The training was organized by joint coordination of Small and Medium Manufacturing Industries Agency and stakeholders.

According to a training document prepared by the Ministry of Industry, the major challenges are lack of input with fair price, quality and quantity, lack of skilled man power, and less improved technologies. On the other hand, investors' (engaged in small and medium textile and garment) lack of awareness on the sector was mentioned as another issue to deal with and which made such a training mandatory.

On the other hand, slow process on credit access and some maladministration of the shades are few challenges for small and medium scale associations or people organized in textile and garment sector.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

GLOBAL

Technical textiles market set to cross US$ 193 billion in 2020

The global technical textiles market is expected to surpass US$ 193 billion in revenues in 2020. China and India will continue to remain at the forefront of global demand. The global technical textile market is expected to reach US$ 193 billion in revenues in 2020, with global consumption expected to surpass 37 million tonnes. Robust demand from China and India is projected to continue, whereas the demand for advanced materials will become stronger in the U.S. and EU5. Global consumption is expected to grow at a CAGR of 5.4% through 2020, indicating steady growth opportunities for textile companies.

The key factors anticipated to boost demand for technical textiles include, Steady growth of automotive sector: The automotive sector in emerging economies is anticipated to fuel demand for technical textiles. Use of technical textiles per mid-size car is anticipated to increase from the current 25-27 kg to 34-36 kg by 2020. Rapid industrialisation in emerging economies: The global industrial production is anticipated to increase by 3.5% to 5% from 2015 to 2020. Owing to steady industrial growth, demand for woven and dust filters, and conveyor belts is expected to receive a boost. Robust demand from healthcare sector: Demand for Meditech technical textiles is projected to grow in Asia Pacific, as providing affordable healthcare becomes a priority for governments. Growing environmental awareness: On the back of mounting concerns over conservation of environment, Oekotech technical textiles are gaining traction among end-users. Demand for Oekotech is expected to grow at a high CAGR during the forecast period 2015-2020. While the global technical textiles market is anticipated to grow at a steady CAGR, few challenges can restrain growth. High price of finished products has remained a longstanding challenge for end-users, and in price-sensitive markets, it can be a major impediment. Further, the technical textile market is highly fragmented with small and medium scale enterprises in Asia Pacific giving intense competition to European players. The key trends anticipated to shape up the global technical textiles market include development of e-textiles and robust government support programmes to boost manufacturing of technical textiles. Further, investment in R&D to create advanced technical textiles is also expected to receive an impetus, especially in the U.S. and EU5. By application, Hometech, Buildtech, and Meditech will remain the highest-selling technical textiles throughout the forecast period 2015-2020, with Homtech technical textile consumption anticipated to reach 6.43 million tonnes by 2020. By process type, non-wovens will continue to have a dominant edge over composites, owing to their versatility in medical and industrial applications.

Source: China Textiles

BANGLADESH

GSP Plus from EU on the anvil

Bangladesh is on track to receive the GSP Plus status from the European Union (EU), but in the process will lose the zero duty benefits in exports to the region once it attains the developing country bracket in 2021. As a least developed country, Bangladesh has been enjoying zero duty privilege in its exports to the EU since 1971. It has been reported that the GSP Plus scheme will be applicable for Bangladesh in 2021, for which the country will have to fulfil some conditions including improved labour rights, strengthening workplace safety, reduction of corruption and saving the environment. These are some of the main conditions which the country needs to fulfil to receive the GSP Plus status from the EU, to which it exports 60 per cent of its apparel exports.

Source: Fibre2fashion

UZBEKISTAN

Textile agreement with EU to boost textile sector

The European Parliament recently looked set to approve textile agreement with Uzbekistan that would lead to increased textiles imports from the country despite ongoing concern over the use of forced labour in the cotton harvest. The pact will resolves the final missing element and also further lower tariffs on Uzbek textile imports.

The EU had a free trade agreement with Uzbekistan for everything since 1999 except textiles, as it was a sensitive issue in Europe. But since then, textiles have become less and less sensitive because they have less of a textile industry. And so it is no longer sensible to exclude textiles.

Even with absence of an agreement, Uzbek textiles flow easily into Europe because of low tariffs, with the category second only to chemical products in EU imports from Uzbekistan, at 38 million euros (US$40.35 million) last year. The EU is nearly tied with Kazakhstan as Uzbekistan's third-largest trade partner, behind China and Russia. Bilateral trade last year totaled almost 2 billion euros.

The EU-Uzbekistan Partnership and Cooperation Agreement has been in place for 17 years, making each side a most favored nation for the other.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

TURKEY

Anti dumping duties on Vietnamese yarn

Turkey's General Directorate of Imports has decided to impose anti-dumping duties ranging from 34.81 per cent to 72.56 per cent on polyester textured yarn items imported from Vietnam. Turkey had initiated anti-dumping investigation on polyester textured yarn imported from Vietnam in May this year, following a complaint by Korteks Mensucat Sanayive Tic. A.S. Varying anti-dumping duty rates will be applied to different Vietnamese companies. Rates ranging between 34.81 per cent and 68.98 per cent will be imposed on companies like Hualon Corporation Vietnam, Formosa Industries Corporation, Century Synthetic Fiber Corporation, and PetroVietnam Petrochemical and Textile Fiber JSC. All the remaining companies will be subject to anti-dumping duty of 72.56 per cent, Vietnamese media reported. However, Turkey is yet to announce the date from which the duties will take effect.

Turkey is one of the most important markets for Vietnamese yarn manufacturers as the country imports a third of Vietnamese exports. Owing to the high anti-dumping duties, a number of Vietnamese companies have shifted their attention to other nations such as China and South Korea, said the Vietnam competition authority and the Vietnam cotton and spinning association. Turkey has also imposed similar duties on man-made and synthetic yarns and artificial staple fibres on various countries like Malaysia, Greece, Pakistan and Thailand, apart from Vietnam.

SOURCE: Fibre2fashion

KOREA

Wearable organic light emitting diode (OLED) developed

Wearable organic light emitting diode (OLED) displays that can be embedded on a textile substrate have been developed by a team of researchers in South Korea. The team successfully developed the displays using a planarization process to achieve a glass-like flat yet supple fabric that is more flexible than plastic substrates featuring the same thickness. The research was led by professor Chi Kyung-chul of the Kaist University and was conducted with the support of Kolon Glotech, an automotive and life commodity company. The main issue in developing the wearable OLEDs for the team was the rough surface of fabrics and their high thermal expansion coefficient. The researchers used the planarization process to overcome these limitations, according to a leading Korean daily.

The OLED to be embedded on the textile substrate was developed using a vacuum thermal deposition process. The team also used the 'multi-layer thin film encapsulation technology' in order to prevent oxygen and moisture penetration into the display. These OLED is said to have a life of more than 1000 hours and an idle life of over 3500 hours.

SOURCE: Fibre2fashion

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US$ 48 billion target for 2016-17 seems eluding

The Government has admitted that it may be "hard to achieve" the USD 48 billion target for textiles and garment exports for 2016-17, mainly because of less demand in major markets such as the US, EU and China.

The overall exports of textiles and garments from India during 2015-16 was USD 40 billion, falling way short of the USD 47.5 billion target.

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani agreed that the target would be "hard to achieve" due to less demand from China, US and EU.

However, she assured that measures are being taken by the government to attain the goal. She said that to promote exports in garments sector, a special package of incentives was announced in June this year which includes relaxation in certain labour laws, income tax concession, 100 per cent employer's contribution to EPFO by government, rebate of state levies for exports, etc.

She also said that the government implements various export promotion schemes such as Interest Equalisation Scheme, Merchandise Exports from India Scheme, Market Access Initiative, Market Development Assistance and Duty Drawback to promote exports of all the segments in the sector on a sustained basis.

Source : The Financial Express

Export Entitlement Quota for garments & knitwear, yarn, fabrics and made-ups extended

The Government has extended the export entitlement quota for readymade garments & knitwear, yarn, and fabrics & made-ups to the US, Canada and European Union for one year with effect from January 1, 2017. This policy was initially introduced by the government for one year with effect from January 1, 2005, and has been extended since then.

The previous extension of the residuary provisions of garments and knitwears export entitlement (quota) policy and yarn, fabrics & made-ups export entitlement (quota) policy was scheduled to expire on December 31, 2016.

The government has also extended the operation of the residuary provisions of garments and knitwears export entitlement (quota) policy for a further one year with effect from January 1, 2017. This policy is applicable in respect of countries where such exports are covered by restraints under the provisions of the agreement on textiles and clothing.

Under the policy, export entitlements will be allotted only to exporters registered with the competent registering authorities as per the export-import policy prevailing from time to time. Quantities that become available from time to time on account of surrenders, flexibilities or otherwise shall also be allocated under the First Come First Served (FCFS) system

Source : Fibre2fashion

Extension of 5% DBK rate to boost the home textile industry

In an effort to boost the home textile segment the Government has extended a five percent duty drawback benefit to the made-ups (including towels, bedsheets, curtains, decorative cotton products, etc) sector. This move has come as a big relief for made ups exporters passing through a difficult phase.

In June, the government had announced a Rs 6,000-crore package for the textile sector, aimed to generate 10 million jobs in the next three years in which the made-ups sector was left out.

The package includes similar measures given to apparel such as additional 10 percent subsidy under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, additional contribution under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protsahan Yojana and Rebate of State Levies. The made-ups segment generates jobs for women and in rural areas, and the government has recognized this potential while announcing the measures.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

Incentives for the made-ups sector announced

The Union Cabinet to boost the made ups sector which is the second largest employer in the textiles sector after apparel recently approved a set of reforms, including simplified labour laws and technology upgradation for the made-ups sector which includes products like towels and bedsheets.

The government will provide production incentive through enhanced Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) subsidy of additional 10% for made-ups similar to what is provided to garments based on additional production and employment after three years.

On labour laws front, the government increased the permissible overtime up to 100 hours per quarter in made-ups manufacturing sector besides making employees' contribution to EPF optional for employees earning less than Rs 15,000 per month.

These incentives are part of the Rs 6,006-crore package announced for the apparel sector in June. The textiles industry welcomes the government's initiative to support the made-ups sector. This will help India in creating huge employment, earning foreign exchange and creating traction for the fabrics and yarn sectors.

The government will give additional 3.67% share of employer's contribution in addition to 8.33% covered under Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protsahan Yojana for all new employees enrolling in EPFO for the first three years of employment as a special incentive to made-ups sector.

The interventions are expected to boost employment in the textiles sector and create jobs for up to 11 lakh persons, lead to increase in exports and enhance benefits to the workers in the textiles and apparel sector.

Source : Yarnsandfibers

Taiwan looks forward to export textiles to the tune of US$500 million to India in the next five years

The Taiwan Textile Federation (TTF) is optimistic about its domestic textile sector and is looking to export textiles products worth around $500 million to India in the next five years. It is believed that the Taiwanese think that India is a very dynamic market with lot of potential and scope for their companies. The focus is to tap new business opportunities in India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka where there is huge demand for innovative knit and woven textile products (performance & functional) like synthetic, fancy, functional etc as well as garment accessories.

