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NEWS CLIPPINGS 02-09-2016

TIRUPPUR AIMS TO OVERTAKE BANGLADESH, CHINA IN APPAREL EXPORT	The Economic Times http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/cons-products/garments/-/textiles/tiruppur-aims-to-overtake-bangladesh-china-in-apparel-export/articleshow/53960931.cms
<p>Indian clothes maker T.R. Vijaya Kumar thinks it's time for his country to take on Bangladesh, Vietnam and even China for leadership in the global apparel industry.</p> <p>He's a second-generation manufacturer, who's transformed his small family undershirt business in southern India into an apparel exporter of 1,700 employees and aims to double its sales by 2020. When it comes to his hometown of Tiruppur, which is often referred to as the knitwear capital of India, his ambitions are even greater: tripling exports and adding 500,000 jobs in the process.</p> <p>"The next China will be Tiruppur," Kumar said one August evening from the offices of his company, CBC Fashions Pvt., as he showcased a hardcover action plan for the city that he and other manufacturers sponsored. "The cost of production has gone up in China, they are phasing out textile. Opportunities will go to other countries, so we are to grasp it."</p> <p>The trouble is that other Asian nations are way ahead. India's \$17 billion exports of apparel were about half as much as Bangladesh's last year and its 3.7 percent global market share lagged behind Vietnam's 5.1 percent. Closing the gap is crucial: Apparel is a labor-intensive industry, which has historically helped developing economies transition out of agriculture. The Indian economy needs to generate 80 million new jobs by 2025 to keep up with its fast growing young population.</p>	

SURAT TO CLAIM RIGHTFUL PLACE IN EXPORT MARKETS	Fibre2fashion.com http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/-surat-to-claim-rightful-place-in-export-markets--191391-newsdetails.htm
<p>Surat hopes to claim its rightful place in the textile export market through a slew of efforts, including setting up of a textile cluster, by the South Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SGCCI). A 50 lakh acre plot should be allotted within a year for this. The next step will be into garment manufacturing and diversify into cotton fabrics.</p> <p>“We have received consent from the government to provide us a 50 lakh acre plot of land to build a state-of-the-art textile cluster and we expect to receive the land within one year,” DS Agarwal, president of the South Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SGCCI) told Fibre2Fashion.</p> <p>Sharing other plans for the development of the South Gujarat textile industry, Agarwal informed, “We now want to expand through forward integration. As of now, yarns and fabrics are manufactured the most; we now want to move ahead into garment manufacturing. Secondly, until now we were manufacturing just synthetic fabrics; we would now like to diversify into producing cotton fabrics too.”</p> <p>There are about 600,000 plain powerlooms, around 100,000 embroidery machines and also 50,000 waterjet and rapier looms in Surat, apart from numerous yarn texturing units in the textile hub. Export of synthetic fabrics from the Surat textile industry is around Rs 20,000 crore.</p>	

NS INTERNATIONAL TO HANDHOLD ASPIRING TEXTILE EXPORTERS	Fibre2fashion.com http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/ns-international-to-handhold-aspiring-textile-exporters-191395-newsdetails.htm
<p>A Surat-based start-up is helping textile manufacturers understand the finer nuances of exporting – from developing a line to taking it to the right market, and also dealing with the huge paperwork that an export business demands. The start-up is the brainchild of business partners at NS International, Saija Bhatt Thakker and Shivang N Desai.</p> <p>The duo of Saija Bhatt Thakker and Shivang N Desai has initiated a start up to help Indian textile manufacturers understand the finer nuances of exporting. NS International will handhold aspiring exporters and increase their awareness on various factors like international payment and delivery systems, thereby increasing their confidence in exporting.</p> <p>Sharing their plans with Fibre2Fashion, they said, “First, a majority of the people are very poor at data analysis. They are not aware of international payment and delivery systems; they fear that they will not receive payments for their shipments, and we want to bring clarity on this. Again, there is a certain lack of professionalism in small businesses in India.”</p>	

