



## The Southern India Mills' Association

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<b>AREA UNDER COTTON DECLINES</b>	<b>The Hindu</b> <a href="http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/area-under-cotton-declines/article9148281.ece">http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/area-under-cotton-declines/article9148281.ece</a>
<p>Area under cotton in the country is expected to be 10 per cent lower compared to the current year for several reasons, according to J. Thulasidharan, president of Indian Cotton Federation.</p> <p>He said at the annual meeting of the association here on Sunday that cotton production was around 385 lakh bales last season and is expected to be 338 lakh bales this year (October 2015 to September 2016). Even in the current year, cotton imports touched 18 lakh bales and the global cotton stock situation is not comfortable.</p> <p>“Cotton supply situation will be tight since there is overall shortfall of acreage,” he said.</p> <p><b>‘Release policies’</b></p> <p>Mr. Thulasidharan urged the Central and State Governments to release the fibre and textile policies at the earliest. Scientists, farmers, seed suppliers and government agencies should work towards ensuring quality supply of cotton. Though the quality is not good, cotton prices have started shooting up.</p>	

<b>CENTRE URGED TO ESTABLISH A COTTON BOARD</b>	<b>Business Standard</b> <a href="http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/centre-urged-to-establish-a-cotton-board-116092500340_1.html">http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/centre-urged-to-establish-a-cotton-board-116092500340_1.html</a>
<p>Urging the Centre to set up a Cotton Board on the lines of Coffee and Jute Boards, Indian Cotton Federation (ICF) today appealed it to nominate representatives from stake holders (cotton textile industry) as directors on the board of Cotton Corporation of India.</p> <p>In his address to the 37th Annual General Meeting of ICF, its president, J Thulasidharan said that considering the fluctuation and volatility in the prices, particularly during the end season, due to artificial shortage, the Government should take steps to make obligatory the pressing figures by each and every ginning and pressing factory for reliable statistics.</p> <p>Similarly, marking each bale coming out of the ginning and pressing factory with bales numbers and press</p>	

marks should be made mandatory to guarantee quality of the cotton, he said.

Stating that export import data of cotton should be promptly available on day to day basis, Thulasidharan said that sufficient finance for cotton purchase should be available during the peak arrivals at a subsidised rate of seven per cent or less.

<b>COTTON ASSN VOICES CONCERN OVER LOWER CROP ESTIMATE IN 2016-17</b>	<b>Business Line</b> <a href="http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/cotton-assn-voices-concern-over-lower-crop-estimate-in-201617/article9146799.ece">http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/cotton-assn-voices-concern-over-lower-crop-estimate-in-201617/article9146799.ece</a>
<p>Members belonging to the Indian cotton fraternity are planning a visit to Colombo to meet up with the port officials in that island country. The idea is to tide over any supply shortfall, particularly at the fag end of the season.</p> <p>"It is very premature, but yes, we are in talks with the port officials seeking support for a raw material centre at Colombo port. Such a facility will help the mill sector in Tamil Nadu to import cotton more quickly, be it from West Africa, Australia or even the US," Srihari Balakrishnan, Managing Director, Sri Kannapiran Mills said, on the sidelines of the 37th Annual General Meeting of the Indian Cotton Federation (ICF).</p> <p>Though the dates have not been finalised yet, the delegation, according to Srihari, would comprise of 4-5 members and looking to travel during October first week. "We are awaiting confirmation from Colombo Port officials."</p> <p>ICF sources perceive that textile manufacturers in Tamil Nadu would benefit if the proposal comes through.</p> <p>Earlier, in his presidential address, J Thulasidharan, President, ICF said the area under cotton in 2016-17 has been estimated to be lower by 10 per cent compared to the current year.</p> <p>"China's fibre policy and release of old stock might tilt the global cotton demand and supply equation. Further, cotton supply could be tight due to the overall shortfall in acreage. It is therefore necessary to guide farmers on practising Precision Cotton Farming. Unless farmers are reassured of increased yield and better realisation, they will not undertake cotton cultivation. All stakeholders should work towards quality cotton supply," he added.</p>	

<b>TURKMENISTAN INTENDS TO INCREASE TEXTILE EXPORT</b>	<b>Trend News Agency</b> <a href="http://en.trend.az/business/economy/2664315.html">http://en.trend.az/business/economy/2664315.html</a>
<p>The large-scale work is carried out in Turkmenistan to fully reveal the country's economic potential and increase the textile export, Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov said at a government meeting.</p> <p>"Turkmenistan creates conditions for bringing the domestic textile industry to a new level by making huge investments in the implementation of major industrial projects," Neutral Turkmenistan newspaper cited</p>	

the president as saying.

"It is necessary not only to increase the industrial capacity, but also introduce the advanced technologies," the president added.

More than one million tons of cotton is grown in Turkmenistan annually, which is the raw material base for the development of the textile industry.

#### **H&M CRITICISED OVER GARMENT FACTORY WORKERS' CONDITIONS**

**Stuff.co.nz**

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/business/industries/84644498/H-M-criticised-over-garment-factory-workers-conditions>

Less than a week out from its grand New Zealand opening, Swedish clothing giant H&M continues to face criticism over the factory conditions of its garment workers.

Washington-based Workers Rights Consortium said hundreds of thousands of workers making H&M clothes in Bangladesh worked in dangerous conditions, RNZ reported.

Workers Rights Consortium executive director Scott Nova said these were "severe safety hazards", including a lack of fire doors, fire exits, proper alarm systems and sprinkler systems.

Nova said H&M had not followed through with its promise of improving safety for all its Bangladeshi factories and to pay all its factory workers a living wage, RNZ reported.

He said the Swedish retailer was not the only company that failed on this promise.

"H&M is not particularly worse than other major brands and retailers but it's also not particularly better," Nova told RNZ.

"They tend to talk a better game on labour rights and human rights than some of their competitors but when it comes to actually delivering on that rhetoric we haven't seen much evidence of genuine progress."