Taiwan aims to export around $500 million worth of functional textiles in the next five years to India. The bilateral trade between India and Taiwan has grown from $1.19 billion in 2001 to $6 billion in 2014.

Taiwanese textile industry is known in the world for its innovative and high-quality products and are sourced by leading global brands for sports and active wear, outdoor wear, functional wear, formal wear, suiting and shirting by leading global brands.

Some of the leading exporters and brands in India that are already sourcing from Taiwan include Shahi Exports, Gokaldas Images, Madura Garments, Wildcraft, Moxi Sports, and Proline India.

Source : The Economic Times

ISDS reviewed by the Hon'ble Textile Minister

The Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) that aims to train individuals in the textile sector was reviewed by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Subin Irani and she has suggested measures to increase the outreach for imparting skills to individuals in the textile sector. Emphasis was also laid on strengthening the monitoring mechanism of ISDS. Smt. Irani discussed the functioning of project management unit under ISDS, reported a news agency. She suggested that physical verification module should be developed with a feature to upload videos of visits in stipulated time to keep a watch on the working of ISDS. Further, she reviewed the web-based Management Information System (MIS) devised to monitor skill training programmes in the sector. In order to ensure that the benefits of the scheme reach to the maximum number of people, Smt. Irani stressed on the importance of displaying scheme details in the public domain. At present, 21,577 trainees are being trained under ISDS in the textile sector through 556 centres across India.

Source: Fibre2fashion

Technical textiles to be given top priority under NTP

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani has said that the technical textiles will be given top priority under the impending national textiles policy as this sector has a huge potential for growth in India. She also said that there is a need to collaborate with companies from various countries like Japan and Germany to boost technical textile in India. There is potential for huge growth in geotextiles and agrotextiles, which would also benefit farmers in the country.

On the long pending FTA with the European Union, which was impacting exports from India, while those of Bangladesh were zooming ahead due to preferential tariffs, she said the negotiations would be done keeping in mind the interest of the Indian textile industry. However, she did not provide a timeline by which the FTA would be finalised or come in to force. Regarding the seasonal nature of employment in the garment industry, she said the Rs 6,000 crore garment package has already become effective and under it, the Government was providing various benefits to the employees, so that companies were not burdened with providing various compliance benefits to the workers. On offering subsidies to those who wanted to invest their own capital under TUFS as against subsidies offered only on bank loans, she said the TUFS scheme was meant for those who did not have capital in hand and hence they were the ones who needed those subsidies. The Textiles Minister also added that it was the job of various textile and garment associations to inform the various SMEs in the sector about the benefits offered by the package. She urged trade bodies to approach the ministry with the challenges they were facing and it would be her endeavour to see that they are addressed to the utmost possible.

Source: Fibre2fashion

India-Kyrgyzstan trade co-operation to boost textile sector

At a meeting of the Kyrgyz-Indian Inter-governmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation held recently issues of bilateral relations, which will help Kyrgyzstan and India to boost cooperation in among others textiles was discussed. Kyrgyzstan is particularly interested in increasing bilateral trade and learning India's experience in the development and promotion of export.

Textiles is another important sphere of cooperation. The sides agreed to hold a first meeting of the Kyrgyz-Indian working group on textile cooperation in the first quarter of next year. The Indian side proposed to organize exhibitions of Indian textiles in Kyrgyzstan, and cooperate in the exchange of expertise and technology, and information about production and export in the textile sector. In the healthcare sphere, the Kyrgyz side expressed its gratitude to the government of India for the establishment of mutual relations in telemedicine in July 2015.

Source: The Times of Central Asia

SEZs not likely to be allowed to sell locally at concessional import duty

Units in special economic zones (SEZs) looking for import duty exemption in the forthcoming Budget for selling their products in the domestic market may be in for disappointment. The Commerce Ministry, which had proposed that SEZs be allowed to sell their items locally by paying concessional import duties which is hitherto allowed to India's free trade partner countries, has almost given up its claim as the Finance Ministry has ruled that it could lead to heavy revenue leakages, an official said. "It do not expect duty exemption for domestic sale of SEZ goods to be announced in the Budget as the Finance Ministry is not in favour of it,"

According to the Finance Ministry, if SEZ units are allowed to sell items in the domestic market at zero or low import duties offered to FTA partners, third country items could come in without duties being paid. "It is feared that SEZ units could import items from countries with which we don't have FTAs at zero import duties (as SEZs are exempted from paying duties on imported items) and then re-sell it in the domestic market at much lower duty rates (which could also be zero). It would defeat the purpose of encouraging SEZ production and also cause revenue leakage," the official said.

The Commerce Ministry had earlier suggested that the government should come up with a mechanism that would specify conditions including rules of origin with minimum value addition requirement to establish and certify that an item is actually produced in a SEZ unit and not imported from another country before it is allowed to be sold in the local market at concessional import duties. However, the Finance Ministry did not find the mechanism convincing as it argued that it would be difficult to monitor if the rules of origin were being respected. SEZ units were keen that they should be allowed to sell in the domestic market at concessional import duties to compete with FTA partner countries and make their operations more lucrative. With investments into the SEZs drying up following the imposition of minimum alternate tax (MAT) and Dividend Distribution Tax (DDT) in 2011, the Commerce Ministry has been looking at ways to make the zones more attractive to investors. A total of 204 SEZs are operational in the country and 408 SEZs have been formally approved. Total investment in SEZs is over $50 billion.

Source: ET

Rupee fall due to external and internal factors

Recently the rupee closed at a 39-month low of 68.73 against the dollar, within striking distance of its record low of August 2013 when it closed at 68.83. In intra-day trading though it breached that level, dropping to as low as 68.86. But it is possible that intervention by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may have propped it up marginally from its record low. Economists, though, are divided on whether this rather sudden slide in the rupee has more to do with internal factors or external factors. It is believed that the recent decline in the rupee is largely driven by the strengthening of the dollar which has gained against almost all major currencies.

Some believe that the recent weakening of the rupee is primarily a consequence of external factors. The extent of depreciation displayed by the rupee is in the middle of the pack compared to the currencies of other emerging economies. To some extent, the FCNR (foreign currency non-resident) deposit redemption and the recent demonetisation policy by the government may have contributed to this decline. Since the US election results, the US dollar has strengthened against almost all major currencies. Among the emerging market currencies, the worst hit has been the Mexican peso which has declined 13% against the dollar since November 8. The Turkish lira has fallen by eight%, while the Brazilian real and the South African rand are down seven and 7.2% respectively.

Developed countries, too, have seen their currencies fall against the dollar. The euro is down 4.3%, while the Japanese yen is down 7.5%. The pound, though, is marginally up. The trend appears secular. According to a study by CARE, 11 currencies which had appreciated against the dollar prior to November 8, depreciated sharply thereafter. But what is interesting to note, as the report points out, is that the "rupee has not performed too unsatisfactorily as it is at the median change in this set of countries at 2.64%". The study looks at currency movements till November 18.It is likely that the strengthening of the dollar reflects the changing perception about the US economy after the results of the US election. Economists contend that higher fiscal spending by the US government, as promised by the US President elect in the run-up to the elections, coupled with lower tax rates, would not only stimulate the US economy but may also prove to be inflationary. This would put pressure on the US Federal Reserve to raise rates faster than what was anticipated before. Higher interest rates in the US are likely to strengthen the dollar as investment flows back to the US from other economies, especially emerging ones.But other economists disagree with this prognosis. Part of the rupee's recent weakness is because of the FCNR redemption. The rupee's weakness seems to be driven by domestic factors. I'm not sure how much it is driven by external factors.

During the period of global uncertainty, the rupee was rather steady. Sound macroeconomic fundamentals declining fiscal deficit and current account deficit and moderating inflation were then cited as the reason for the rupee's steady performance. It is also possible that other internal factors may well have played their part. There is also some urgency being shown by importers to book their dollars before the month-end which has increased demand for dollars.

SOURCE: The Business Standard

Textile Minister visits Coimbatore textile institutes

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles Smt. Smriti Irani visited the Sardar Vallabhai Patel International School of Textiles and Management recently and interacted with the students and the faculty members. The Textile Minister also participated in a closed door interaction with the students and the faculty. After spending nearly 45 minutes at the institute, the minister proceeded to the Southern India Textiles Research Association (SITRA). The Textiles Minister also met members of the textile industry and accepted some memorandums from them.

SOURCE: The Times of India

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) declined by 1.9% in the month of October, 2016 over the index of October, 2015.
- The Cumulative overall growth of IIP registered decline of 0.3% during the period of April-October 2016-17 as compared to the same period of the previous year.
- The Index of Industrial production for the month of October 2016 for Textiles sector declined by 3.7% as compared to October 2015. The cumulative growth in Textiles Sector during April-October 2016-17 over the corresponding period of 2015-16 has been 2.1%.
- The index of manufacturing sector has declined by 2.4% during the month of October 2016, while the cumulative growth during April-October 2016-17 over the corresponding period of the previous year has declined by 1.0%.

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- October 2016-17, along with the cumulative growth rates over corresponding month/period of the previous year:

Industry code	Description	Percentage growth				
		April '16	Sept '16	Oct'16	Apr-Oct 2016-17	Apr-Sept 2015-16
17	Textiles	3.4	4.1	-3.7	2.1	3.4
18	Wearing apparel	1	-5.7	-10.6	-4.2	-3.3
15-36	Manufacturing	-3.1	0.9	-2.4	-1.0	-0.8
	General	-0.8	0.7	-1.9	-0.3	-0.1

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

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SYNTHETIC SPORTS WEAR FABRICS – IS IT THE NEXT BIG THING FOR MMFT?

Japanese synthetic fiber producers are focusing on sales of woven and knitted sportswear fabrics for overseas markets, especially those of USA and in EU. Despite the appreciation of the "Yen", which has decreased profitability in exports, Japanese exporters have been able to maintain or increase their export volume compared to the previous year.

Sportswear is a field that makes full use of the functionality of synthetic fibers, and Japanese as well as other foreign synthetic fiber producers position 'sportswear' as one of their priority sectors. In order to ensure that mega global sportswear brands use their fabrics, the Japanese producers are actively participating in overseas sports exhibitions such as ISPO and Performance Day in Germany and Outdoor Retailer in U.S.

In sportswear fabrics, a sector that is growing in Japan as well as in other parts of the world is called "soft shell". It is a product that can be worn as outerwear, or as intermediate wear replacing fleece or sweaters. The fashion trend is to wear them as casual wear. Unlike "hard shell" that is made of high waterproof/moisture-permeable fabrics etc, soft shell garments is light, have stretch, as well as wind breaking performance and water repellency.

