



The Southern India Mills' Association

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DELEGATION OF WEAVERS AND ARTISANS OF JAMMU RELIGION MEETS MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES	Meri News http://www.merineews.com/article/delegation-of-weavers-and-artisans-of-jammu-region-meets-minister-of-commerce-and-industries/15919414.shtml
<p>On Saturday, a delegation of weavers and artisans under the leadership of Shri Bal Krishan Koul, State Convenor BJP Weavers & Artisans Cell and All India Handloom Board Member, Ministry of Textiles, government of India met the Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industries.</p> <p>The delegation apprised the Hon'ble minister about the problems in Jammu province, weavers and artisans are facing. While comparing the economic problems of weavers and artisans of the three regions of the state, the weavers and artisans of Jammu said that they were lagging far behind in development and progress.</p> <p>The weavers and artisans of Jammu province have dire need of a Weavers Service Centre at Jammu, which has not come up so far. The weavers and artisans of Jammu have remained deprived of this service which is currently situated very far away for the weavers and artisans of Bilawar, Kathua, Poonch, Rajouri and Jammu. In the meeting with the Hon'ble textiles minister, government of India they brought this issue to set up one service centre at Jammu.</p>	

JOBLESS WORKERS OF SPINNING MILLS WAITING FOR GOVERNMENT HELP	The Times of India http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/meerut/Jobless-workers-of-spinning-mills-waiting-for-government-help/articleshow/54280392.cms
<p>Bijnor: During a whirlwind campaign in the district, Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav had promised to revive all the 11 spinning (dhaga) mills of the Uttar Pradesh if voted to power. Yadav was voted to power with a thumping majority.</p> <p>Now, four years later, when his tenure is about to complete, thousands of jobless mill employees are still waiting for Yadav to fulfil his poll promise.</p> <p>One of the spinning mills was in Nagina town of Bijnor.</p>	

It shut down its operations in 1982, leaving 1,500 employees jobless. About 30 families are still living in the premises of the mill with the hope that it will start functioning again with the government's help.

When contacted, Nagina SP MLA Manoj Paras told TOI: "The government is committed to start all the 11 katai mills in the state. Two years ago, our government had passed a proposal in the Cabinet in this regard. The government had decided that the closed katai mills should be given on lease, but no company or individual came forward."

CLOSED INDUSTRIES COMING INTO OPERATIONAL GRADUALLY: MINISTER JOSHI

Kathmandu Post

<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-09-11/closed-industries-coming-into-operation-gradually-minister-joshi.html>

Minister for Industry Navindra Raj Joshi said the government would gradually reopen the industries closed over the time on different reasons.

During a discussion on industrial sector reform work plan organised by the Industry Ministry here on Sunday, the government said it was preparing to bring three industries into operation very soon.

According to him, three out of Nepal Drugs Limited, Gorkhkali Rubber Industry, Butwal Spinning Mill, Birgunj Sugar Mill, Birgunj Agricultural Tools Factory, Oriental Magnesite would be brought into operations.

Currently, Nepal is incurring the trade loss of over Rs 600 billion. But, dozens of industries in the country have been closed on different times.

During the discussion, Chairman of Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Pashupati Murarka, condemned the trade unionism in the national industries while the strike are equally causing severe dent on product.

TAX REBATES FOR GARMENT EXPORT

Business Standard

http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/tax-rebates-for-garment-export-116091100689_1.html

The ministry of textiles has notified a scheme for Rebate of State Levies on Export of Garments (ROSL). This, first of its kind, has unique features and will apply with 'Let Export Order' dates from September 20 onwards.

The scheme seeks to rebate state value added tax or central sales tax on inputs, including packaging and fuel, duty on electricity generation and duties, and charges on purchase of grid power, as accumulated through the stages of production from yarn to finished garments. The ministry has notified the rebate rates for all items covered under chapters 61 and 62 of the All Industry Rates of drawback. Usually these are between one and two per cent of the FOB value for those availing of the special advance authorisation scheme

and between three and four per cent of the FOB value for those claiming duty drawback. The scheme is valid for three years but the government can change the rebate rates any time.

An attention-grabbing condition of the scheme is that the rebate will be available for exporters who have constituted an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC), where applicable, in pursuance of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. A declaration to that effect will have to be given to the Customs at the time of claiming the rebate.