**ERIYA-DRIVING CHANGE IN THE NATURAL
TEXTILE MARKET OF NE**

Northeast Today

<http://www.northeasttoday.in/eriya-driving-change-in-the-natural-textile-market-of-ne/>

Worldwide, there has been an ongoing reduction in the use of 'synthetic' fabric. It is being drastically eliminated by the developed nations of the world and the environmentally and the health-conscious people and prime importance is being laid on natural fibre. This change in attitude has led to a growing demand for silk and various other natural threads such as cotton etc., all across the globe. At such a time, it is our grave misfortune that only 1% of Eri Cocoon produced is being used for further production, within Assam. The rest of the produce, a considerable amount is being carried out of the state.

From 2010 to 2016, many problems have continued to plague this industry in Assam. Two of the important ones being, lack of proper working infrastructure and presence of thousands of unskilled workers and part time workers. Perennial floods, massive river-bank erosion, erratic monsoonal rains, population explosion have compounded the problems manifold. Production of silk fabric is heavily dependent on the Eri-moth cocoons. But, during the same period, 99% of this prime raw material has gone outside of Assam. This fact is a clear betrayal of our incapacity and lack of farsightedness.

In an attempt to preserve the Eri, Eri-Fed has launched Eriya in Boko. This is an initiative of Mr. Chandan Keshab, a resident of Boko, Assam. He has been a pioneer in promoting the use of Natural Dyes and providing a profitable market for the products made by thousands of weavers. As a former armed force officer, he is a strict disciplinarian. A man of veritable talents and philanthropist streak, he is well respected within the local community as well as the broader society in and around Boko. He has taken up the mantle of being the Executive Secretary of Eri Fed. The role of Eri-Fed's President has been delegated to the outspoken personality of Monika Borgohain Boruah.

For example, using the traditional ways 36 – 40 gram yarn can be spun in 8 hours' time. Similarly, in terms of loom, a traditional loom (Mati Xaal) enables weaving of 1.5 – 2 meter of fabric in a working day and use of Fly Shuttle increases the length woven to 3 meter. But, a Pit Loom can make it possible to weave around 8 – 10 meter of fabric in a working day. Since, the labour charge is stipulated as per meter of fabric woven, in comparison to Mati Xaal, the Fly Shuttle enables the weaver to earn twice as more and it becomes 3 to 5 times the economic situation of a family as well as curb the exodus of skilled workers to other states in search of livelihood.

"Under the project, the income of the weavers and spinners will increase by at least 30 percent in a year. At present the annual income of a weaver is about Rs. 1.60 lakh which we look to take it up to Rs. 2 lakh", says Mr. Keshab.

<p>ONLINE PORTAL FOR HANDLOOM STALL ALLOTMENT TO BRING TRANSPARENCY WITH EASE</p>	<p>Knnindia.co.in http://knnindia.co.in/news/newsdetails/sectors/online-portal-for-handloom-stall-allotment-to-bring-transparency-with-ease</p>
<p>New Delhi, Sep 1 (KNN) The online portal for handloom stall allotment, which was launched by the Ministry of Textiles earlier this week, would save them from the effort of booking the stalls for exhibitions in person. They can now do it all online from across the country.</p> <p>Online Portal for Handloom Stall Allotment was launched by Rashmi Verma, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles in the national capital on Tuesday. This portal is envisioned as weaver friendly platform, which shall streamline allotment of handloom, stalls.</p> <p>Weavers/Organizations will be able to apply on online portal as and when online applications are called by way of advertisements in leading newspapers.</p> <p>Weavers/Organizations will register themselves for Applying for Allotment for the first time. Thereafter their database will keep updating. System will allot them a login and pass-word for the purpose of submitting application.</p>	

