



Monthly Newsletter

HANDLOOM EXPORT

Vol. L No. 7 Rs. 50

October 2019



Proposed Calendar of Events 2019 - 2020

Sl. No.	Date / Month	Name of the Event proposed	Product profile / Focus product
1	20-23 April 2019	Hong Kong International Home textiles & Furnishing Fair, Hong Kong	Home textiles and Clothing Accessories
2	1-9 June 2019	Global Indian Festival, Kuala Lumpur	IHB products
3	17-19, July 2019	30 th India Home Furnishing Fair/40 th India Garment Fair	Hometextiles / Clothing accessories, Garments
4	22-24 July 2019	Hometextile Sourcing / Apparel Sourcing Expo, New York, USA	Home textiles
5	24-26 July 2019	India Trend Fair , Tokyo	Hometextiles / Clothing accessories, Garments
6	11-14, Aug' 2019	Sourcing at Magic, Las Vegas, USA	Clothing Accessories
7	6-9, Sep 2019	WHO's NEXT , Paris	Clothing Accessories
8	17 -19 Sep 2019	Heimtextil Russia	Home Textiles, Floor Coverings
9	Feb/Mar 2019	India Textile Sourcing Fair, Delhi	All textile products
10	12-14, November 2019	International Sourcing Expo, Melbourne, Australia	Home textiles, Clothing Accessories
11	07-10. Jan 2020	Heimtextil 2020	Hometextiles
12	10-13, January 2020	Domotex, Hannover, Germany	Floor Coverings
13	January 2020	WHO's NEXT, Paris, France	Clothing Accessories
14	January 2020	Intermoda, Mexico	Fashion and clothing accessories
15	11-14, February 2020	Texworld, Paris	Fabrics and fashion
16	7-11, February 2020	Ambiente, Frankfurt, Germany	Home Textiles and Fashion accessories
17	5-7, February 2020	Domotex Atlanta	Floor coverings



HANDLOOM EXPORT

Newsletter of Handloom
Export Promotion Council
October 2019 Vol.L No.7



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Dear Members,

I am happy to note that the export data of handloom export for the period April' 19 to Oct' 19 witnessed positive growth by 2.24 % in rupee terms and 0.51 % in dollar terms when compared to the previous corresponding period.

The Ministry of Textiles, Government of India participated in "World Cotton Day" celebration at Geneva on 7th October 2019 under National Handloom Development Programme of O/o. Development Commissioner for Handlooms to celebrate 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The WTO launch event for World Cotton Day celebrated the many advantages of cotton, from its qualities as a natural fibre, to the benefits people obtain from its production, transformation, trade and consumption. The event also served to shade lights on the challenge faced by cotton industries around the world, and particularly in Least-Developed Countries. Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Govt. of India visited the World Cotton Day celebrations event. Hon'ble Minister of Textiles addressed the gathering at Special High-level Meeting (Opening Ceremony) and inaugurated India Pavilion by ribbon cutting along with Shri J.S. Deepak, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of India to the WTO. The delegation was led by Smt. Aditi Das Rout, Trade Adviser, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India and the delegation was represented by HEPC, TEXPROCIL & CCIC. The Permanent Mission of India to the WTO extended full support to conduct the event successfully.



It would be happy to note that the ministry is often meeting with stake holders and many policy reforms were initiated to take swift action to resolve the issues facing by the textile industry.

Ministry of Textiles is in the process of drafting the New Textile Policy and Council is coordinating with ministry for policy formulation. Members exporters are also requested to send their inputs & suggestion for the New Textile Policy.

With warm regards,



Dr. K.N. Prabhu,
Chairman

WORLD COTTON DAY

7TH OCTOBER 2019

World Trade Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

“ Weaves & Colours - Cotton of India”

The Ministry of Textiles, Government of India organized the World Cotton Day celebration at Geneva on 7th October 2019. Handloom Export Promotion Council participated under National Handloom Development Programme of O/o. Development Commissioner for Handlooms to celebrate 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The event was organized in coordination with Permanent Mission of India to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in collaboration with WTO Secretariat, Secretariats of FAO, UNCTAD and ICAC.

The WTO launch event for World Cotton Day celebrated the many advantages of cotton, from its qualities as a natural fiber, to the benefits people obtain from its production, transformation, trade and consumption. The event also served to shed light on the challenge faced by cotton industries around the world, and particularly in Least-Developed Countries.

Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Govt. of India visited the World Cotton Day celebrations event. Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, addressed the gathering at Special High level Meeting (Opening Ceremony). Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, inaugurated India Pavilion by ribbon cutting along with Shri J.S. Deepak, Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of India to the WTO.





Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, gifted Charkha to WTO Secretariat on 7th evening. Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, invited Ministers from major cotton producing countries in Africa known as Cotton Four or C4 countries viz. Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad & Mali to visit Indian Stall on 7th evening. Ministers from C4 countries visited and appreciated Handloom products displayed & as well as live demonstration of Charkha spinning. All C4 countries' Ministers tried live spinning on Charkha with help of Artisan.



Display of Handloom Products by a professional designer was undertaken under the guidance of Smt. Aditi Das Rout, Trade Adviser, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India. Council arranged Handloom Products from different Clusters/Places for display during World Cotton Day. On theme “Weaves & Colours - Cottons of India” Handloom Products of renowned designers viz. Ms. Madhu Jain, Mr. Sunil Sethi, Abraham & Thakore, Akaaro, Raw Mango, Pero, Prama by Pratima Pandey, Pinnacle by Shruti Sancheti & collection of Handloom products arranged from various clusters by the Council were displayed. Council had also arranged live demonstration of Spinning & Winding on Charkha by Shri Pitta Ramulu, (National Awardee 2015) during the event. Live demonstration of Charkha was the key attraction & all the visitors appreciated the spinning & winding demonstration shown by Artisan & products displayed in the stall. Hon’ble Minister of Textiles, appreciated the display of India Handloom Products & live demonstration of charkha by Artisan.

The delegation was lead by Smt. Aditi Das Rout, Trade Adviser, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India and the delegation was represented by HEPC, TEXPROCIL & CCIC. The Permanent Mission of India to the WTO extended full support to conduct the event successfully.

- *Shri Chandrakant D. More,*
Executive

TEXTILE INDUSTRY- UPHEAVALS: ECONOMY SLOW DOWN REASONS AND SOLUTIONS as on Oct.2019

INTRODUCTION:

Textile industries in India passing through a slowdown in recent months because of drop in yarn exports by **65%**. Demand and Supply gap is steadily increasing and inventory of finished goods keep on an increasing trend and working capital is locked in the form of unsold goods.

This has eventually forced the manufacturing units to reduce the production capacity by 20 to 30% across the nation. This unusual condition leads to job losses by more than 35% Textile related employment(Estimated approximate total jobs rendered by textile industries are about 5 crores) directly or indirectly overall in India.

In these pages, let us discuss the probable causes for this sudden slow down and need of the hour for the revival of this industry and Indian economy from this current crisis.

PROBABLE REASONS BEHIND THIS SLOWDOWN:

I.)US-CHINA TRADE WAR:

America and **China** are the first two rank “**economic powers**” of the world. Once America imposed “**higher tariff**” for Chinese exports up to 24.3% after June 2019, some unbalance started in international “**economy order**”.

Their smooth trade in global market is affected. Likewise, with the beginning of this unwarranted trade war. We lost our export of yarn to Chinese market by 50%.*The yarn that was not exported to China became a surplus quantity and finds its position by overflowing in domestic market.*



Hence the supply in domestic market became surplus and trade unbalance is the result. Reduction in demand forced the manufacturer's finished goods inventory blocking the working capital. This is one of the major cause forcing the industries to curtail their production and the employees live with a fear of losing their jobs .However they began to experience delayed wages and some of them a sizable cut in their average earnings per month.

II.) LOWER RATE OF APPAREL EXPORT GROWTH:

Indian apparel growth rate is not encouraging in the recent years.TPP agreements globally clearly sends out India from Global garment market as Vietnam is the major beneficiary in this trade agreement. China escaped from the brunt of this TPP by installing garment units in Vietnam. Indian entrepreneurs missed this opportunity also as we are averse to such kind of risks. This caused reduction in demand of yarn by Indian Apparel Exporters. Higher manufacturing cost, higher lending rates for working capital and no appreciable “**Trade Agreements**” with **EU&America** forced this industry lag behind the competing small nations like Bangladesh, Indonesia and Vietnam whose apparel exports are 3 times higher than us.