<p>‘KEEP 50 LAKH BALES OF COTTON AS BUFFER TO AVOID SHORTAGE’</p>	<p>Business Standard http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/keep-50-lakh-bales-of-cotton-as-buffer-to-avoid-shortage-116091100758_1.html</p>
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South Indian Spinners Association (SISPA) today said the GST Bill would benefit the entire textile chain and requested the Centre to direct departments concerned to keep 50 lakh cotton bales as buffer stock to avoid shortage.

SISPA also urged the government to bring out a comprehensive cotton and synthetic fibre policy to establish secure policy measures that would benefit cotton farmers and enable the spinning industry to grow consistently, thus generating millions of jobs and hence provide additional revenue to the exchequer.

The Association at its 25th Annual General Body Meeting here urged the Tamil Nadugovernment to amend laws to permit low tension electricity consumers purchase private power, as in the case of high tension consumers, as it will help reduce power and production costs.

SISPA requested the government to give relief to the spinning industry's long-standing request of removal of one per cent market committee cess on cotton and waste cotton.

The AGM earlier elected K Rangarajan as SISPA president for a two-year team from 2016-18.

<p>STATE NEEDS MORE TEXTILE HUBS IN COTTON BELT: DEVENFRA FADNAVIS</p>	<p>The Indian Express http://indianexpress.com/article/mumbai/state-needs-more-textile-hubs-in-cotton-belt-devendra-fadnavis-3026435/</p>
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Chief minister Devendra Fadnavis Sunday said more textile hubs will have to be set up across the state and Vidarbha made its epicentre to ensure 100 per cent procurement and processing of cotton.

“At present, only 25 per cent of the cotton produced is being processed. There is huge potential for textile growth as 75 per cent of the cotton available remains untapped and under-utilised in industrial sectors,” he said after performing a bhoomipujan for a textile

park and inaugurating a spinning plant of GIMATex at Hinghanghat in Nagpur district on Sunday.

Fadnavis said that he has also put across a proposal regarding the same to the Centre.

While acknowledging the urgency to evolve a mechanism for the growth of the textile industry, he said, "Not long ago, cotton — a cash crop — was always known as white gold and Vidarbha — the biggest cotton-producing region in the country — has brought social and economic prosperity to farmers."

The textile centres and its related units are earmarked across Yavatmal, Amravati, Chikli (Buldhana), Jamner (Jalgaon), Kannad (Aurangabad), Selu (Parbhani), Bhaler (Nandurbar), Malegaon (Nashik), Kunnor (Nanded), Mazalgaon (Beed).

ONE MORE GM COTTON ON THE WAY – THIS ONE’S HOME GROWN

The Economic Times

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/science/one-more-gm-cotton-on-the-way-this-ones-home-grown/articleshow/54276212.cms>

Bengaluru, Sep 11 (IANS) While the controversy over Monsanto BSE 0.79% 's Bt cotton has not yet ied down, a new transgenic variety is at India's doorsteps this one developed by the country's own scientists.

It remains to be seen how the regulators the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) will react to this Made in India cotton when its developers seek approval for its cultivation.

The Bt cotton (containing a toxin from the Bacillus thuriangiensis or Bt organism) was introduced in 2002 to protect the crop from the bollworm (Helicoverpa armigera) pest. The benefits versus risks of Bt cotton is a continuing debate, with its proponents claiming that it had increased production while the opponents partly blame it for farmers' suicides.

The whitefly damages crops by sucking their sap and transmitting viral diseases. None of the insecticidal proteins used in genetically modified (GM) crop plants to date are effective against the whitefly.

NEW GARMENT FACTORY IN CROSS RIVER EMPLOYS 300 APPLICANTS

Reportsafrique.com

<http://www.reportsafrique.com/2016/09/new-garment-factory-cross-river-employs-300-applicants/>

Prof. Ben Ayade, Cross River State Governor, on Thursday approved the employment of 300 applicants as workers in the Calabar Garment Factory which was commissioned few weeks ago.

The governor, who announced the employment after applicants from the southern senatorial districts of the state had participated in a job screening exercise by the garment factory, said the gesture was not only in fulfillment of his dream to create jobs

for citizens of the state but to inspire young people who were not from privileged homes.

He promised the newly employed workers good salaries and welfare package, while reiterating the commitment of his administration to the welfare of the poor in the state.

Ayade said, "When we set up this factory, the intention was not just to create jobs but to guarantee that young men and women, who have been challenged by circumstances of their births, have the opportunity to better their lots.

"I'm so excited at what I am seeing here today – the number of people and their energy – and it is an indication that our factory has taken off. Remember, the factory has the capacity to create 3,000 jobs.

