



## The Southern India Mills' Association

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<b>COTTON MILLS EXPLORE COLOMBO STORAGE FACILITY</b>	<b>The Hindu</b> <a href="http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-business/cotton-mills-explore-colombo-storage-facility/article9155667.ece">http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-business/cotton-mills-explore-colombo-storage-facility/article9155667.ece</a>
<p>Textile mills in the southern states, especially those in Tamil Nadu, are exploring the possibility of having space at a port yard in Colombo for storage of cotton sourced from different countries so that it can be shipped to the mills here.</p> <p>A seven-member delegation will visit Sri Lanka in the first week of October at the invitation of the Colombo Port in this regard.</p> <p><b>Cotton imports</b></p> <p>Chairman of Southern India Mills' Association M. Senthil Kumar said India is expected to import over 20 lakh bales of cotton this year (October 2015 to September 2016) and the volume could go up during the next cotton season.</p> <p>International traders now store cotton in Malaysia for supply to buyers in India and other Asian countries.</p> <p>In an effort to bring down the transportation time and cost, the mills had sought storage facility at Thuthukudi port.</p> <p><b>Centre's approval</b></p> <p>"Even as we wait for the Central Government's approval for the project, as an immediate step we are looking at the possibility in Colombo of a warehousing container detention and demurrage-free storage facility," he said. Space is required to store about two lakh bales of cotton for 30 days without demurrage charges.</p> <p>The association will enter into tie-ups with international traders who would use this space, he said.</p> <p>The advantage of such a facility is that the sellers can supply the cotton to buyers in other neighbouring countries too.</p>	

<p><b>DUTCH RETAILERS PAYING “STARVATION WAGES” TO INDIAN TEXTILE WORKERS - REPORT</b></p>	<p><b>Reuters</b>  <a href="http://in.reuters.com/article/india-workers-textiles-idINKCN11X1TW">http://in.reuters.com/article/india-workers-textiles-idINKCN11X1TW</a></p>
<p>CHENNAI, India (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - Dutch fashion retailers are paying "starvation wages" at factories in a major hub for the global garment industry in Karnataka, forcing many workers into crippling debt, a report on Tuesday showed.</p> <p>Workers surveyed at 10 garment factories in and around Bengaluru took home on average 90 euros (\$100) a month, and 70 percent were in debt, the report by four non-profit organisations said. The factories were supplying Dutch brands that have "acknowledged the importance of living wages".</p> <p>They included Coolcat, G-Star, The Sting, MEXX Europe, McGregor Fashions, Scotch &amp; Soda, Suitsupply, WE Fashion and C&amp;A. The C&amp;A Foundation partners with the Thomson Reuters Foundation on trafficking and slavery coverage. "Workers cannot properly support their families with this wage," said the report, "Doing Dutch", co-authored by Clean Clothes Campaign, the India Committee of the Netherlands, Asia Floor Wage Alliance and Cividep India.</p> <p>"Food and housing, usually a one-room apartment without a water tap and with a shared toilet outdoors, are the biggest expenses. Almost everyone would like to buy healthier and more varied food, but is unable to do that because of low wages."</p>	

<p><b>EGYPTIAN TEXTILE MAKERS INVITED TO ITME</b></p>	<p><b>The Financial Express</b>  <a href="http://www.financialexpress.com/economy/egyptian-textile-makers-invited-to-itme/393727/">http://www.financialexpress.com/economy/egyptian-textile-makers-invited-to-itme/393727/</a></p>
<p>Egyptian textile makers have been invited to the largest international machinery and accessories exhibition to be held in Mumbai in December this year.</p> <p>The 10th edition of India International Textile Machinery Exhibition (ITME 2016) is expected to witness a footfall of 1,50,000 visitors from all around the world. "Completing four decades, the 10th edition of this once in four years mega exhibition has garnered much interest, excitement and anticipation amongst the national and international business community government officials, students academicians alike, Seema Srivastava, Executive Director of India ITME Society, said at a press briefing here.</p> <p>"Riding high in the background of 'Make in India' campaign, this B2B expression has attracted big and small companies from across the globe," she said. Srivastava said that the exhibition to be held from December 3 to 8 is the most awaited business event of the year for the textile industry and a must visit exhibition for the best textile engineering, innovation, customised.</p> <p>An Indian textile exhibition, entitled INTEXPO, was held last year in Egypt where textile companies showcased the latest range of yarn and fabrics in a bid to strengthen the trades between the two countries, particularly in the fast growing area of modern textiles.</p>	