Soft shell is made with knitted fabric made of functional synthetic fibers. Unlike the general purpose materials used for T-shirts and polo shirts, these are special type fabrics, knitted with Japanese specialty yarns and with improvements and modifications made in all processes up to dyeing. The market for this is said to be expanding.

A new lifestyle area that is appearing is commuter wear, and it has become a strong trend supporting sportswear materials, as high-performance fabrics are used. The major component of the fabric in commuter wear is woven fabrics since it requires stretch in addition to wind breaking performance and water repellency. The Ministry of Supply launched by an engineer from MIT in 2012 is also one of the commuter wear brands. This brand uses synthetic materials for jackets, pants and shirts.

Considering the sheer amount of time we Indians in Metros spend on travelling for work, it can be a very high potential business domestically and manufacturers of Synthetic and Specialty Fibers should also look at exploiting this trend aggressively in the markets of USA and EU. Besides this our Synthetic Fiber manufacturers must solicit the Japanese firms for sourcing their fabric requirements from India for this newly expanding product segment.

Source: Asian Business Textiles

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Attention: Members

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

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

- ❖ Fabrics
- ❖ Yarns
- ❖ Made-ups
- ❖ Fibre

The Book is available for ₹ 115 (including Service Tax), which can be obtained from the Head office or Regional Offices of the Council at Delhi and Surat on payment by cash or on the receipt of Demand Draft (in favour of "The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai) for the requisite amount. Please add ₹ 50/- for mailing charges, if you require the Book through courier.

KEY LEARNING FOR THE INDIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY FROM THE CANTON FAIR, CHINA

The China Import and Export Fair, popularly known as the Canton Fair, is still a top draw destination of exhibitions to visit, but the crowds have been thinning out in recent years. A decade ago, buyers would throng the various stalls at Canton to ink deals with various textile and garment manufacturers; the scenario now is that they are increasingly turning towards India, Pakistan and even Europe as the gap between prices has dropped sharply.

China has realized that catering to the lower end of the market shall not do them any favours, especially since wage bills have been increasing steadily, thus negating the cost advantage they had till date. More companies are moving away from the labour intensive segment to the high tech segments within the textiles and garments sector.

Exports of textiles from China have dropped by nearly 5% as their quality standards are dipping to accommodate for the squeeze in margins. Turkey and Italy are the main markets to replace China as the major textile destination. Wage bills have been rising by 5 to 10% on a YOY basis and at the lower end of the textiles sector it is making their products uncompetitive. The prediction within the industry is that in 5 to 10 years time all the enquiries for the low end products in textiles shall go to Pakistan.

MMFT stakeholders in India need to adopt a two pronged strategy. We must drive home the advantage of our lower labour costs to edge out other countries such as Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Vietnam etc and gain a foothold in the lower end of the textiles market. Our expertise and experience in all segments of 'Fibre to Fashion' should be strategically used to portray India as the destination for buyers of MMFT products.

At the same time our MMFT manufacturer exporters must prepare themselves in earnest to compete in the higher end of the market of Made-ups, Smart Textiles, Home Furnishings etc by focusing on new technology, innovation and R & D in these segments. They must draw up a mid to long term plan to graduate into these segments as the market for textiles and garments is set to grow rapidly.

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INDIA ITME SHOW

SRTEPC participated in INDIA ITME 2016 held from 03rd December to 08th December, 2016 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre NSE Complex, in Mumbai, in the Stall No H2C18, a 9 sqm booth that was allotted to the Council.

The objective to participate in the ITME 2016 exhibition was to interact as a Council with stakeholders in at the exhibition for generic promotion of SRTEPC. Council's staff members were present at the INDIA ITME 2016 by rotation.

INDIA ITME is the largest and apex exhibition for textile machinery and technology in India. The 2016 edition was one of the most awaited business events for textile members. In this edition of the ITME exhibition, 150 exhibitors participated from 38 countries in 11 exhibition halls. 24 new products were launched for the benefits of the visitors. The Council stalls were visited by about 45 visiting participants; some of them also evinced a keen interest to become our members. The visitors were briefed on the benefits of our membership and the due processes were also explained in detail.

B2B Meeting with the visiting Egyptian Delegation

At the initiative and with the support of the ITME society, the Council organized a one to one meeting with a delegation of 7 buyers from Egypt. The Council had issued circulars to our members providing them with the details of the date and time of the meeting inviting their participation. 13 members confirmed their interest to meet with the Egyptian delegation. However, 6 of them turned up for the meeting on 5th December at 2.00 p.m. at the ITME Pavilion. The members who participated in the meeting were:

1. Shri Ruchir Singhania from Siddhya Exim
2. Shri Karuna Changmai from Indo Rama Synthetics India Ltd
3. Shri Haresh Sabhadiya from BKS Exim LLP
4. Shri Arun Rathi & Shri Rishabh Kumar Gupta from Banswara Syntex Limited
5. Shri Anikit Shah from Lahoti Overseas Limited
6. Shri Sunil Ganpule and Shri S.B. Singh from Ruby Mills

Post the event, the leader of the Egyptian Delegation Mr. Mohd. Sedky, wrote to the Council for a 100 ton requirement of Viscose Cotton which we have communicated to our members vides a circular.

M/s Wazir Advisors too had put up a stall at ITME and through them we could meet up with Ms. Carolin Averbeck and Ms. Jarmila Sarda, representing the International Trade Centre that Supports Indian Trade and Investment for Aftrica (SITA). They wanted us to explore the possibility of our members investing in Africa in the form of joint ventures in setting up industry/offices. Since we are scheduled to organize 'Stand Alone' exhibitions in Kenya and Ethiopia, we spoke to them and later wrote if they could provide us with a list of importers for MMFT as well as for their help in organizing B2B meetings for our participants.

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ATTENTION : MEMBERS

Renewal of Membership 2016-2017

Kindly refer to the Council's letter no.Secy/Mem/198 dated 22nd March, 2016 and the Subscription Memo sent along with the Circular in this regard to all members regarding renewal of your Membership of the Council for the year 2016-2017.

As you have already been informed non-payment of membership will lead to the discontinuation of Membership as well as Cancellation of the Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) issued to you.

In view of the above, members who have not yet sent the renewal fee are requested to send the Membership Subscription Fee for the year 2016-2017 at the earliest.

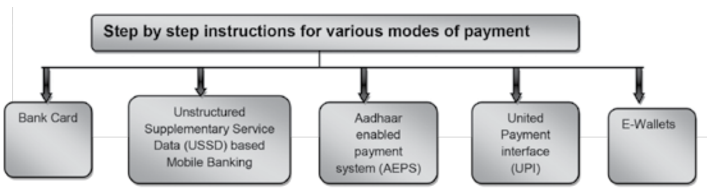
The annual Membership fee is as follows:

For SSI Units	:	₹ 7,418 (including service tax of 15%)
For others	:	₹ 11,443 (including service tax of 15%)

CASHLESS TRANSACTIONS LEADS TO DIGITAL PAYMENTS

With limited cash in hand and an indefinite crisis in sight, most people are rushing to cashless transactions. These Cashless transactions are leading to Digital Payments.

Digital Payments are not one instrument but rather an umbrella term applied to a range of different instruments used in different ways. One can use various modes of payments.



(A) Bank Card

<u>Getting a Bank Card</u>

1) To issue a Bank Card from your account

- Approach nearest bank branch
- Multiple cards from one account
- PIN issued by bank separately

2) To activate the Bank Card

- At your Bank's ATM by even balance checking
- At your bank branch by any transaction

<u>Point of Sale (PoS) & Card steps</u>

A point of sale (POS) is a place where sales are made. A POS may be a mall, a market or a city. Retailers consider a POS to be the area where a customer completes a transaction, such as a checkout counter. It is also known as a point of purchase.

Banks Issues Three Types Of Cards For Their Account Holders	Use Your Card To Shop Anywhere	Prepaid Card Can Be Issued By Any Bank From Account Or Cash
• Prepaid Cards • Debit cards • Credit Cards	• At any PoS • At ATM • Online shopping.	• Pre-loaded card • Equivalent to cash • Can be recharged several times • Can be used at any PoS, ATM.

(B) Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) based Mobile Banking

<u>Required for Activation</u>

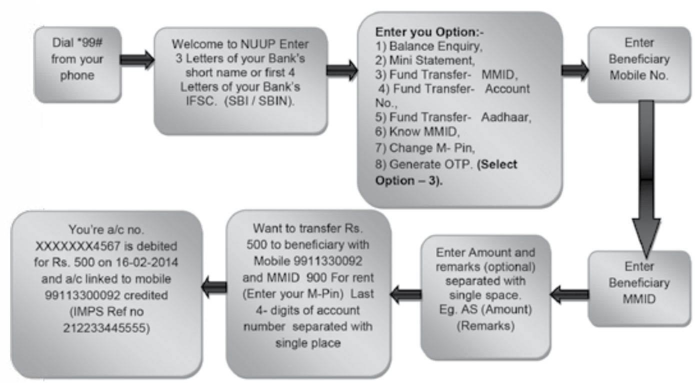
You need to have an account in a Bank and any mobile phone on GSM network for activating USSD based Mobile Banking. It can be used for payments upto Rs 5000 per day per customer.

<u>Registration</u>

Steps for registration:

- Visit your branch to link mobile number and bank account. It can be done at ATM or online also.
- You will get your Mobile Money Identifier (MMID) and Mobile PIN (MPIN) upon registration.
- Remember your MMID and MPIN

(Note: Mobile Money Identifier (MMID) – *It is a seven digit random number issued by the bank upon registration. Remitter (customer who wants to send money) and Beneficiary (customer who wants to receive the money) should have this MMID for doing this interbank funds transfer.*



(C) Aadhaar enabled payment system (AEPS)

- AEPS is a bank led model which allows online interoperable financial inclusion transaction at PoS (MicroATM) through the Business correspondent of any bank using the Aadhaar authentication.
- It allows bank-to-bank transaction at PoS (Micro ATM) with the help of Banking Correspondent.
- It seeds your account with your Aadhar number
- It facilitates to do transactions without remembering any PIN

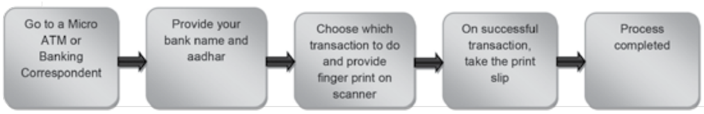
The four Aadhaar enabled basic types of banking transactions are as follows:-

✓ Balance Enquiry

✓ Cash Withdrawal

- ✓ Cash Deposit
- ✓ Aadhaar to Aadhaar Funds Transfer

Steps for AEPS Transaction



(D) United Payment interface (UPI)

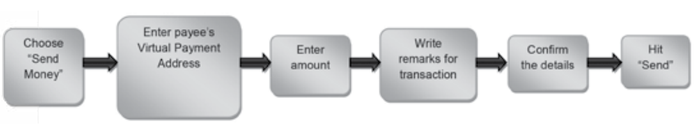
It is a payment system that allows money transfer between any two bank accounts by using a smartphone. UPI allows a customer to pay directly from a bank account to different merchants, both online and offline, without the hassle of typing credit card details, IFSC code, or net banking/wallet passwords.