<p>PORTUGUESE-MOZAMBIACAN CONSORTIUM EXPANDS TEXTILE BUSINESS IN MOZAMBIQUE</p>	<p>Macauhub http://www.macauhub.com.mo/en/2016/09/01/portuguese-mozambican-consortium-expands-textile-business-in-mozambique/</p>
<p>Mozambique Cotton Manufacturers (MCM), a consortium of one Mozambican and three Portuguese companies, plans to invest about US\$35 million to expand the business, according to a statement issued in Maputo.</p> <p>MCM, consisting of Mozambican companies Intelec Holdings and Portuguese companies Mundotêxtil, Mundifios and Crispim Abreu, has invested nearly US\$20 million for the installation and operation of the units, and the amount now announced will serve mainly to add weaving, dyeing, sewing and other support equipment.</p> <p>The Director-General of MCM, André Vieira, said the company is currently exporting 100% of production to Portugal and South Africa and is considering expansion to countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), according to Mozambican news agency AIM.</p> <p>Vieira also mentioned the US market, a country with which Mozambique has an agreement to facilitate exports.</p>	

**US LEVIES ANTI-DUMPING DUTY ON
CHINESE SPECIALTY FABRICS**

Fibre2fashion.com

<http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textiles-import-export-news/us-levies-anti-dumping-duty-on-chinese-specialty-fabrics--191400-newsdetails.htm>

The US department of commerce has approved levying anti dumping duty on imports of Chinese specialty fabric that allegedly have been dumped into the US market, causing injury to American-made products. The duties will take effect on textiles that have been imported into the US, June onwards at a rate of 162 per cent of the declared value.

The ruling was announced this week at a press conference at Auburn Manufacturing in Maine, the northeastern most US state. The department of commerce investigated the case after Auburn had alleged dumping of Chinese specialty fabrics, thereby hurting its business.

Bruce Lee Poliquin, who represents Maine's 2nd congressional district in the House of Representatives, worked with Maine's congressional delegation to help Auburn take its case to the department of commerce. Poliquin said the preliminary ruling helps "create a level playing field" for silica fabric manufacturers.

Auburn CEO Kathie Leonard said that her company has lost about 30 per cent of its market share for the specialty fabric in the past three years, mainly due to Chinese dumping.

**PAK GARMENT IMPORTERS IRKED
BY HIGH CUSTOMS VALUATION**

Fibre2fashion.com

<http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/international-textiles-trade-news/pak-garment-importers-irked-by-high-customs-valuation-191399-newsdetails.htm>

Pakistan based importers of apparels who are troubled by the unparalleled increase in customs valuation on imported readymade garments by the Directorate General of Customs Valuation, are seeking intervention of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI). These garment importers claim the increase is in the region of over 800 per cent.

A delegation of clothing importers recently met the LCCI senior vice president Almas Hyder and conveyed that the Directorate General of Valuation has increased custom valuation of the imported apparels by an average of more than 800 per cent.

According to these importers, this extraordinary increase as against that was valued in the past, is unjustified, which will coax importers to seek illegal means to bring readymade garments into the country.

WEAVERS IN DISTRESS DUE TO POOR EID-SALE

The Daily Star

<http://www.thedailystar.net/country/weavers-distress-due-poor-eid-sale-1279312>

Weavers of Pabna and Sirajganj districts are distressed due to the poor sale of handloom cloth ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, although they have bumper sale during both Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Azha every year.

“More than five crore handloom clothes, including sari and lungi, were produced here in the four lakh looms in 10 upazilas of the two districts during Eid-ul-Fitr, but the recent poor sale of handloom clothes has disappointed weavers of both districts,” said Md Haidar Ali, vice-president of Bangladesh Handloom and Power Loom Owners' Association.

At least 70 to 75 percent of the total demand of handloom clothes is met by the two districts, so the weavers expected bumper sale round the year. But they are in trouble now due to the poor sale of handloom products, said Haidar, also president of Sirajganj district unit of the Association.

“The handloom clothes of Pabna and Sirajganj are sold everywhere in the country. People are buying sacrificial animals, so the trading of handloom clothes has decreased,” said Md Badsha Mia, leading weaver of Pabna and also a member of the Association.