

The Southern India Mills' Association

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NEWS CLIPPINGS 10-09-2016

DWINDLING COTTON STOCK	The Times of India
WORRIES TEXTILE MILLS	http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Dwindling-cotton- stock-worries-textile-mills/articleshow/54258352.cms

India, which was the largest producer of cotton in 2014-15, has seen the crop stock dwindle, leading to competition between exporters and and the textile industry, which has been forced to import at the end of the season.

If exports in FY17 are at the same level as that in 2015-16, then not much cotton would be left for mills despite the forecast of high imports, industry officials said. The closing stock for the 2016-17 cotton season (October-September) is projected at 13 lakh bales (a bale is 170 kgs), the lowest in five years. "The country doesn't have sufficient surplus cotton. However, exports are strong leading to forced imports at high prices at end (of) season. Hence our core advantage is getting eroded," said Sanjay K Jain, chairman, Northern India Textile Mills' Association (NITMA). "The 2016-17 cotton balance sheet is very precarious as sowing is 10-15% less and opening stock is also low," he added.

The country's stock-to-use ratio, at 12-15%, is one of the lowest in the world. But the production began to fall in the last two years due to a slew of factors, including pest attacks, poor rainfall and stagnant yield levels. The production touched a record high of 398 lakh bales in 2013-14 but has now reduced to about 338 lakh bales.

Competitors such as Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam and China are buying 20-30% of the Indian crop, forcing the industry to import, Jain said. Pakistan has emerged as the largest buyer of Indian cotton purchasing over 25 lakh bales in the 2015-16 season. The country has exported over 65 lakh bales of cotton during the season.

EXPO ORGANISED IN IMPHAL TO	Business Standard
PROMOTE WORK OF STATE	http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/expo-organised-in-imphal- to-promote-work-of-state-weavers-116090900980_1.html
WEAVERS	

Showcasing intricate designs prepared by weavers through traditional methods, a five-day long productioncum-expo was recently organized by the ManipurMale Weavers and Transgender at the Brahmapur Nahabam Community Hall in Imphal.

"In Manipur, male weavers have always been there. However, since the weaving is mostly done by females and we generally have a concept that female can only do the weaving works. That is why; male weavers were never exposed nor had a platform to showcase their designs. So today, we are promoting and creating a platform for male weavers to showcase their creations," said Ningthoujam Uma, Convener of the expo.

Traditional wear and yarn, pure cotton and silk saris, blouse, shawl and other western outfits were on display at the expo.

"I am happy to be part of this show. And I am sure this particular show where the male weavers of Manipurare also participating and showcasing their designs, will definitely send out a message of equality across the country," said Inao Singh, a weaver.

US-BASED CHARITY TARGETS SPINNING MILLS IN INDIA, BANGLADESH TO END SLAVERY IN FASHION INDUSTRY Business Standard http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/us-basedcharity-targets-spinning-mills-in-india-bangladesh-to-end-slavery-infashion-industry-116090900126_1.html

One of the most effective ways to curb forced labour in the garment industry is to target cotton spinning mills, where workers can provide valuable information about the source of material in the fashion supply chain, an anti-slavery charity said on Friday.

The apparel industry has come under pressure to improve factory conditions and workers' rights, particularly after the collapse of the Rana Plaza complex in Bangladesh more than three years ago, when 1,136 garment workers were killed.

Following the tragedy, numerous initiatives were launched by global brands and charities to promote openness and safeguard employees, from ensuring the safety of buildings to providing better pay and working hours.

"Located in the middle of the supply chain, spinning mills are uniquely positioned to identify cotton produced with forced labour and prevent it from entering corporate supply chains," Patricia Jurewicz, RSN's director, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

"Our initiative targets the most opaque place in the supply chain, where yarn spinners blend different types of cotton together," she said. "They are the key to knowing if the cotton that gets spun and woven into our clothes was harvested under forced labour conditions."

ODISHA TARGETS RS 21,559 CRORE EXPORTS IN 2016-17

Business Standard http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/odisha-targets-rs-21-559-crore-exports-in-2016-17-116090901127 1.html

The Odisha government has set a target to scale up its Exports to Rs 21,559 crore in the current financial year, said an official on Friday.

The state government had recorded Exports of Rs 17,346 crore in the 2015-16 fiscal.

The government has also decided to set up export promotion councils in the capital city to boost export potential of products like handicraft, handloom, cashew and sea foods.

Export promotion councils on various products like handicraft, handloom, cashew, engineering goods, agricultural and food products would be set up in Bhubaneswar, said the official.

It was decided at the 1st state-level empowered committee chaired by Chief Secretary A.P. Padhi, who reviewed the implementation of the OdishaExport Promotion Policy.