Following are the requirements for registration on UPI:

- Smartphone with internet facility
- Bank Account details (only for registration)
- Available apps (28 bank apps) - SBI app, PNB UPI, UPI Collect (ICICI), Axis Pay, Canara Bank UPI, UCO UPI, Union Bank UPI, OBC UPI and 20 other banks.

UPI Registration Process

Steps to send money on UPI



Steps to collect money (raise a demand) on UPI

(E) E- Wallets

E-Wallet allows you to store multiple credit card and bank account numbers in a secure environment, and eliminate the need to enter in account information when making your payment. An individual can make payments faster and with less typing. It is used in purchasing items on-line with a computer or a smartphone at a store. An individual's account is required to be linked to the digital wallet to load money in it.

Steps to use E- Wallet

Consumer Wallet Limits: Rs. 20,000/month for all. Rs.1 lakh/ month with KYC

Merchant Wallet Limits: Rs. 50,000/month with Self Declaration. Rs.1 lakh/month with KYC

Following are the basic requirements to Start Using a Wallet:

1) Bank Account
2) Smartphone
3) 2G/3G Connection
4) A Free Wallet App.

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Demonetization Roll Out

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani had issued a directive to all the Export Promotion Councils and other associations to take feedback from their respective members on any constraints faced by them in payment of wages to their workers on account of the 'Demonetization' roll out.

The Council sent a mail to all its members on 21st November 2016 requesting for their feedback. This was followed up with a reminder mail on 24th November 2016.

In this context, our Chairman, Shri Anil Rajvanshi, too has sent out a strong message to workers engaged in the MMFT industry, which reads as follows:

"Demonetization is a step towards the welfare of all workers. Please accept your wages by cheque only and put an end to your exploitation. Know your rights."

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES FOR 'EASE OF DOING BUSINESS IN INDIA'

Ease of doing business in India has been a key focus of the government. India now ranks 130 out of 189 countries in the ease of doing business index, moving up four places from the last year's adjusted ranking of 134.

The Government has taken several steps to conquer this troublesome business environment. Several applications and approvals now can be made through single window scheme, fast track mode and online format.

As per Economic Survey 2016, following are the major initiatives taken by the government to improve the business environment.

- **Passage of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code:**

  The government has passed the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016. This significantly reduce the average time taken for the insolvency process to complete, which currently is 4.3 years.

- **Reduction in the Time for registering companies:**

  The government has made the process for registering a company faster by reducing the time to 5 days. This year the government plans to further reduce the time taken to 1-2 days.

- **Easier processes for incorporation:**

  The process of registering and incorporating companies have been simplified and made faster. The government has done away with the requirement of reserving a name, and integrated the processes related to allotment of Director Identification Number (DIN), appointment of directors etc in a single form (INC - 29) for incorporation of a company.

- **Integration of processes through eBiz portal:**

  The eBiz platform of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) incorporates several processes across (government) departments to make the process of incorporating a company simpler. One can apply for Permanent Account Number (PAN), Tax Deduction Account Number (TAN), EPFO (Employees' Provident Fund Organization) and ESIC (Employee's State Insurance Corporation) and incorporation of company through the eBiz portal.

- **Doing away with requirement for minimum paid up capital**:

  The minimum paid-up share capital requirement of Rs 1 lakh for a private company and Rs 5 lakh for a public company under CA 2013 has been done away with. Accordingly, no minimum paid-up capital requirements will now apply for incorporating private as well as public companies in India.

- **Making tax laws simpler:**

  The government has accepted most of the first set of recommendations of Easwar Committee for simplification of tax laws. The most important of those being exemption to non-residents from mandatorily having a PAN for lower tax deduction at source, hiking the turnover limit for availing presumptive taxation benefits from Rs1 crore to Rs 2 crore, and deferment of Income Computation and Disclosure Standards (ICDS).

Initiatives taken to improve 'ease of doing business' at Indian ports

The Ministry of Shipping has also taken initiatives to improve 'ease of doing business' at Indian ports.

Following steps have been taken by the Ministry to facilitate ease of doing business:

- **E-forms**:

  The Ministry has eliminated Form 11 and Form 13 needs to be filled. This is applicable at all three terminals at Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNPT) and other major ports.

- **Accommodation for laboratories of regulatory agencies within ports**:

  The Ministry has issued instructions to all major ports to facilitate and provide land area for setting up of laboratories for animal or plant quarantine, for textile and the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

- **Implementation of Direct Port Delivery Scheme**:

  The Ministry has directed all Major Ports to extend the Direct Port Delivery (DPD) facility to all Accredited Client Programme (ACP) clients and to provide additional land area for parking of DPD containers.

- **Reduction in fee and charges for non-peak hours**:

  The Ministry has taken up the issue of reduction of fee and charges with Tariff Authority for Major Ports, in order to de-congest major ports. They will fix separate lower charges for cargo and vessels related services and also give a special discount for the services rendered to exporter and importers after regular hours.

- **Container scanners at major ports**:

  The Ministry has now initiated the process for procurement of container scanners. Earlier, Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) dealt with the work of installation of container scanners.

- **Delivery orders are automated**:

  All the Shipping Lines (31) at JNPT are compliant with e-delivery capability and implemented issuance of E-Delivery Orders. Other Major Ports were also directed to implement of issuance of E-delivery Orders.

- **Radio-frequency identification (RFID) Scheme for gate automation**:

  The tendering process to procure RFID at all the major ports is in progress and are expected to complete by the end of this year.

- **Integration of major ports filing system with Customs software**:

  All major ports are now using advance information of import cargo online by way of accessing Import General Manifest (IGM) message through integration with Customs software ICEGATE. This process has cut down dwell time significantly.

- **Remove congestion at ports:**

  To remove the blockages in rail or road connectivity for faster evacuation of cargo, all major ports have been directed to take the measures such as development of parking areas, widening roads and inter-terminal movement trailers.

As you are aware, the Government of India has been consistently stressing on the importance of 'Ease of Doing Business' as a major pillar of 'Make in India' initiative.

In order to achieve this target all the Central Government departments/ Ministries concerned have come forward and implemented the reforms.

http://www.businesstoday.in/current/policy/six-major-govt-initiatives-to-improve-ease-of-doing-business/story/235194.html

http://www.zeebiz.com/india/news-9-initiatives-taken-to-improve-ease-of-doing-business-at-indian-ports-1597

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Forthcoming Indian Textile Exhibitions & International Fair to be organized by SRTEPC during February & March 2017

The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC), as part of its export promotion programmes for 2016-17, is scheduled to organize exclusive Indian Textile Exhibitions/Mobilisation of participation of Indian companies in International Fair in UAE, Kenya, Ethiopia and Panama between February to March 2017 on the basis of the following details :

Sr. No.	Exhibitions/Fairs	Country/Market	Period/Month	Remarks
1)	INTEXPO UAE	Dubai, UAE	February 2017	Stand Alone SRTEPC/Exclusive Indian Exhibition of MMF Textiles under MAI Scheme
2)	INTEXPO KENYA	Nairobi, Kenya	March 2017	Stand Alone SRTEPC/Exclusive Indian Exhibition of MMF Textiles under MDA Scheme
3)	INTEXPO ETHIOPIA	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	March 2017	Stand Alone SRTEPC/Exclusive Indian Exhibition of MMF Textiles under MDA Scheme
4)	EXPOCOMER, PANAMA	Panama City, Panama	22-25 March 2017	International Fair under MDA Scheme

While the Council is currently working out on the above export promotion projects in co-ordination with the concerned Indian Missions to finalise various requirements of the Exhibitions/Fair including specific dates, venues, Event Management Agencies, amount of participation charges etc., those interested in the above Events may like to immediately confirm their interest to the Council. For more information, please contact Ms. Kalavathi Rao/Mrs. Ramitha Shetty • Tel : 022-22048797/22048690 • Fax : 022-22810091/22048358 • Email : tp@srtepc.in ; srtepc@srtepc.in

REPORT CARD ON GST IMPLEMENTATION

The Government of India and the States have done remarkably well in taking all necessary steps for implementation of GST. The Report Card below indicates that Government of India lost no time in implementing the GST so far:

As soon as the President's assent was received on the Constitutional Amendment Act for GST on 8th September, 2016, the GST Council was created by the Cabinet within a period of one week along with the Secretariat. Under Article 279A of the Constitution, the GST Council has been entrusted with the power to make recommendations to the Union and the States on various GST related issues, including those relating to goods and services that may be subject of, or exempted from the goods and services tax; the threshold limit of turnover below which goods and services may be exempted from GST and the rates including floor rates with bands of GST.

Since notification of the GST Council on 12 September 2016, six meetings of the Council have been held in New Delhi. These meetings were held on 22-23 September, 2016; 30 September, 2016; 18-19 October, 2016; 3-4 November, 2016; 2-3 December, 2016 and 11 December, 2016. During these meetings, a number of important decisions have been taken paving way for roll out of GST with effect from 1st April 2017.

Some of the important decisions taken in the last six Meetings of the GST Council are:

I. The threshold limit for exemption from levy of GST would be Rs.20 lakhs for normal States (Rs.10 lakhs for the Special Category States enumerated in Article 279A of the Constitution).

II. The threshold for availing the Composition scheme would be Rs.50 lakhs. Service providers would be kept out of the Composition scheme.

III. To compensate States for 5 years for loss of revenue due to implementation of GST, the base year for the revenue of the State would be 2015-16 and a fixed growth rate of 14% will be applied to it.

IV. Approval of the Draft GST Rules on Registration; Payment; Return; Refund and Invoice, Debit & Credit Notes with the understanding that minor changes may be permitted with the approval of the Chairperson, if required, due to suggestions from the stakeholders or from the Law Department.

V. All entities exempted from payment of indirect tax under any existing tax incentive scheme would pay tax in the GST regime and the decision to continue with any incentive scheme shall be with the concerned State or Central Government. In case any State Government or Central Government decides to continue any existing exemption/incentive scheme, it will be administered by way of a reimbursement mechanism.

VI. Bands of rates of goods under GST shall be 5%, 12%, 18% and 28% and in addition there would be a category of exempt goods. Further, a cess would be levied on certain goods such as luxury cars, aerated drinks, pan masala and tobacco products, over and above the rate of 28% for payment of compensation to the States.

The GST Council in its 1st meeting decided that GST would be rolled-out by 1 April 2017. Accordingly, various timelines had been decided for various aspects of implementation of GST such as

- recommendation of the Model GST Laws by the GST Council and its passage by the Union Parliament and State Legislatures;
- development of front-end Information Technology (IT) modules on the common GST portal and the back-end IT systems;
- testing and integration of GST front-end and back-end IT systems of all stakeholders;
- training of both Central and State tax officials;
- sensitization of the trade, industry and consumers.