III.)DROP IN DOMESTIC CONSUMER PURCHASING POWER:

Indian domestic market is very huge one that helped to absorb any big shake in market upheavals in earlier occasions. But after the high value “**currency devaluation**”, the scenario is totally different with extra cautious approach by every trader/manufacturer. The purchasing power of common man stooped down to a lower level. Though the availability of textile commodity is huge, the purchasing power of Indians is lower.

IV.)TAXATION:

Calculative taxation of the all products helps in building the nation. Since after WTO agreement our “**economy growth**” depends on our “**export capabilities**. Whole world market looks for “**cost effective quality - performing products**”. To win the competition, our product quality and price should be competitive in the world Apparel market and then only demand for our product in “**International Market**” will increase and our export presence can go up. For that the Apparel industry should be “**sustained**” by the Government by the way of “**regulated affordable taxes, levis and encouraging export subsidies and incentives**”.

V.)POOR TECHNOLOGY UPGRADATION of Indian Textile sector:

Looking only on quantity and giving low importance to product quality reduces the demand for the products. Spinning and garment industries should think of going for “**Technology Upgradation**” esp. in spinning & processing sector to compete the international market instead of “**Volume expansion by Spindle Addition**” and “**Enhanced production through Garment Line Addition**”. This will help to reduce manufacturing cost and increase product quality. But it definitely requires GOI intervention by suitable revived introduction of user friendly scheme `TUF-Technology Upgradation Fund` for Textile Industries.

REMEDIES FOR REVIVAL OF ECONOMY & BUSINESS- COMMON AND INDIVIDUAL:

I.)INCREASE MONEY FLOW IN THE HANDS OF BUSINESS UNITS AND PEOPLE:

People's purchasing power should be increased by the Government by the way of allowing reasonable level of money flow in people's hand. For that we can make artificial inflation by 1 or 2%, by increasing earnings of employees of all category and by paying reasonable % subsidies in the income tax collected from individuals and companies yearly as a motivational initiative.

To put the Indian Economy back on the rails, GOI's may pump in more money in the hands of its citizens as it has taken back all high value currency notes from the hands of its citizens by a bold, decisive and good intentional implementation of demonetization, which unexpectedly slowed down our economy. This will increase the purchasing power of the people and the demand will increase and the supply will go up and there by production will increase, employment will be safe guarded and our economy will start growing faster.

GOI should ensures its people's purchasing power improved so that Demand and Supply ratio maintained as 1:1.Fixing deadlines for filing all types of taxes or punishing by the ways of penalties and penal actions by tax authorities will frustrate the business community. Fair approaches by tax department for filing all taxes and giving reasonable time will help the tax payers to fulfil Tax department's requirements.

Domestic consumption level will rise to 10% and above from the sharp fall of 3.1% in first Quarter of FY 2019-20, in due course if the money flow increases and the purchasing power of the citizens improved from the current level.

II.)REDUCE INTEREST RATE ON MONEY BORROWED:

”**Public Sector Banks** “may think of reducing the “**lending rates**” to the “**Borrowers**” by 2% from the current **MCLR** rate for all loans (Term Loan, CC, Home Loans, etc.,) of industries and individuals..RBI should help banking sectors by reducing its repo rate additionally by 1.5% from current 5.25% so that business can be improved and economy can grow. Releasing loans alone will not help unless reducing interest rates on borrowings which needs to at par with international LIBOR rate + reasonable premium for banks suiting Indian businesses.

III.)REDUCE LONG TERM DEPOSITS’ INTEREST RATE:

RBI should think of allowing banks to reduce long term money deposit’s interest rate by 2% proportionately from current rate so that banks’ cost of funds will get reduced and also banks must be rationalised to keep the expenses at control.

IV.)RE-ALLOT & RELEASE TUF:

Government should re-introduce “**TUF**” and help upgrade all textile industries machinery to compete global market with cost effective quality product and scrap their out dated technology machinery & equipments.This scheme should be extended to all textile industries like spinning, knitting, weaving, Textile processing, garmenting etc.,

User friendly “**TUF**” scheme with “**5% Interest Subvention**” should be made available to all the beneficiaries with simplified rules and regulations from banks and support from “**Ministry of Textiles**”. Timely refund of **TUF** subsidies, positively at every quarter will help to revive Textile Industries.