Several departments including Textile, Handloom and Handicrafts, Industries, Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Resource Development, Steel and Mines, Health and Family Welfare, Electronics and IT were advised set up export promotion cells in their respective departments.

GERMANY'S AMANN GROUP KEEN TO SET UP	Knnindia.co.in
TEXTILE UNIT IN BENGAL; MSME DEPT TO	http://knnindia.co.in/news/newsdetails/state/germanys-amann-
FACILITATE LINKAGE WITH LOCAL UNITS	<u>group-keen-to-set-up-textile-unit-in-bengal-msme-dept-to-facilitate-</u> linkage-with-local-units

Munich, Sep 9 (KNN) The AMANN Group of Germany is keen to set up a large textile unit in West Bengal to manufacture specialized threads for which the Bengal Government has asked its MSME department to facilitate linking it with the private textile manufacturers of the state.

The 160 years old AMANN Group of Germany represented by Sanjeev Grewal, Regional Director said they were interested in setting up a large textile industry in Bengal manufacturing specialized threads.

"The dialogue will continue as all the dignitaries were invited to Bengal," All India Trinamool Congress said.

The interaction was attended by Senator H.C. Zaki Kursun, GM, East West, a large importer of home furnishing textiles. He said he is highly interested in sourcing from Bengal. The Bengal MSMET Department will facilitate linking with private textile manufacturers of Bengal.

AMANN is one of the leading international manufacturers of high-quality sewing and embroidery threads.

INDIA'S TECH TEXTILES LIKELY TO REACH RS 1.58 LAKH CR MARK IN ONGOING FISCAL

Yarnsandfibres.com http://www.yarnsandfibers.com/news/textile-news/india%E2%80%99stech-textiles-likely-reach-rs-158-lakh-cr-mark-ongoing-fiscal#.V9NekVt97Dd

At present the potential of technical textiles industry of India remains largely untapped. But with the growing industrialization, increasing access to medical care and huge infrastructure spending is expected to drive growth of technical textile segment which is expected to reach Rs 1.58-lakh crore mark in the ongoing fiscal, grow at a rate of 20 percent, a top Central Government official said today.

Over the last couple of years, India has been growing at a steady pace in the sector with perceptible signs of expansion being observed in a few specialized segments, Textile Commissioner Kavita Gupta said this on the sidelines of Techtextil India Symposium 2016 which began here today.

The Centre is giving financial support for growth of the industry. It has already announced 15 percent capital subsidy for investments in technical textiles under the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, Gupta said.

The global technical textiles market is expected to reach USD 193.16 billion by 2022. Growth of key end-use industries such as agriculture, construction, packaging and automotive in BRICS nations is expected to remain a key driving factor for global technical textiles market, the IAS officer said.

The Commissioner called for increasing spends on R&D in the sector. The sector spends around 10-11 percent on R&D at present and hopes to double the same in coming years.

CHINESE TEXTILE COMPANY	The Tribune
DELEGATION MEETS CM	http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/uttarakhand/chinese-textile-company-
	delegation-meets-cm/292830.html

A delegation of Chinese Textile Company — Zhejiang Daoqin Textile Co Ltd — met Chief Minister Harish Rawat regarding setting up of a textile industry worth Rs 600 crore in the state.

They expressed interest in investing in the Sitarganj Pase-II industrial estate in Uttarakhand.

As per Central government standards, Uttarakhand recently got the 4th rank for ease of doing business. Rawat assured them of full cooperation. Dr R Rajesh Kumar, MD, SIIDCUL, assure the delegation of providing necessary help through the single window system started by the state government for the industry.

Zang Chain, Charlee Yang and Lee Guambri from M/S Zhejiang Daoqin, Textile Co Ltd along with Uttarakhand Chief Secretary Shatrughan Singh, SIDCUL managing director R Rajesh Kumar and other senior officials attended the meeting.

IMPORT DUTY EXEMPTION WILL HELP	Business Line
IS COMPETE BETTER, SAY GARMENT EXPORTERS	http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/policy/import-duty- exemption-will-help-us-compete-better-say-garment-
	exporters/article9091325.ece

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 9: Ready-made garment exporters are hopeful that the government's decision to exempt import duty on speciality man-made fabric used as inputs for exports can help them compete better with smaller countries such as Bangladesh and Vietnam that have the dual advantage of low operating costs and preferential access to markets such as the European Union.

The Apparel Export Promotion Council is organising a nation-wide drive to spread awareness about the new special advance authorisation scheme announced by the Centre last month, so that all exporters can take advantage of it, Ashok Rajani, Chairman, AEPC, told Business Line.