All efforts are being made to meet the necessary deadlines to ensure that GST is rolled out by 1 April 2017.

At present, agenda items pertaining to 'GST related draft laws' and 'Provisions for cross empowerment to ensure single interface under GST' are under consideration of the GST Council. 99 Sections the Model GST Law have already been considered by the Council and remaining Sections will be discussed in the next meeting of the Council scheduled for 22-23 December, 2016.

The discussions in GST Council have been very cordial and all decisions till now have been taken by consensus. Members of the Council are participating in the meetings with a very positive attitude and are working towards the roll-out of GST as per the deadline.

SOURCE: PIB

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FAQ's ON HARMONIZED SYSTEM (HS) OF CLASSIFICATION

1) **What is Harmonized System of Tariff Classification (HS Classification)?**

- The **Harmonized Commodity Description** and **Coding System** generally referred to as **"Harmonized System"** or simply **"HS"** is an international product nomenclature developed by the World Customs Organization (WCO), an independent intergovernmental organization based in Brussels, Belgium, with over 200 member countries.
- The Harmonized System (HS) of Classification is a very important nomenclature since all tariffs, trade negotiations, trade statistics are based on this definition. It allows participating countries to classify traded goods on a common basis for customs purposes.
- It comprises about 5,000 commodity groups; each identified by a six digit code, arranged in a legal and logical structure and is supported by well-defined rules to achieve uniform classification.
- The system is used by more than 200 countries and economies as a basis for their Customs tariffs and for the collection of international trade statistics. Over 98% of the merchandise in international trade is classified in terms of the HS.

2) **What is Indian Trade Classification (ITC)?**

- ITC (HS) codes are better known as Indian Trade Classification (ITC) and are based on Harmonized System (HS) of Classification. It was adopted in India for import-export operations.
- ITC-HS codes are divided into two schedules. **Schedule I** describes the rules and guidelines related to import policies where as **Schedule II** describe the rules and regulation related to export policies.
- The Indian Tariff Code has 8 digit which has been designed without any modification of first 6 digit as per H.S code system, but followed by another two digit classified as 'tariff item'. So ITC has been classified as first four-digit code called 'heading' and every six digit code called 'subheading' and 8-digit code called 'Tariff Item'. This addition is done, within the permissible limit of World Customs Organization – WCO, without any changes in H.S. code system.

3) **How are products classified under HS classification?**

- Of the six digits; [For eg. 09.02.10]

HS Classification	Digit	Identify	Example
09.02.10	First two digits	Chapter (the good is classified)	09 = Coffee, Tea, Maté and Spices
	First four digits	Heading (a finer breakdown of the chapter)	09.02 = Tea, whether or not flavoured
	Full six digits	Sub-heading (even more specific)	09.02.10 = Green tea (not fermented)

Up to the HS-6 digit level, all countries using the Harmonized System have the same codes.

- In most cases, in order to import or export a product, it must be assigned an HS code that corresponds with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the country of import. Most countries have added additional digits to classify goods more specifically. A code with six digits is a universal standard (HS Code) and a code with 7-10 digits (HTS Code) is often unique after the 6th digit and determined by individual countries of import. These codes are important because they not only determine the tariff/duty rate of the traded product, but they also keep a record of international trade statistics that are used in most countries.

Description	Codification	Example
HS-Section	Roman letters	XI – Textile and Textile Articles
HS-Chapter	HS-2 = 2-digits	54 : Man-made filaments
HS-Headings	HS-4 = 4-digits	5406: Man-Made Filament Yarn (Other Than Sewing Thread), Put Up For Retail Sale
HS-Subheadings	HS-6 = 6-digits	540600: Man-made filament yarn (other than sewing thread), put up for retail sale.
Classification on national level (Tariff item)	HS-8, HS-10, HS-11 = 8-11-digits	54060010: Synthetic Filament Yarn 54060020: Artificial Filament Yarn

4) **How are the HS Codes updated?**

- The maintenance of the HS is a WCO priority. This activity includes measures to secure uniform interpretation of the HS and its periodic updating in light of developments in technology and changes in trade patterns.

- The WCO manages this process through the Harmonized System Committee (representing the Contracting Parties to the HS Convention), which examines policy matters, takes decisions on classification questions, settles disputes and prepares amendments to the Explanatory Notes. The HS Committee also prepares amendments updating the HS every 5 – 6 years.
- Decisions concerning the interpretation and application of the Harmonized System, such as classification decisions and amendments to the Explanatory Notes or to the Compendium of Classification Opinions, become effective two months after the approval by the HS Committee.

5) **What is the purpose of HS Classification?**

HS codes are extensively used by governments, international organizations and the private sector for many other purposes the following purposes:

- Customs tariffs
- Collection of international trade statistics
- Rules of origin
- Collection of internal taxes
- Trade negotiations
- Transport tariffs and statistics
- Trade policies
- Monitoring and control of wastes, narcotics, chemical weapons and endangered species
- Areas of customs controls and procedures.
- Economic research and analysis

The HS is thus a universal economic language and code for goods, and an indispensable tool for international trade.

6) **What are the challenges faced by Exporters and Importers in classifying products under the HS / ITC Classification?**

The challenges faced by exporters and importers in classifying products under the HS / ITC classifications are as follows:

- Lack of available resources (e.g. technical information, classification data, literature, etc.)
- Not having dedicated a person/expert within the organization
- Inadequate description on invoice and supporting information

7) **What are the risks associated with misclassification of goods under the HS / ITC Classification?**

The risks associated with misclassification of goods under the HS / ITC Classification are as follows:

- **Over/underpaid customs duty:** Customs calculates duties based on the HS code of the product declared by the importer in the Bill of Entry (BOE). An incorrect HS code could result in higher or lower duty based on the tariff rate. The product code selected might also have a higher rate of total customs duty because of Anti-dumping (ADD) or safeguard duty or both, depending upon the origin of the goods. If the importer realizes the HS code declared in the BOE is incorrect, an amendment to the BOE is required. That can be expensive and time-consuming.
- **Under-claimed duty drawback and other export incentives**: Availability of duty drawback (DBK) is linked to HS codes, although one DBK code could be applicable to a similar set of HS codes. For example, menthol falls under 2 ITC (HS) codes. Code 29061100 represents menthol, which has DBK under the All Industry Rate (AIR) schedule of 1.4%, and Code 30039021 represents menthol crystals which have a 1.9% DBK. However, both codes have the same export benefit rate of 3.0% in the recently announced Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS). If the exporter is exporting menthol crystals using the code 29061100, which has a 0.5% lower DBK (AIR) available, and if the shipment has a value of USD 150,000 FOB, the exporter could lose about USD 750 on this shipment. This is a very large amount when the exporter has a high value of shipments/turnover. If a company is exporting USD 150 million in value per year it can lose up to USD 750,000 annually.
- **Eligibility for export, import and licensing requirements**: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) issues a Foreign Trade Policy every five years with a focus on the country's interest. The policy prohibits some goods from export and import transactions, linked to their product classification or HS code. Importers/exporters should be well-informed before agreeing to any contract for export or import of such goods and comply with licensing requirements as prescribed in the policy.

SOURCE:

World Customs Organization (WCO)
UN Trade Statistics Knowledgebase
World Trade Organization (WTO)
Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)

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NOTICE

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notice No. 8/3/2008-RMTR	30.11.2016	Concept Note on Certification of origin of goods for EU Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) with the Registered Exporter System	The European Union is replacing the current system of Certificates of Origin (COO) Form A by the competent authorities under EU GSP, with a system of self-certification of origin of goods by the exporters themselves using statement of origin.	http://storage.unitedweb-network.com/files/63/4665efb633cd7da6a68e3a5420ca2c1b.pdf
(2)	Notification F.No.11(5)/2009-DBA-II/NER dated 22.01.2013	22.11.2016	Northeast states to get 'subsidies' through direct benefit transfer (DBT)	Government has decided to discontinue the Freight Subsidy Scheme, with immediate effect.	https://easeofdoingbusi-nessinassam.in/dept_docu-ments/dicc/notifications/Notification%20of%20Transport%20Subsidy.pdf
(3)	File No. No.10(3)/2007-DBA-II/NER dated 27.07.2007	22.11.2016	Revision of North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy, 2007 for new industrial units	It has now been decided by the Government to revise the given Policy for the industrial units which had commenced production on or after 1.12.2014 (hereinafter referred to as 'the new industrial units').	https://easeofdoingbusi-nessinassam.in/dept_docu-ments/dicc/notifications/No-tification%20NEIIPP_2007.pdf

DGFT

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 45/2015-2020	30.11.2016	Amendment in Annexure III and Annexure IV to Appendix -6E	DGFT has made amendments in Annexure III and Annexure IV to Appendix -6E of Appendices and Aayat Niryat Forms of FTP 2015-20.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/PN/PN16/PN4516.pdf
(2)	Public Notice No. 44/2015-2020	15.11.2016	Amendments in Product Description in MEIS Schedule-Table 2 of Appendix 3B.	The description of following ITC Codes is corrected:- 57050031, 57050032, 57050039 and 63029900.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/PN/PN16/PN4416.pdf
(3)	Public Notice No. 43/2015-2020	11.11.2016	Inclusion of new Regional Office of DGFT at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh	DGFT has included the new Regional Office of DGFT at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh in Appendix-1 A of Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20.	http://dgft.gov.in/Exim/2000/PN/PN16/PNo4316.pdf

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

CBEC - CUSTOMS

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Notification No. 145/2016-Customs (NT)	01.12.2016	Rate of exchange of conversion of the foreign currency w.e.f. 02.12.2016.	CBEC hereby notifies Exchange Rate relating to Imported and Export Goods	http://www.cbec.gov.in/ht-docs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2016/cs-nt2016/csnt145-2016.pdf