“**TUF**” loan may be limited to a maximum of rupees **100 crores** for each beneficiaries so that more number of Units can avail the allotted funds and can upgrade their manufacturing machineries and equipment to improve their production,productivity,quality and control their cost of production to compete in global market. With this limit on Loan amount, risk of defaulters can be eliminated.

Government should keep this “**TUF**” scheme in force for a period of 7 years and should allot at least **10,000 crores per year** for “**TEXTILE SECTOR**”. At the end of 7 years, our Textile Industries will be **equipped** and **modernized** to challenge international competition as we do now in our “**defence forces modernization.**”

V.)REGULATED TAXES & LEVIES:

Government should review, reduce and regulate the taxes on “**Goods and Services**” so that they could be affordable by the industries and allow the industries to continue their business without slow down.

With the increased revenue received by government, by the strict implementation of GST, its rates may be reduced to possible minimum level. Since industries are “**employment creators & providers**” to the nation, extreme care should be taken, while deciding tax rates on Goods and Services.

Taxes should be levied equally for all textile fibres, natural & man made and not to exceed 5%. GST registration and payment exemption limit may be **doubled for “SMEs”** from the current 40 lakhs limit. **“GST Composition Scheme”** limit for goods should be raised to **2 crores** without the restriction of **“Inter State Transaction”** and for **Service Tax**, the limit may be raised to **“1 crore”** from the current **“50 lakhs”** limit.

The loss about 8000 crores to the government will be made available to the hands of common citizens of India and the money flow will increase and economy will grow.

VI.) ENCOURAGE EXPORTERS BY SUBSIDIES & INCENTIVES:

Government should extend the **“Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL)”** to all textile chain.

“Timely refunding of all subsidies, input credits and incentives” will help the industries to manage the slow down. Helping exporters will directly help to improve **“GDP”** growth from current (Q1 FY 2019-20) 5% level to maximum achieved 8% level gradually.

TUF subsidies are not timely dispersed by Govt to the beneficiaries. This should be released without any delay to industries. GOI to simplify rules and regulations for FDI and domestic investments on Indian Industries.

VII.) INCREASE REPAYMENT LIMIT OF TERM LOANS OF INDUSTRIES:

Government may think of **“Term Loan”** availed by Industries repayment period to a maximum limit of **12 years** and announce zero interest for the last two years **EMIs**. Term loans interest rate should be affordable and should not exceed 7% at any time. Banks may be encouraged to restructure the loans on borrowers' request.

VIII.) MILLS SHOULD PRODUCE COST EFFECTIVE QUALITY PRODUCT:

As the demand is shrinking and competition is increasing, it is time to rethink and evolve newer strategies in production and marketing processes. Upgrading our five major factors, material, men, machine, methods and market will help for strong rooting of any establishment.

Textile industries should give more importance to raw material quality to produce cost effective quality products. Once the raw material quality is taken care of, 90% of end product quality is assured. Mills with stringent raw material management survive any market slow down.

Mills should strive and invest for excellence in their work men's skill level by giving extensive skill development training so that the cost of production can be reduced by increasing productivity, reducing non conform products, and assuring product quality.

Mills should implement in their production process few of the various proven methods and systems like QMS(Quality Management System), TPM(Total Productive Maintenance), 5S System, MS(Performance Maintenance System), Budget System etc., so that confidence level of both the Supplier and Buyer will go up.

Mills practising few of these systems can withstand any economic storms.

Mills which are steadily transforming its armoury of machinery according to the technological innovations reap the results and survive all time. High production and high quality oriented “**State of the Art**” Machinery reduces the cost of production and assures high quality product.

For any product sales, the market, either domestic or overseas is very important. Best marketing strategies, focus on Buyers’ stated and unstated needs, customer satisfaction, will help any industries to face any short term or long term challenges.

IX.)MILLS SHOULD INVEST ON VALUE ADDED PRODUCTS:

Domestic and global demand is increasing for value added products. Organic Yarn, BCI certified Yarn, Compact yarn, slub yarn, injection slub yarn, magic slub yarn, mélange yarn, high twist yarn, fancy yarns etc. Spinning Mills with more than 50,000 spindles may run different varieties of yarn for different market.

X.)MILLS SHOULD THINK OF ENERGY CONSERVATION & GREEN ENERGY WHICH PAYS PREMIUM FOR PRODUCTS:

Since the power cost contribution is about 50% of the conversion cost, Spinning Mills should give importance to power cost control. Power tariff varies state to state and country to country. Hence to compete both domestic and global market, Mills should fix some targets to control UKG and there by power cost.