"India has been losing to competition from smaller nations like Bangladesh and Vietnam because of higher labour cost, absence of cluster manufacturing and inability to attract women workforce to reduce labour costs. Banking on trade agreements and low manufacturing overheads, these countries have started to pose a serious threat, especially in the EU and the US," said Rajani. According to industry figures, India's ready-made garments exports in 2015-16 were worth \$17.1 billion, Bangladesh's garments exports in 2015-16, were valued at \$28 billion.

The government's decision to allow duty-free import of speciality man-made fabric (which will add up to an additional duty drawback reimbursement of 3.2 per cent to 4.7 per cent) will help immensely in increasing Indian exporters' competitive edge, Rajani added.

FACING ADVERSITY: THE EFFECT OF CURRENT ECONOMIC DOWNTURN ON THE GARMENT INDUSTRY

Lexology.com http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=b436ee23-be0c-4317-9e6e-<u>07fa799579fb</u>

The garment industry in Los Angeles is currently going through a transition period. The tag "made in China" is becoming more prevalent as minimum wage rises and domestic sewing and textile companies struggle to survive dwindling profit margins. In comparison to the rising expenses and costs to manufacture garments in Los Angeles, foreign countries such as China apply more lax legal policies in favor of businesses to produce more garments using fewer financial resources. As a result, many garment manufacturers that focus their business on quantity rather than quality in the wholesale market, are now relying heavily toward foreign-based sewing and textile companies to keep their businesses afloat.

Another layer to this contractual problem is that many of the garment manufacturers fail to include choice of law or jurisdiction clauses in their contracts. Many garment manufacturers prefer short contracts, falsely believing that most, if not all, of their business counterparts, including foreign textile and sewing companies, would not want to do business with them if their contracts are too complicated or extensive. This fear forces many domestic garment manufacturers to exclude a number of essential contract clauses and/or provisions from their contracts. Like any other business, profit margins are what drives the decision-making process for most garment manufacturers. The recent exacerbation of economic downturn in the garment industry has forced many of these garment manufacturers to forego what they perceive as losing legal efforts and focus only on creating more profit.

RWANDA: C&H TRAINS 600 RWANDANS	All Africa
IN TEXTILE PRODUCTION	http://allafrica.com/stories/201609090637.html

In a bid to promote the government initiative of Made in Rwanda products, C&H Garments Limited, a local textile factory is training 600 Rwandans who will be employed by the company once they complete.

Speaking to The Rwanda Focus at their Kigali Special Economic Zone (KSEZ) base, Saidi Hitimana, the assistant general manager of the company, said that the trainees have spent more than 4 months being trained.

"Initially, we started our plant while manufacturing textile products for exports only. But in the spirit of promoting Made in Rwanda products, the government is now constructing an extension plant where we will be manufacturing clothes for the local market. The new plant will be employing more than 1000 Rwandans, including these 600," Hitimana said.

Once the new plant is complete, it will be able to produce at least 15,000 t-shirts, 15,000 shirts, 15,000 trousers per month.

The company currently produces different types of clothes which are exported to the United States of America, Europe and some African countries.

NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR INAUGURATES EXPANDED UNIFI PLANTS Fibre2fashion.com http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/north-carolina-governorinaugurates-expanded-unifi-plants-191529-newsdetails.htm

The governor of North Carolina Pat Mccrory inaugurated the expanded facilities of yarn producer Unifi in Reidsville and Yadkinville, which will add 87 new jobs. The governor had earlier approved grants to both the Unifi plants to undertake expansions, so while the Reidsville plant received \$500,000, the Yadkinville facility bagged \$190,000 in grants.

Founded in 1971, Unifi is a diversified manufacturer of synthetic filament yarns. The company is also a producer of recycled yarn, which it produces from polyester fibres recycled from PET bottles.

Its product portfolio includes partially-oriented yarn, the texturing, air-jet texturing, twisting, and beaming of polyester and the texturing and covering of nylon filament yarns.

Additionally, the company also has a package dyeing operation, where it is able to dye a wide range of substrates.

QUAID-E-AZAM APPAREL PARK PROJECT	Yarnsandfibres.com
TO PROMOTE PAK'S TEXTILE INDUSTRY	http://www.yarnsandfibers.com/news/textile-news/quaid-e-azam-apparel-
	park-project-promote-pak%E2%80%99s-textile-industry#.V9Neklt97Dd

A high level meeting chaired by Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif was held in Lahore on Friday to review various matters of Quaid-e-Azam Apparel Park project.

The Chief Minister said that the negligence will not be tolerated in the development work of public welfare.

He directed the authority that the Quaid-e-Azam Apparel Park project should be completed by professional manner.

He further stated that Quaid-e-Azam Apparel Park project is a milestone and will promote textile and garments industry.

He said that the government was trying to ensure full participation of private experts, academia, civil society and development partners in policy dialogue. The Quaid-e-Azam Apparel Park was being executed with Chinese investment.