(2)	Notification No. 143/ 2016-Customs (NT)	29.11.2016	Rate of exchange of conversion of the foreign currency w.e.f. 30.11.2016	CBEC hereby notifies Exchange Rate relating to Imported and Export Goods	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2016/cs-nt2016/csnt143-2016.pdf
(3)	Notification No. 142/ 2016-Customs (NT)	29.11.2016	Courier Imports and Exports (Clearance) Amendment Regulations, 2016	The CBEC has made amendments in he Courier Imports and Exports (Clearance) Regulations, 1998,	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2016/cs-nt2016/csnt142-2016.pdf
(4)	Notification No. 140/ 2016-Customs (NT)	25.11.2016	Rescinds Publication of Daily List of Imports & Exports Rules	Intimation regarding the annulment of Publication of Daily List of Imports & Exports Rules, 2004 given in Notification No. 128/2004- Customs (N.T.) dated 19th November, 2004.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2016/cs-nt2016/csnt140-2016.pdf
(5)	Notification No. 139/ 2016-Customs (NT)	25.11.2016	Amendment to Notification No. 12/97-Customs dated 2nd April 1997	In the said notification, amendments are made in the Table, against serial number 6B relating to the State of Orissa.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2016/cs-nt2016/csnt139-2016.pdf
(6)	Notification No. 138/ 2016-Customs (NT)	17.11.2016	Rate of exchange of conversion of the foreign currency w.e.f. 18.11.2016	CBEC hereby notifies Exchange Rate relating to Imported and Export Goods	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2016/cs-nt2016/csnt138-2016.pdf
(7)	Circular No. 59/2016-Customs	02.12.2016	Outsourcing by an authorized courier	CBEC has issued the said Circular in reference to regulation 13(j) of Courier Imports and Exports (Clearance) Regulations, 1998 wherein an authorized Courier is obligated not to subcontract/ outsource functions permitted or required to be carried out by him in terms of the said regulations to any other person, without the written permission of the Commissioner of Customs.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2016/circ59-2016cs.pdf
(8)	Circular No. 58/2016-Customs	02.12.2016	Roll out of Express Cargo Clearance System (ECCS) at Courier Terminal, Sahar, Mumbai	CBEC has announced roll out of Express Cargo Clearance System (ECCS) at Courier Terminal, Sahar, Mumbai to carry out automated assessment and clearance under the Courier Imports and Exports.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2016/circ58-2016cs.pdf
(9)	Circular No. 56/2016-Customs	24.11.2016	Abolition of Mate receipt	Based on recommendations of Committee constituted by Shipping Ministry for simplification & automation of customs procedures relating to Coastal Shipping, transshipment & Port clearances, CBEC has decided that customs house will not insist for issuance of Mate's receipt in the case of containerised cargo.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2016/circ56-2016cs.pdf

NOTICE

(10)	Circular No. 55/2016-Customs	23.11.2016	Reducing/eliminating printouts in Customs Clearance	The Government has recently taken initiatives for reducing/ eliminating printouts for more or less Paperless Customs Clearance and has done away with routine printing of various documents.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2016/circ55-2016cs-revised.pdf
(11)	Circular No. 54/2016-Customs	22.11.2016	Regarding further rationalization of revised simplified procedure for fixation of brand rates	CBEC clarifies that the requirement of original duty paying documents furnished by the exporter to claim drawback duties with the extent of utilization for the brand rate application, have been further simplified.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2016/circ54-2016cs.pdf
			CBEC - SERVICE TAX		
Sr. No.	**Heading No.**	**Date**	**Subject**	**Description**	**Download the Link**
(1)	Notification No. 52/ 2016-Service Tax	08.12.2016	Amend exemption Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012	In the said notification, an entry is inserted in the opening paragraph, after entry 63.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/ht-docs-servicetax/st-notifica-tions/st-notifications-2016/st52-2016.pdf
(2)	Notification No. 51/ 2016-Service Tax	30.11.2016	Amend Place of Provision of Service Rules, 2012	These rules may be called the Place of Provision of Services (Second Amendment) Rules, 2016 and shall come into force on the 1st day of December, 2016.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/ht-docs-servicetax/st-notifica-tions/st-notifications-2016/st51-2016.pdf
(3)	Notification No. 50/ 2016-Service Tax	22.11.2016	Amend Notification No. 20/2014-ST dated 16.09.2014	In the said notification, after the proviso, the following shall be inserted, namely:- “Provided further that in case of online information and database access or retrieval services provided or agreed to be provided by a person located in non-taxable territory and received by a non-assesse online recipient, no officer specified in column (2) of the Table 3.	http://www.cbec.gov.in/ht-docs-servicetax/st-notifica-tions/st-notifications-2016/st50-2016.pdf
(4)	Instruction No. F.No. 137.155.2012 - Service Tax	09.12.2016	Digital mode of payment while making financial transantions-past assessments	By adopting a digital mode of payment, no financial transaction would remain undisclosed and consequently an enhanced turnover might get reflected in the books of accounts	http://www.cbec.gov.in/ht-docs-servicetax/st-instruc-tions/st-instructions-2016/digital-mode-mechanism.pdf
			MUMBAI CUSTOMS		
Sr. No.	**Heading No.**	**Date**	**Subject**	**Description**	**Download the Link**
(1)	Public Notice No. 173/2016	02.12.2016	Reducing/eliminating printouts in Customs Clearance	Though the Board has decided to done away with routine printing of various documents.	http://www. mumbaicus-tomszone1.gov.in/site/Pub-licNotice.aspx?id=2278 & mode=download

(2)	Public Notice No. 172/2016	02.12.2016	Deferred payment of Customs Duty	Information about the procedures to be followed at ICEGATE for availing benefits of the Scheme of Deferred Payment of Custom Duty vide CBEC Circular No. 52/2016- Customs dated 15.11.2016.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/site/PublicNotice.aspx?id=2277 & mode=download
(3)	Public Notice No. 162/2016	23.11.2016	Implementation of Document Management System at New Custom House, Mumbai	In view of demonetization, Customs has issued the said public notice informing the members of Trade/ Customs brokers that they can pay the amount of documentation charges by way of cheque.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/site/PublicNotice.aspx?id=2273 & mode = download
(4)	Facility Notice No.05/2016	11.11.2016	Simplified procedure for the amendments in the Import General Manifest	As a trade facilitation measure, a consolidated guideline for carrying out amendment to the IGM is hereby issued with twin objectives of ease of doing business and to reduce the dwell time of imported cargo clearance.	http://www.mumbaicustomszone1.gov.in/site/FacilityNotice.aspx?id=41 & mode=download
			SAHAR AIR CARGO CUSTOMS		
Sr. No.	**Heading No.**	**Date**	**Subject**	**Description**	**Download the Link**
(1)	Public Notice No. 48/2016	29.11.2016	Rationalization of Procedures in handling exporters obligations under EPCG authorization	The Board has reviewed certain aspects of the directions given to the field formations in Circular No. 5/201O-Cus, instruction No. 609/119/201O-DBK dtd. 18.01.2011 and Circular No. 14/201S-Cus insofar as they relate to EPCG scheme.	http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2016-17/PN-48-2016.pdf
(2)	Public Notice No. 47/2016	29.11.2016	Reducing/Eliminating printouts in Customs Clearance	Recent initiatives by CBEC for reducing/ eliminating printouts for more or less Paperless Customs Clearance.	http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/public_notices/2016-17/PublicNotice47-2016.pdf
(3)	Facility Circular No. 16/2016	18.11.2016	Payment of Service charges to Consol Agents and Airlines at Air Cargo Complex, Sahar, Mumbai	The Airlines and Consol Agents are directed to consider the payment of the applicable service charges to them by all the stakeholders by cheque besides the other regular mode of payment for facilitating the trade.	http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/facility_notices/2016-17/FNNO16.pdf
(4)	Facility Circular No. 15/2016	16.11.2016	Service charges for documentation at Customs EDI Service Centre at Air Cargo Complex, Sahar, Mumbai:	It has been decided that the trade can pay the charges to M/S. Xeam Ventures Pvt. Ltd. by cheques besides valid cash for documentation and BE/ SB printouts through EDI Service Centre for facilitating the trade.	http://accmumbai.gov.in/aircargo/miscellaneous/facility_notices/2016-17/FNNO15.pdf

NOTICE

JNCH CUSTOMS					
Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	Public Notice No. 169/2016	05.12.2016	Registration of Shipping Lines, Freight Forwarders and Non vessel operating common carrier (NVOCC) under “Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009”	Doubts have been raised by Shipping Lines, Freight Forwarders and Non Vessel Operating Common Carrier (NVOCC) that they may not be required to obtain approval / registration under “Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009”on the following grounds as given the Public Notice.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_No_169.pdf
(2)	Public Notice No. 168/2016	05.12.2016	Computation and publishing of average dwell time by CFS on their website and communication to Customs, instruction issued under “Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009”	In order to increase ease of doing business, reduce dwell time and bring transparency in the functioning of CFSs, directions are issued in terms of Clause (n) of Regulation 5(1), Sub Regulation (4) of Regulation 5 and Regulation 6(1)(q) of Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_168.pdf
(3)	Public Notice No. 167/2016	05.12.2016	Issue of SMTPs in respect of cargo destined to ICDs by Rail– Reg.	In order to expedite the transfer of cargo destined to ICDs by rail, SMTPs are being issued without waiting for full discharge of vessel.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_167.pdf
(4)	Public Notice No. 166/2016	02.12.2016	Simplified procedure for the obtaining Rotation Number reg.	Revised procedure for obtaining “Rotation Number”, in respect of Out bound vessel, as a trade facilitation measure, with objective of ease of doing business.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_166.pdf
(5)	Public Notice No. 165/2016	02.12.2016	Scanning Procedure in case of OOC given by DPD/RMS Facilitation Centre at JNCH	In respect of Direct Port Delivery (DPD) containers and Risk Management System (RMS) facilitated containers the scanning procedures are given in the Public Notice.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_165.pdf
(6)	Public Notice No. 164/2016	30.11.2016	Mandatory filing of Advance Filing of Bill of Entry	It has been decided that all the Bills of Entry pertaining to Full Container Load (FCL) cargo, will have to be filed in the Indian Custom EDI System (ICES) system as Advance/Prior Bills of Entry mandatorily, as a measure to ensure faster clearances, reduce dwell time of cargo and as a step towards ‘Ease of Doing Business’.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_164.pdf

NOTICE

(7)	Public Notice No. 163/2016	01.12.2016	Standard Operating Procedure consequent to commencement of "Document Processing Area" in the Parking Plaza and Gate Automation for Export & Import through NSICT / NSIGT, GTI & JNPCT	All members of Trade are informed about procedure in regard to Export of containers (entry of factory stuffed (including self-sealed) and CFS stuffed Export Containers into port terminals after granting of Let Export Order at Parking Area) and movement of Import Containers from Port Terminal to CFS/ ICD as well as Direct Port Delivery to importers.	http://www.jawaharcus-toms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_163.pdf
(8)	Public Notice No. 162/2016	30.11.2016	Procedure of Refund, Demand, Adjudication, Review and Appeal of Units located / registered in SEZ's within the Jurisdiction of JNCH consequent to Notification No 772(E) dated 05.08.2016	The Government has amended Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006. In the said Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006 in rule 47, after sub rule (4) has been inserted, the following which is given in the Public Notice.	http://www.jawaharcus-toms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_162.pdf
(9)	Public Notice No. 161/2016	28.11.2016	Extension of facility of Direct Port Delivery to main importers and other steps taken for ease of doing business	In order to reduce dwell time and cost associated with import at Nhava Sheva, it has been decided by JNCH Customs to extend Direct Port Delivery (DPD) permission to importers as mentioned in the conditions given in the Public Notice.	http://www.jawaharcus-toms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_161.pdf
(10)	Public Notice No. 160/2016	29.11.2016	Creation of DPD/RMS Facilitation Centre at JNCH	A dedicated "RMS Facilitation Centre" has been created at JNCH, as a measure of trade facilitation and 'Ease of Doing Business'. This Public Notice shall come into force w.e.f. 01.12.2016.	http://www.jawaharcus-toms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_160.pdf
(11)	Public Notice No. 159/2016	28.11.2016	Renewal of Self Sealing and Self Certification Permission to the Exporters upto 31 December, 2020	The JNCH Customs has decided that henceforth all the permissions for Self-Sealing and Self-Certification of Export containers shall be granted on one time basis.	http://www.jawaharcus-toms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_159.pdf
(12)	Public Notice No. 158/2016	25.11.2016	Compliance of "Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations,2009" by,Shipping Lines etc	Members of Trade and Industry, including all persons responsible for receipt, storage, delivery, dispatch or otherwise handling of imported goods and export goods in any capacity in a Customs area are requested to comply with "Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009".	http://www.jawaharcus-toms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_158.pdf
(13)	Public Notice No. 157/2016	25.11.2016	Reduction Of Time Gap Between Berthing Of Vessel And Entry Inwards	The Customs Act provides for filing of IGM in advance of vessel's arrival (Advance IGM). It provides for filing of a B/E prior to arrival/import of goods.	http://www.jawaharcus-toms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_157.pdf