In TamilNadu State, power cost per unit comes between Rs.6.50 to 7.10 based on usage of EB power, private power, third party power and implementation of various power saving measures by Mills.

A saving of Rs. 1.5 per unit in coarser to finer count will help to reduce power cost by Rs.5/- to Rs.15/-per kg which is substantial reduction in conversion cost. Government power tariff in Gujarat State benefiting the Spinning Mills about Rs.5 per kg in 30s combed hosiery count.

In Bangladesh, Spinning Mills are using the economical **CNG (Compressed Natural Gas)** as fuel for power generation. The power cost per unit is only Rs.1.70 (2.0 DK/KWH).They have Rs.5 per unit advantage in power cost and Rs.15 per kg in 30s Combed Hosiery yarn.

In labour cost, additional advantage of Rs.5 per kg.Overall advantage in power cost and labour cost is about Rs.20 per kg in 30s Combed hosiery count. Though we are deprived of such advantages in India, we should still explore newer avenues to reduce our power cost to compete globally.

Periodical “**Energy Audit**”, and “**Air Audit**” will help control power cost.” **Drives** “used in humidification plants will help reduce power cost during winter season. Mills with own **Wind Power, Solar Power** get some advantages than others. Government may encourage green power projects with good subsidies.

XI.)Contamination free Indian Cotton and Fine varieties

India, even though the largest producer of cotton in the world, we depend on imports for:

- ◆ Contamination free cotton
- ◆ Super fine varieties

In- spite of Technology Mission`s concrete efforts to promote the quality of Indian cotton in terms of Quality consistency/Contamination free cotton, results are distinctly lower and we still depend on Imports for Contamination free cotton This situation can change only and only if the Growers of Indian cotton are directly in touch with the spinners –leave alone the middlemen. The trading of cotton in India needs a sea change if some developments need to take place as per the vision of Technology Mission by GOI.In India, we have SUVIN, SURABHI, VARALAKSHMI and MEENAKSHI cotton long staple fine varieties which has better properties than Imported PIMA and GIZA. Unfortunately, in the absence of support from Spinners added with speculative market conditions restrict these varieties to a very low output –leading to greater demands for imported cotton. Even DCH 32 is not promoted in the right manner and we even get adulterated DCH 32 nowadays, because of poor traders` practices.

CONCLUSION:

Revival of our economy is certain and eminent. However this kind of continued slowdown is not healthy. Since the slowdown is not only due to internal factors but also due to global trade agreements and political factors we need Government of India`s support to form suitable strategies as stated above including renewed Technology Mission for Cotton. We believe steady growth will be guaranteed by the collective efforts of our Government, Industries and people of our nation. Hence constructive positive and creative approach with patience will help grow the economy faster. Moreover Spinning Mills should plan internal strategies to withstand any challenges in the market. Keeping in mind the experience gained in domestic and global market, Mills should take concrete action to reform its production and marketing activities to withstand any up and downs in near future. With the high calibre technical team, and the vibrant Textile Associations available with us in all textile segments, all things are possible.

- *Shri Sundar Murugesan, Joint Director*

A) Productwise analysis for the period April 2019- October 2019 vis-à-vis April 2018- October 2019

Value US\$ million and INR crore

Products	Apr 2018- October 2018		Apr 2019- October 2019		% growth	
	INR	US \$	INR	US \$	INR	US \$
A)Fabrics						
1. Real Madras Handkerchiefs	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	-100.00	-100.00
2. Lungies	6.07	0.89	4.21	0.60	-30.55	-32.16
3. Dhotis	2.26	0.33	2.11	0.30	-6.95	-8.10
4. Sarees	3.50	0.51	3.30	0.47	-5.81	-8.64
5. Other Fabrics	82.20	11.89	101.06	14.39	22.94	21.03
Total (A)	94.04	13.62	110.67	15.76	17.69	15.75
B) Madeups						
1. Bed linen	141.01	20.59	238.06	34.12	68.83	65.75
2. Table linen	120.87	17.53	103.62	14.78	-14.27	-15.72
3. Toilet & kitchen linen	76.83	11.14	58.81	8.40	-23.45	-24.62
4. Cushion covers	103.05	15.01	85.68	12.22	-16.86	-18.64
5. Other Furnishing Articles	195.90	28.43	190.38	27.14	-2.81	-4.53
6. Other Madeups	104.40	15.11	85.57	12.21	-18.04	-19.22
Total (B)	742.06	107.82	762.12	108.87	2.70	0.97
C)Floor Coverings						
Carpet and Floor coverings including mats & mattings	471.17	68.33	470.57	67.14	-0.13	-1.75
D) Clothing Accessories						
Scarves, Stoles, Gloves, Mitts, Mittens etc.	67.37	9.81	62.04	8.83	-7.91	-9.93
Grand Total (A)+(B)+(C)+(D)	1374.63	199.58	1405.41	200.60	2.24	0.51