<b>TAMIL NADU SPINNERS CUT DOWN YARN PRODUCTION</b>	<b>Fibre2fashion.com</b> <a href="http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/tamil-nadu-spinners-cut-down-yarn-production-191793-newsdetails.htm">http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/tamil-nadu-spinners-cut-down-yarn-production-191793-newsdetails.htm</a>
<p>With cotton prices rising to Rs 50,000 per candy (1 candy=365 kgs) in the fag end of the 2015-16 cotton season, many spinning mills in Tami Nadu have cut down on yarn production. The primary reason being cotton yarn prices have not increased in tandem with the hike in raw cotton prices, making managing operations unviable for these spinners.</p> <p>According to a news agency report, these spinners expect yarn prices to grow following the reduction in yarn production, which will lead to a shortage of cotton yarn. Nearly 60 per cent of mills have cut production, either by giving additional days off or reducing the shifts.</p> <p>Additionally, since the new cotton crop is expected to arrive only in the month of November, the mills do not want to exhaust their existing cotton stocks, before the new raw cotton arrivals begin.</p>	

<b>BIHAR PARTNERING NIFT TO DESIGN KHADI CLOTHING</b>	<b>Fibre2fashion.com</b> <a href="http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/bihar-partnering-nift-to-design-khadi-clothing-191794-newsdetails.htm">http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/bihar-partnering-nift-to-design-khadi-clothing-191794-newsdetails.htm</a>
<p>Bihar is partnering National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) to design khadi apparels produced in the state and also brand the finer quality of khadi garments. In addition, the state government has allocated Rs 17 crore to set up showrooms to promote the khadi industry in Bihar, all of which is being done to attract attention of the new generation.</p> <p>This was informed by Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar at a function to mark the 'Rashtriya Charkha Diwas', with the objective to promote the khadi sector in Bihar.</p> <p>According to media reports, Nitish Kumar said proper branding of khadi clothing would help increase demand among consumers and popularise khadi.</p>	

<b>LINEN, MERCERISED COTTON MAY REVIVE KHURDA HANDLOOMS</b>	<b>Orissa Post</b> <a href="http://www.orissapost.com/linen-mercerised-cotton-may-revive-khurda-handlooms/">http://www.orissapost.com/linen-mercerised-cotton-may-revive-khurda-handlooms/</a>
<p>Khurda: Handlooms sector in the district here, which was facing a crisis due to poor demand for cotton lungis and towels for last several years, has received a new lease of life with the production of linen and mercerised cotton fabrics. The textiles and handlooms department is now creating awareness among local weavers to produce linen and mercerised cotton fabrics to meet the high demand and get better remuneration.</p> <p>Weavers of Khurda had carved a niche for themselves in the cotton garments sector of the state in the post-independence era. Cotton lungis, sarees and towels produced by local weavers were the most sought-after garments for people across the state in the 70s and 80s. The garments even had a good market in states like Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh.</p> <p>However, mass production of cotton garments in textile mills at Coimbatore, Surat and Mumbai had dealt a death blow to Khurda's handlooms sector in the 90s. Better quality and low price of machine-made clothes had virtually wiped out handloom products of local weavers. To revive Khurda's handlooms sector, the textiles department has recently introduced production of linen and mercerised cotton fabrics in Bolgarh and Jatni areas. The regional textile department office is now offering linen and mercerised cotton threads at low prices, new looms, training facility and bank loans to entice weavers to produce new varieties of fabrics.</p>	