NOTICE

(14)	Public Notice No. 155/2016	25.11.2016	Procedure in respect of discharge and clearance of Liquid Cargo in Bulk for Home Consumption/ Warehousing in bonded warehouse	The procedures of discharge and clearance of Liquid Cargo in Bulk through pipelines/ tank lorries for home consumption/ warehousing in the bonded warehouse for the purpose of duty liability is given in the Public Notice shall come into force with immediate effect.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_155.pdf
(15)	Public Notice No. 154/2016	25.11.2016	Rationalization of procedures in handling exporters obligations under EPCG authorizations	CBEC has restated to ensure credibility and transparency in the Bond cancellation process by making the process speedier and that the exporter should not be asked to routinely produce information that can be sourced from the Customs Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) system.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_154.pdf
(16)	Public Notice No. 153/2016	24.11.2016	Acceptance of Cheque	Members of Trade are informed about the acceptance of Cheque payments by JNCH in cash section for discharge of duty, penalties, interest, redemption fine, MOT charges etc. in order to facilitate smooth functioning of Customs related work.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_153.pdf
(17)	Public Notice No. 152/2016	24.11.2016	Reducing/eliminating printouts in Customs Clearance	To promote ease of doing business by reducing use of paper, the Board has issued instructions given in the Circular and should be made operational from 01.12.2016.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_152.pdf
(18)	Public Notice No. 151/2016	21.11.2016	Ease of doing Business – Boarding Section to give automated permission in case any error in SMTP Message Exchange	It has been decided that the Boarding Section will approve the Import General Manifest (IGM) Number in the system in addition to the Import Noting Section.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/FN_NO_151.pdf
(19)	Public Notice No. 150/2016	22.11.2016	Dispensing off the requirement of Mate Receipt	It has been decided to dispense off with the requirement of Endorsement of Shipping Bills in the Port Area, Production.	http://www.jawaharcustoms.gov.in/pdf/PN-2016/PN_NO_150.pdf

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

Sr. No.	Heading No.	Date	Subject	Description	Download the Link
(1)	RBI/2016-17/137	17.11.2016	Foreign Exchange Management (Insurance) Regulations, 2015	Intimation about the revised General and Health Insurance Manual. The revised notification has come into force with effect from December 29, 2015.	https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=10717&Mode=0

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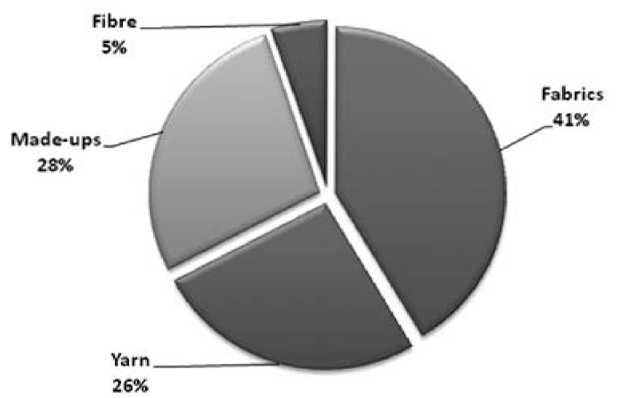
EXPORTS OF INDIAN MAN-MADE FIBRE TEXTILES DURING APRIL – NOVEMBER 2016-17

Exports of Indian MMF textiles during April-November 2016-17 were US$ 2718.64 Million against US$ 3186.79 Million during the same period of the previous year witnessing a decline of around 15% (SOURCE: Port Data)

Value in US$ Mn

	April-November 2016-17	April-November 2015-16	Decline (%)
Fabrics	1126.63	1358.63	-17.08
Yarn	703.08	841.16	-16.42
Made-ups	747.04	791.28	-5.59
Fibre	141.89	195.72	-27.50
Total	**2718.64**	**3186.79**	**-14.69**

PRODUCT SHARE



HIGHLIGHTS

- Overall exports in April-November 2016-17 declined by 14.69% as compared to the same period of the previous year.
- Exports of Fabrics dominated with 41% share followed by Yarn 26%, Made-ups 28% and Fibre 5% in the Indian MMF textile exports.
- Share of the value added segments like fabrics and Made-ups have increased to 69% of total exports.
- However, all the four segments witnessed decline in export like fibre (-27.50%), fabrics (-17.08%), yarn (-16.42%), and made-ups (-5.59%).
- In the fabrics segment Polyester Filament Fabrics (US$ 304.45 Mn) remained the top exported product in India's MMF textile exports followed by Synthetic Filament Fabrics (US$ 271.15 Mn) and Polyester Viscose Fabrics (US$ 202.85 Mn) during April-November 2016-17.
- In case of MMF yarn exports, Polyester Filament Yarn was the leading item with exports worth US$ 308.67 Mn followed by Polyester Cotton Yarn (US$ 72.86 Mn) and Polyester Spun Yarn (US$ 72.67 Mn).
- In Made-ups, exports of Bulk Containers was the leading item with exports worth US$ 180.81 Mn followed by Muffler and Shawls/Scarves worth US$ 107.51 Mn and US$ 75.08 Mn respectively.
- Polyester Staple Fibre (US$ 62.41 Mn) was the leading item in the MMF category followed by Viscose Staple Fibre (US$ 60.12 Mn) and Acrylic Staple Fibre (US$ 17.31 Mn).
- Exports of Viscose Spun Fabrics and Polyester Spun fabrics which accounted for share of nearly 1% in the Indian MMF fabrics exports, have witnessed excellent growth of 15.52% and 12.27%.
- UAE was the leading market for Indian MMF textiles during April-November2016-17 with 13% share in total exports followed by USA 10% and Turkey 8%.
- Neighbouring country Pakistan has emerged as the 4th largest market for India's MMF textile export with a share of 4% during April-November 2016-17.
- Leading markets with positive growth are Germany (42.45%), China (41.17%), Korea Rep (18.71%) and Canada (6.06%)
- Other major markets during April-November 2016-17 were Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia, Italy, and Belgium with share of 3% each in the Indian MMF Textiles exports.
- Hong Kong with a share of nearly 1% in the Indian MMF Made-ups export has grown by 86.55%.
- UAE and USA were the leading market for Indian MMF Fabrics and USA was also leading market for Indian MMF Made-up during the period.

PRODUCT-WISE EXPORT PERFORMANCE APRIL-OCTOBER 2016-17

Value in USD Mn

Products	April-Nov 2016-17	April-Nov 2015-16	Net Change	% Change
FABRICS (Woven+non-woven+knitted)				
Polyester Filament	304.45	374.73	-70.28	-18.75
Synthetic Filament	271.15	353.26	-82.11	-23.24
Polyester Viscose	202.85	245.3	-42.45	-17.31
Polyester Blended	118.6	139.39	-20.79	-14.91
Synthetic Non Specified	72.65	65.54	7.11	10.85
Synthetic Cotton	26.93	31.36	-4.43	-14.13
Polyester Wool	26.01	31.19	-5.18	-16.61
Polyester Cotton	25.57	24.22	1.35	5.57
Polyester Spun	19.31	17.2	2.11	12.27
Nylon Filament	11.08	12.66	-1.58	-12.48
Viscose Spun	9.9	8.57	1.33	15.52
Viscose Blended	7.14	8.78	-1.64	-18.68
Synthetic Blended	6.53	14.47	-7.94	-54.87
Viscose Filament	24.46	31.98	-7.52	-23.51
Total Fabrics	**1126.63**	**1358.65**	**-232.02**	**-17.08**
YARN				
Polyester Filament	308.67	428.98	-120.31	-28.05
Polyester Cotton	72.86	92.37	-19.51	-21.12
Polyester Spun	72.67	61.12	11.55	18.90
Polyester Viscose	69.88	79.01	-9.13	-11.56
Viscose Spun	66.67	46.31	20.36	43.96
Viscose Filament	32.84	35.43	-2.59	-7.31
Acrylic Spun	20.72	21.79	-1.07	-4.91
Synthetic Spun	14.14	19.13	-4.99	-26.08
Polyester Wool	13.86	15.45	-1.59	-10.29
Artificial Spun	6.45	5.56	0.89	16.01
Synthetic Non Specified	5.2	9.4	-4.2	-44.68
Nylon Filament	4.72	5.06	-0.34	-6.72
Acrylic Cotton	3.56	5.9	-2.34	-39.66
Viscose Cotton	2.53	2	0.53	26.50
Polypropylene Filament	2.28	3.9	-1.62	-41.54
Artificial Cotton	1.73	2.03	-0.3	-14.78
Other Yarn	4.28	7.72	-3.44	-44.56
Total Yarn	**703.06**	**841.16**	**-138.1**	**-16.42**
MADE-UPS				
Bulk Containers	180.81	193.88	-13.07	-6.74
Muffler	107.51	132.3	-24.79	-18.74
Shawls/Scarves	75.08	84.17	-9.09	-10.80
Motifs	51.15	46.42	4.73	10.19
Fishing Net	25.71	28.63	-2.92	-10.20
Blanket	19.64	25.67	-6.03	-23.49
Bed Linen	14.05	14.91	-0.86	-5.77
Rope	11.61	11.67	-0.06	-0.51
Bedsheet	10.83	13.03	-2.2	-16.88
Dress Material	7.09	9.81	-2.72	-27.73
Dish-cloths/Dusters	7.07	6.65	0.42	6.32
Braids	6.8	7.81	-1.01	-12.93
Sacks and Bags	6.31	12.49	-6.18	-49.48
Life Jacket	6.29	4.6	1.69	36.74
Curtains	5.78	6.28	-0.5	-7.96
Tulles	5.6	4.7	0.9	19.15
Other Made-ups	205.73	188.28	17.45	9.27
Total Made-ups	**747.06**	**791.3**	**-44.24**	**-5.59**
FIBRE				
Polyester Staple	62.41	77.14	-14.73	-19.10
Viscose Staple	60.12	91	-30.88	-33.93
Acrylic Staple	17.31	23.05	-5.74	-24.90
Polypropylene Staple	2.04	4.54	-2.5	-55.07
Total Fibre	**141.88**	**195.73**	**-53.85**	**-27.51**