B) Quantity wise handloom Export for the period ended October 2019.

Product Category	April 2018-Oct 2018	April 2019 -Oct 2019	% growth
Fabrics in sqm.	6666187	8098671	21.48881
Floor coverings in sqm.	14838559	13600231	-8.34534
Clothing accessories in Nos.	1963063	1634241	-16.7505
Made ups in Nos.	28452717	23703459	-16.6918
Made ups in Kgs.	4320342	3671181	-15.0257

C) Top 20 export destination of handloom products

S.No	Country	April-Oct'18		April-Oct'19		% growth	
		INR in Cr.	US\$ in Mn.	INR in Cr.	US\$ in Mn.	in INR	in USD
1	U S A	402.10	58.26	417.81	59.56	3.91	2.22
2	SPAIN	54.01	7.92	174.54	25.02	223.19	215.92
3	U K	74.48	10.81	72.81	10.38	-2.25	-3.92
4	GERMANY	66.94	9.77	60.14	8.57	-10.15	-12.23
5	FRANCE	52.03	7.56	50.81	7.27	-2.35	-3.86
6	AUSTRALIA	60.59	8.77	49.40	7.04	-18.46	-19.80
7	ITALY	68.55	9.98	47.50	6.78	-30.71	-32.02
8	NETHERLAND	51.24	7.46	42.83	6.09	-16.41	-18.34
9	SOUTH AFRICA	42.94	6.19	37.79	5.38	-11.98	-13.09
10	U ARAB EMTS	65.53	9.57	35.35	5.07	-46.05	-47.00
11	JAPAN	33.63	4.90	33.95	4.85	0.93	-1.00
12	SWEDEN	19.22	2.79	21.74	3.09	13.09	10.89
13	CANADA	23.33	3.39	21.40	3.05	-8.29	-9.86
14	GREECE	24.89	3.63	21.05	3.02	-15.44	-16.90
15	SRI LANKA DSR	14.92	2.16	19.00	2.71	27.33	25.40
16	BRAZIL	17.93	2.59	16.67	2.38	-7.00	-8.15
17	SENEGAL	1.34	0.20	16.28	2.32	1115.27	1061.83
18	CHILE	25.37	3.68	15.07	2.16	-40.58	-41.39
19	MALAYSIA	14.62	2.10	15.01	2.14	2.64	1.69
20	PORTUGAL	15.40	2.25	12.20	1.74	-20.80	-22.57

Source: Compiled from DGCIS data

**INDIA ANNOUNCES TAP FOR 5 AFRICAN COUNTRIES ON WORLD COTTON DAY
TEXTILES MINISTER ADDRESSES WTO ON WORLD COTTON DAY IN GENEVA
WORLD COTTON DAY AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECOGNISE SIGNIFICANCE OF
COTTON AS A GLOBAL COMMODITY: SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI**



Smriti Zubin Irani speaking at World Cotton Day programme in Geneva

Union Minister of Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani, said that India remains committed to building on its longstanding development partnership with Africa, especially in the field of cotton. For this, Textiles Minister said that India will be announcing the launch of the second phase of the Cotton Technical Assistance Programme (TAP) for Africa at the Partners Conference in Geneva today. In the five year long second phase, the programme will be scaled up in size and coverage and will be introduced in five additional countries, namely Mali, Ghana, Togo,

Zambia and Tanzania. The Cotton TAP programme will now cover 11 African countries including the C4 (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali). India implemented a Technical Assistance Programme (TAP) for cotton in 6 African countries, namely – Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Malawi, Nigeria and Uganda from 2012 to 2018.