<b>DUTCH PETITION: WORKERS EXPLOITED, SHUN GARMENT MADE IN INDIA</b>	<b>The Times of India</b> <a href="http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Dutch-petition-Workers-exploited-shun-garments-made-in-india/articleshow/54546544.cms">http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Dutch-petition-Workers-exploited-shun-garments-made-in-india/articleshow/54546544.cms</a>
<p>JAIPUR: The living wage for workers in India is Euro 256 (about Rs19,000). A recent interview of workers at garment factories that were manufacturing for sales in the Netherlands found that more than a third of workers were paid less than 100 euros (about Rs7,500). The survey results were published in the report 'Doing Dutch: Research into the state of pay for workers in garment factories in India working for Dutch fashion brands'. Human rights organization India Committee of the Netherlands has now begun a petition in Dutch appealing to people to buy only clothes that are not produced by exploiting poor labourers. "Most workers cannot properly support their families with this wage. Food and housing, usually a one-room apartment without water tap, with a shared toilet outdoors, are the biggest expenses. Almost everyone would like to buy healthier and more varied food, but is unable to do that because of low wages," said a press release issued on Tuesday by Gerard Oonk, director, India Committee of the Netherlands.</p> <p>"The factories produce garments for the Dutch brands C&amp;A, Coolcat, G-Star, McGregor, MEXX, Scotch &amp; Soda, Suitsupply, The Sting (Mills Brothers, Hallinger) and WE Fashion. The reason these brands have emerged, is a coincidence. Brands are not transparent about where their garments are made. So, to be able to deal with ten factories producing for Dutch brands, our researchers asked around at several factories until they found these ten factories. The results of the study are representative for the working conditions in India. All brands which manufacture clothes in India will have to deal with the problems described in the report," the press release said. The report said 80% of garment factory workers were women, who were more docile than men. When pregnant, they were often pressured to resign. Women with children were discouraged from working.</p>	

**TEXTILE INDUSTRY: FRESH INVESTMENT HAS STOPPED WITH HIGHER BUSINESS COST**

**The Express Tribune**

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1189623/textile-industry-fresh-investment-stopped-higher-business-cost/>

FAISALABAD: A continuous increase in the cost of doing business over the past many years has stalled fresh investment in textile business as well as stymied export growth and turnover, said a top official of an association of exporters.

“The government should frame a comprehensive strategy to stem the cost increase in order to accelerate the pace of industrialisation and save the livelihood of millions of workers,” said Pakistan Textile Exporters Association (PTEA) Chairman Mian Ajmal Farooq at the body’s annual general meeting on Tuesday.

Speaking to a large number of exporters, Farooq said in prevailing economic conditions, the higher production cost was the core issue faced by textile exporters.

The export of goods has come under pressure because of what businessmen say financial constraints, industrial slowdown, heavy burden of taxes and high energy cost, which are hurting industrial and trade activities as well as productivity.

Airing concern over the persistent fall in the country’s exports, newly elected chairman Farooq said Pakistan’s share in world textile and clothing trade, worth an estimated \$718 billion, had dropped to 1.7% from 2.2% less than a decade ago, with regional rivals capturing a greater market share. Bangladesh’s share has increased from 1.9% to 3.3% and India’s have grown from 3.4% to 4.7% during the same period.

**PAK SPINNERS SAJJAD TEXTILE HALTS OPERATION**

**Fibre2fashion.com**

<http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/announcement/pak-spinner-sajjad-textile-halts-operation-191779-newsdetails.htm>

In a filing with the stock exchange, Pakistan yarn spinner Sajjad Textile Mills said it is shutting down operations due to persistent unfavourable market conditions. Ironically, in a bid to meet these challenging conditions, Sajjad Textile had upgraded its machinery by installing new carding, drawing and ring spinning machinery last year.

According to a Daily Times report, 110 textiles mills have already closed their operations mainly due to increasing cost of doing business.

CEO Asim Sajjad said the disparity between raw cotton and yarn rates, influx of Indian yarn and increased energy cost led them to take this decision.

The All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) chairman Tariq Saud said, “The high cost of doing business has started hitting textile industry severely, as further closure of operations of the textile mills has been reported to us.”