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

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

LEADING MARKETS

Value in USD Mn

Sr. No.	Country	April-Nov 2016-17	April-Nov 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
1	UAE	343.47	451.8	-108.33	-23.98
2	USA	279.89	345.76	-65.87	-19.05
3	TURKEY	202.92	309.77	-106.85	-34.49
4	PAKISTAN	118.46	155.93	-37.47	-24.03
5	SRI LANKA	93.08	97.19	-4.11	-4.23
6	SAUDI ARABIA	81.7	90.01	-8.31	-9.23
7	ITALY	80.9	88.66	-7.76	-8.75
8	BELGIUM	79.2	80.95	-1.75	-2.16
9	BRAZIL	58.48	55.29	3.19	5.77

Sr. No.	Country	April-Nov 2016-17	April-Nov 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
10	HONG KONG	58.46	56.44	2.02	3.58
11	NETHERLANDS	53.85	55.93	-2.08	-3.72
12	EGYPT	52.74	62.21	-9.47	-15.22
13	GERMANY	51.21	35.95	15.26	42.45
14	KOREA, DEM PEOP REP	46.99	45.1	1.89	4.19
15	SPAIN	44.82	53.86	-9.04	-16.78
16	CANADA	31.69	29.88	1.81	6.06
17	KOREA,REPUBLIC OF	31.09	26.19	4.9	18.71
18	VIETNAM	30.48	36.15	-5.67	-15.68
19	FRANCE	30.34	33.95	-3.61	-10.63
20	CHINA	29.9	21.18	8.72	41.17

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF FABRICS

Value in USD Mn

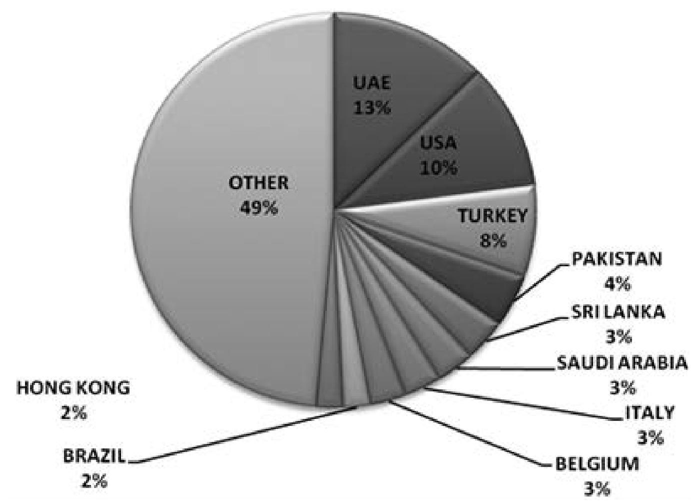
Country	April-Nov 2016-17	April-Nov 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
UAE	223.18	312.38	-89.20	-28.55
USA	119.57	219.81	-100.24	-45.60
PAKISTAN	84.05	80.07	3.98	4.97
SRI LANKA	73.25	78.49	-5.24	-6.68
HONG KONG	44.21	47.19	-2.98	-6.31
SAUDI ARABIA	36.52	45.28	-8.76	-19.35
VIETNAM,	25.99	30.09	-4.10	-13.63
EGYPT	22.10	29.65	-7.55	-25.46
SPAIN	21.44	23.57	-2.13	-9.04
KOREA, DEM REP	21.32	20.78	0.54	2.60
ITALY	19.91	21.01	-1.10	-5.24

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF YARN

Value in USD Mn

Country	April-Nov 2016-17	April-Nov 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
TURKEY	110.03	138.64	-28.61	-20.64
USA	52.28	96.25	-43.97	-45.68
BRAZIL	49.72	48.14	1.58	3.28
BELGIUM	37.03	36.85	0.18	0.49
PAKISTAN	35.37	37.69	-2.32	-6.16
EGYPT	26.94	27.02	-0.08	-0.30
COSTA RICA	22.87	16.34	6.53	39.96
KOREA, REP	17.63	21.33	-3.70	-17.35
MOLDOVA,REP	15.99	14.71	1.28	8.70

MMF EXPORT COUNTRY SHARE



Country	April-Nov 2016-17	April-Nov 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
KOREA, DEMO REP	14.79	17.46	-2.67	-15.29
NETHERLANDS	14.11	18.52	-4.41	-23.81
SRI LANKA	12.86	11.87	0.99	8.34
PERU	11.94	21.66	-9.72	-44.88

MAJOR MARKETS FOR MMF MADE-UPS

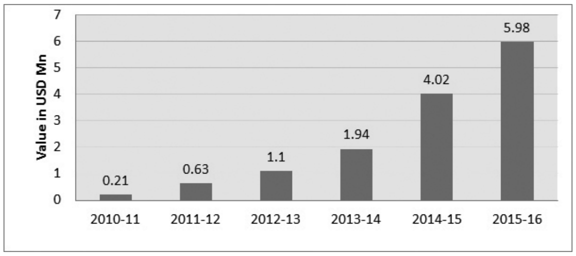
Value in USD Mn

Country	April-Nov 2016-17	April-Nov 2015-16	Net Change	%Grw/ Decline
USA	131.02	150.21	-19.19	-12.78
SAUDI ARABIA	109.57	124.93	-15.36	-12.29
ITALY	44.08	45.32	-1.24	-2.74
UAE	38.67	28.40	10.27	36.16
GERMANY	34.02	19.76	14.26	72.17
NETHERLANDS	27.36	24.29	3.07	12.64
SPAIN	20.71	26.98	-6.27	-23.24
CROATIA	20.26	24.63	-4.37	-17.74
FRANCE	17.75	21.72	-3.97	-18.28
CANADA	17.53	12.59	4.94	39.24
BELGIUM	16.31	17.52	-1.21	-6.91
HONG KONG	13.04	6.99	6.05	86.55
AUSTRALIA	12.21	15.31	-3.10	-20.25
BENIN	10.76	29.43	-18.67	-63.44

(Continued from Page 2)

Myanmar imported US$ 1.8 billion of textile products in 2015 in which imports from China was 57% (US$ 1.02 billion) whereas from India imports were only 5% (US$ 83 million).

INDIA'S EXPORT OF MMF TEXTILES TO MYANMAR



Total import of Man-made fibre and blended textiles by Myanmar in 2016 was around US$ 600Mn. However, from India it imported only US$ 6 million of these textiles in 2015 accounting for only 1% share of its total imports, which clearly shows that India has huge scope to grow and increase its market share in this emerging textile hub. Product share in the export basket of Indian MMF textiles to Myanmar was given below. Main countries Myanmar imported MMF textiles from were China, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Japan, Taipei, Indonesia, etc.

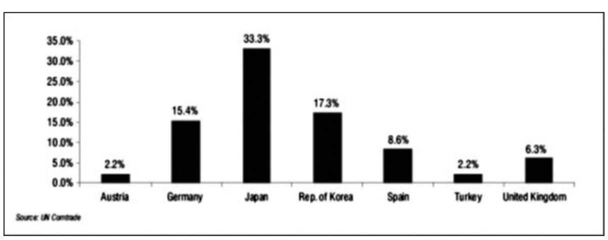
Product	In USD Mn
Fabrics	5.24
Fibre	Negligible
Yarn	0.63
Made-ups	0.11
Total	5.98

Source: Compiled from UN Comtrade data

EXPORTS

Information based on an analysis of garment exports & production, Myanmar exported over US$ 3 billion of garment during 2015 and it is increasing rapidly.

MAJOR MYANMAR GARMENT EXPORT DESTINATIONS



SCOPE FOR INDIA

The flourishing garmenting sector in Myanmar promises good scope for exporting Man-made fibre and blended textile products mainly yarns and fabrics from its neighbouring markets since its domestic production of these textile products are insufficient to meet growing demand. India being the largest Man-made fibre producing and exporting neighbour of Myanmar, it offers opportunities for India to tap this market and increase exports to Myanmar. Moreover, the long span friendly political relationship that both countries share will be an additional advantage for India to do business with Myanmar.

TRADE AGREEMENTS

Regarding preferential trade agreements with European nations, Myanmar benefits from GSP preferences in the EU market. Although the United States has not yet chosen to re-instate GSP preferences for Myanmar products, Myanmar is afforded MFN status, resulting in lower tariffs than nations which do not have such status.

As a member of the ASEAN trade bloc, Myanmar will also be part of the ASEAN free trade area from 2015. This will necessitate Myanmar's inclusion in several multi-lateral free trade pacts, such as the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area, the ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area, the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area, the ASEAN-India Free Trade Area, and the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership.

Discussions are in the final stage for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership. This intends to be an ASEAN – 6 free trade arrangements between the ASEAN 10 nations with China, India, Japan, South Korea, Australiaand New Zealand. This RCEP is going to be the largest trade block in the world. Hence, Myanmar is the most important market for exports of Indian textile products to the entire RECP block.

Moreover, the Council has recently proposed that both Myanmar and India can have a CEPA which will be in addition and above of the India-ASEAN FTA and proposed RCEP.

CONCLUSION

Myanmar is a promising market for Indian Man-made fibre and blended textile products. Myanmar is important in India's foreign policy for at least three, if not more, important reasons. First and the most important is the strategic importance of Myanmar as a bridge between India and Southeast Asia. Myanmar is the only country in Southeast Asia that has land and maritime borders with India, an important route for trade and commerce, particularly with India's northeast states. Moreover, the latest thrust in India's "Act East Policy" is to link India's northeast with Southeast Asia to restore old historical relations between the two regions, and also build land connectivity between India and Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam through Myanmar for promotion of trade and commerce.

It is in this context the 2nd Edition of our flagship export promotionalprogramme has provided an excellent opportunity for the participating Indian companies to understand the requirements of the Myanmar market and also its way of doing business. It also helped in projecting India before the Myanmar buyers as a major textile producing country and a reliable supplier of Man-made fibre and blended textile products. The event is also expected to give further boosts to the existing exports of Indian Man-made fibre textiles to Myanmar. It may be noted that the maiden edition of INTEXPO Myanmar has helped in increasing exports of Indian Man-made and blended textiles from US$ 1 million in 2014 to around US$ 6 million today (a 500% growth). This 2nd edition of INTEXPO in Myanmar is likely to double our exports to US$ 12 million in coming 2 years period. However, as suggested by our Ambassador and other Textile industry leaders from Myanmar, the efforts to penetrate this market more should be on and regular. In this respect, the Council proposes to organize follow-up event in 2017 and requests all of its members to take maximum benefit of the same.

VISITORS AT VARIOUS STALLS DURING THE "INTEXPO" MYANMAR EXHIBITION

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

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