GOVT PLANS TO INSPECT NON-APPAREL FACTORIES

The Daily Star

<http://www.thedailystar.net/business/govt-plans-inspect-non-apparel-factories-1284253>

The government will begin inspecting non-garment factories to ensure compliance and strengthen workplace safety for workers.

"The Tampaco fire is another big lesson for us," Syed Ahmed, inspector general of the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments or DIFE, told The Daily Star by phone yesterday. "We will start inspecting the non-RMG factories to ensure workplace safety for workers."

The DIFE that was created after the Rana Plaza collapse is responsible for ensuring workplace safety and compliance in the factories.

Both the labour and employment minister and the secretary agreed to open inspections into the non-RMG factories, mirroring the efforts that are ongoing to upgrade fire, electrical and structural safety in garment factories, Ahmed said.

However, Ahmed could not immediately say when the inspections will start. "We will prepare a project proposal and submit it to the government and other donor agencies so that the inspections can begin as soon as possible."

WELSPUN A WAKE-UP CALL FOR TEXTILE FIRMS

Business Standard

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/welspun-a-wake-up-call-for-textile-firms-116091200022_1.html

In the aftermath of the Welspun controversy, Business Standard gets deeper into the issue of global scrutiny facing Indian businesses across key sectors, in a three-part series. Today, we look at the textiles sector, in the first part

Weeks after the Welspun controversy broke and prominent US retailer Target

Corporation severed ties for selling it something other than what was contracted, Walmart, the biggest chain in the world, has for the same reason ended its partnership with the Mumbai-based textile giant on selling Egyptian cotton sheets.

This has set off alarm bells for the entire exporting community, especially in textiles and apparel, where unorganised businesses have flourished over the years, with many of them serving as essential building blocks in the value chain of big companies.

Welspun India, for which the product in question is six per cent of total business, has appointed EY (earlier Ernst & Young) to review supply chain systems and processes. This was after Target alleged Welspun had for two years been passing off cheaper sheets as premium Egyptian cotton. That a past employee leaked the information on the Egyptian cotton issue, as reports suggest, has highlighted that insiders knew quality standards were ignored. EY will investigate internal checks and processes as part of its audit.

**TEXTILE WOES: BUSINESSMEN
STRIVE TO DIVERSIFY
EXPORTS, EXPLORE NEW
MARKETS**

The Express Tribune

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1180697/textile-woes-businessmen-strive-diversify-exports-explore-new-markets/>

KARACHI: The declining exports of the country have convinced some exporters that they cannot continue with their businesses unless they diversify and explore new markets.

Zahra Industries Director M Abdullah Abid is one of those who have tightened their belts. He has recently returned from Japan, a non-traditional market for textile exporters, where he went to scout for trade opportunities.

“Our exports are persistently falling and we need new markets to sustain,” says Abid in an interview with The Express Tribune.

He believes Pakistan is in deep crisis and its exports are under severe threat but the government is unable to assess the gravity of the situation. “The damage is much more than what the government data tells us; I really doubt the textile export figures quoted by the government,” he says.

Pakistan’s textile exports dropped to \$12.46 billion in fiscal year 2015-16, down 7.42% from \$13.45 billion in the previous year, according to the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics.

**TECHNOLOGY
UP-
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TO FAILITATE
TEXTILE**

Pakistan Today

<http://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2016/09/11/city/islamabad/technology-up-gradation-fund-scheme-introduced-to-facilitate-textile/>

The government has formulated a Technology Up-gradation Fund (TUF) Scheme to facilitate textile sector and enhance exports.

Currently, the scheme is under process in the State Bank of Pakistan, sources at Textile Industry Division said.

Highlighting the measures introduced to facilitate the said sector, the sources on Saturday said facility of duty free import of textile machinery will continue during 2016-17.

The government had allocated Rs 6 billion for Textile Policy initiatives for 2016-17 while support schemes would also continue during this year which include sales tax of five export oriented sectors namely textile, leather, sports goods, surgical goods and carpets had been made part of zero rated tax regime from July 1 while all the pending sales tax refunds till April 30 whose RPOs have been approved, will be paid.

The existing scheme on Drawback of Local Taxes (DLT) will also continue in 2016-17.

The sources said in 2014-15, the government reduced mark-up rate on exports finance from 9.4 per cent to 7.5 per cent. This rate was reduced in February 2015 to six per cent and it was further brought down to 4.5 per cent from July 1, 2015.