Smriti Zubin Irani further said that India is also engaging meaningfully in providing assistance to strengthen both the agriculture and textile part of the cotton value chain in Africa through training and capacity-building of farmers, scientists, government officials and industry representatives and through the creation of cotton-related infrastructure.

As one of the world's largest producers and consumers of cotton, India supports the World Cotton Day as an opportunity to recognise the significance of cotton as a global commodity, and, more importantly, as a source of livelihood for millions of small and marginal farmers in developing countries said Smriti Zubin Irani, at the opening session of World Cotton Day in Geneva today.

Smriti Zubin Irani said that it is fitting that Mahatma Gandhi has been chosen as the icon for the World Cotton Day and to mark the celebration of the first World Cotton Day, India will gift a replica of Mahatma Gandhi's Charkha to the WTO. She also informed that a live demonstration of the Charkha has been arranged a by Pitta Ramulu, National Award winning weaver from India.

The Textiles Minister also informed that cotton farming and the domestic cotton textile industry continue to be important pillars of India's economy. As a country of 8 million small and marginal cotton farmers, India is sensitive to the challenges faced by the cotton sector in developing countries and India has been a proponent for the elimination of asymmetries and imbalances in the WTO agreements that lead to a distortion of global cotton markets, the Minister added.

Smriti Zubin Irani expressed hope that the World Cotton Day will help showcase innovative initiatives in the cotton eco-system and channel more development assistance for cotton.

- PIB on 07.10.2019

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Government of India
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Commerce
Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi

Public Notice No 47 /2015-2020
Dated the 07 December, 2019

Subject: Changes in MEIS rates

In exercise of powers conferred under paragraph 1.03 of the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020), the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby makes the following amendments/changes in the Appendix 3B, Table 2 applicable for MEIS rates:

- i. Additional 2% rate under MEIS was notified for certain entries/ products vide (a) Public Notice 44 dated 05.12.2017, (b) Public Notice 02 dated 01.05.2018, (c) Public Notice 13 dated 12.06.2018 and (d) Public Notice 28 dated 08.08.2018. These additional rates were continued vide Public Notice 07 dated 11.05.2018.
- ii. Except for the MEIS entries/ products listed in the Annexure to this Public Notice, these additional 2% rates, referred above, shall be available for exports with Let Export date till 31.12.2019 only.

Effect of the Public Notice: Except entries/ products listed in the Annexure, the additional 2% benefits under MEIS will be available for entries/products mentioned in Public Notice 44 dated 05.12.2017, Public Notice 02 dated 01.05.2018, Public Notice 13 dated 12.06.2018 and Public Notice 28 dated 08.08.2018 for exports made till 31.12.2019 only .


(Amit Yadav)

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Annexure to Public Notice No. 47 /2015-20 dated 07 December

ITC HS 2017	MEIS SI No. in Appendix 3B , Table 2
61043100	3909
61043200	3910
61171020	4027
61171040	4029
61171040	4030
62141020	4198
62141020	4199
62141030	4200
62142010	4202
62142020	4203
62149032	4212
62160020	4224
63019010	4241
63022110	4245
63025110	4257
63026010	4261
63029110	4263
63041100	4273
63041940	4277
63049190	4281
63049211	4282
63049221	4283
63049231	4285
63049241	4287
63049281	4292
63049291	4294
63049991	4298
63049992	4299
63051010	4301
63051020	4302
63051030	4303
63051040	4304
63051050	4305
63051060	4306
63051070	4307
63051080	4308
63051090	4309
63061910	4316
63061920	4317
63062910	4320
63071030	4327
63079011	4331
63079012	4333
63079013	4335
63079019	4337
63079020	4338
63079090	4339
63101030	4341
63109030	4343

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EXPORTS OF WOVEN LINEN FABRICS UP WITH CAGR OF 17.96%

The global trade of woven fabrics of linen has jumped with a CAGR of 16.20 per cent from 2016 to 2018, according to data from TexPro. The global trade of woven fabrics of linen was \$2,284.77 million in 2016, which increased to \$3,085.18 million in 2018. The total trade of woven fabrics of linen has risen by 32.23 per cent in 2018 over the previous year.

The trade of linen woven fabrics is anticipated to reach \$4,859 million in 2021 with a CAGR of 16.20 per cent from 2018, according to [Fibre2Fashion's market analysis tool TexPro](#).

The global exports of woven fabrics of linen was \$1,580.16 million in 2016, which increased by 39.15 per cent to \$2,198.84 million in 2018. Total exports moved up by 34.18 per cent in 2018 compared to the previous year and is expected to reach \$3,609.38 million in 2021 with a CAGR of 17.96 per cent from 2018.

The global imports of woven fabrics of linen was \$704.61 million in 2016, which grew by 25.79 per cent to \$886.33 million in 2018. Total imports rose by 27.64 per cent in 2018 over the previous year and is expected to reach \$1,250.46 million in 2021 with a CAGR of 12.16 per cent from 2018.

China (\$1,477.21 million), Italy (\$171.96 million) and Belgium (\$68.76 million) were the key exporters of woven fabrics of linen across the globe in 2018, together comprising 78.13 per cent of total export. These were distantly followed by the UK (\$48.93 million), India (\$45.53 million), Belarus (\$45.49 million) and Spain (\$44.33 million).

From 2013 to 2018, the most notable rate of growth in terms of export, amongst the main exporting countries, was attained by China (263.53 per cent) and Italy (222.63 per cent).

The US (\$109.35 million), Italy (\$80.60 million), South Korea (\$52.64 million), China (\$42.01 million), Spain (\$38.26 million) and UK (\$36.34 million) were the key importers of woven fabrics of linen across the globe in 2018, together comprising 40.53 per cent of total import. These were followed by Turkey (\$33.90 million), the Netherlands (\$30.42 million), Japan (\$29.76 million) and France (\$29.49 million).

From 2013 to 2018, the most notable rate of growth in terms of import, amongst the main importing countries, was attained by South Korea (693.27 per cent) and Italy (36.89 per cent).

PANTONE MARKS CLASSIC BLUE AS COLOUR OF YEAR

Pantone, provider of professional colour language standards and digital solutions, and X-Rite have named Pantone 19-4052, Classic Blue, as the Pantone Colour of the Year for 2020. The Colour of the Year is selected after a detailed trend analysis. Pantone's colour experts at the Pantone Colour Institute comb the world looking for new colour influences.

“We are living in a time that requires trust and faith. It is this kind of constancy and confidence that is expressed by Pantone 19-4052 Classic Blue, a solid and dependable blue hue we can always rely on,” said Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Colour Institute. “Imbued with a deep resonance, Pantone 19-4052 Classic Blue provides an anchoring foundation. A boundless blue evocative of the vast and infinite evening sky, Pantone 19-4052 Classic Blue encourages us to look beyond the obvious to expand our thinking; challenging us to think more deeply, increase our perspective and open the flow of communication.”

Seen largely as a restful colour, Pantone 19-4052, Classic Blue brings a sense of peace and tranquility to the human spirit, offering refuge. Aiding concentration and bringing laser-like clarity, Pantone 19-4052, Classic Blue re-centres thoughts. A reflective blue tone, Classic Blue fosters resilience, according to Pantone.


“Non-aggressive and easily relatable, the trusted Pantone 19-4052, Classic Blue lends itself to relaxed interaction. Associated with the return of another day, this universal favourite is comfortably embraced,” it said.


“The Pantone Colour of the Year highlights the relationship between trends in colour and what is taking place in our global culture at a moment in time, a colour that reflects what individuals feel they need that colour can hope to answer,” added Laurie Pressman, vice president of the Pantone Colour Institute. “As society continues to recognise colour as a critical form of communication, and a way to express and affect ideas and emotions, designers and brands should feel inspired to use colour to engage and connect. The Pantone Colour of the Year selection provides strategic direction for the world of trend and design, reflecting the Pantone Colour Institute's year-round work doing the same for designers and brands.”

To fully bring to life the true meaning of Pantone 19-4052 Classic Blue, Pantone has translated Pantone 19-4052 Classic Blue into a multi-sensory experience. By extending the sensory reach of Pantone 19-4052 Classic Blue, Pantone is hoping to reach a greater diversity of people to provide everyone with an opportunity to engage with the Color of the Year 2020 in their own unique way.

“As we all head into a new era, we wanted to challenge ourselves to find inspiration from new sources that not only evolve our Colour of the Year platform, but also help our global audiences achieve richer and more rewarding colour experiences,” added Pressman. “This desire, combined with the emotional properties of Pantone 19-4052 Classic Blue, motivated us to expand beyond the visual, to bring the 2020 Pantone Colour of the Year to life through a multi-sensory experience.”



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