



## The Southern India Mills' Association

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### NEWS CLIPPINGS 30-09-2016

<b>TEXTILE INDUSTRY AT A VERY IMPORTANT THRESHOULD: NITRA</b>	<b>Fibre2fashion.com</b> <a href="http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/textile-industry-at-a-very-important-threshold-nitra-191829-newsdetails.htm">http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/textile-industry-at-a-very-important-threshold-nitra-191829-newsdetails.htm</a>
<p>India's textile industry is at a very important threshold. It has a great opportunity to capture the space being vacated by the Chinese industry due to their spiraling costs. However, the isolated increase in cotton prices in India is a cause of worry, said Northern India Textile Research' Association's (NITRA's) new chairman Sanjay K Jain. Jain was speaking immediately after becoming the chairman of NITRA's council of administration, at the 40th annual general meeting of the organisation at NITRA campus in Ghaziabad. The textile industry is going through unprecedented challenges, which has pushed the industry to the brink. However, the space being vacated by the Chinese industry offers a great opportunity, Jain said.</p> <p>While being excited at the industry being at a very important threshold, Jain said he was worried about the immediate crisis of the industry due to isolated increase in cotton prices in India while global prices were stable. He also mentioned that there is immense potential for conducting need-based R&amp;D and intensifying other support services to the textile and clothing industry. He expressed confidence that NITRA would continue its pursuit for excellence in this direction during his tenure as its chairman.</p>	
<b>CAI KEEPS 2016-17 COTTON OUTPUT AT 336 LAKH BALES</b>	<b>Fibre2fashion.com</b> <a href="http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/cai-keeps-2016-17-cotton-output-at-336-lakh-bales-191839-newsdetails.htm">http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/cai-keeps-2016-17-cotton-output-at-336-lakh-bales-191839-newsdetails.htm</a>
<p>The Cotton Association of India (CAI) has estimated cotton crop for 2016-17 season, beginning October 1, at 336 lakh bales of 170 kg each. This is same as the estimate made by the association a month ago. Cotton supply is projected to be 398 lakh bales while domestic consumption is forecast at 309 lakh bales, leaving an available surplus of 89 lakh bales. However, cotton output would be lower than last year's production of 337.75 lakh bales. In its state-wise estimate, CAI said cotton production in Gujarat would remain at 88 lakh bales in 2016-17. In Maharashtra, cotton output is forecast to improve from 78 lakh bales last season to 87 lakh bales.</p> <p>Southern states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are expected to produce lesser crop in 2016-17, pegged at 48 lakh bales and 15.5 lakh bales, respectively. Among northern states, cotton production in Punjab is likely to rise by 0.5 lakh bales over last year to around 8 lakh bales in 2016-17. In Haryana, yield is expected to remain the same as last season at 17 lakh bales. Rajasthan is expected to produce 18 lakh bales, compared to last year's 16 lakh bales.</p>	

<p><b>HIGHER INSURANCE COVER FOR HANDLOOM WEAVERS IN THE WORKS</b></p>	<p><b>Yarnsandfibres.com</b>  <a href="http://www.yarnsandfibres.com/news/textile-news/higher-insurance-cover-handloom-weavers-works#.V-23xoh97Dc">http://www.yarnsandfibres.com/news/textile-news/higher-insurance-cover-handloom-weavers-works#.V-23xoh97Dc</a></p>
<p>The ministry of textiles plans to increase the insurance cover for handloom weavers, a sector that is on the government radar for occupation creation, more than three-fold in some cases. The Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana provides insurance to handloom weavers in the case of natural and accidental death and total and partial disability.</p> <p>The ministry has proposed increasing the cover for accidental death from Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 4 lakh. In case of natural death, benefit may be raised to Rs 2 lakh from Rs 60,000 now.</p> <p>“The ministry is working to increase the insurance cover for weavers in the handloom sector...it will encourage more weavers to get covered in the insurance net,” said an official from the textile ministry.</p> <p>The government released Rs 16.67 crore under the scheme in 2015-16 compared with Rs 16.39 crore in 2014-15, when 5.74 lakh weavers were enrolled. The benefit is restricted to two children of the member.</p> <p>The textile sector is the country’s second-largest employer.</p> <p>“It is a good move to increase protection for weavers as this is the only scheme in which the benefits directly get accrued to them,” said textile expert DK Nair.</p>	

<p><b>CONFERENCE ON EMPOWERING HANDLOOM AND KHADI FROM TOMORROW</b></p>	<p><b>Business Standard</b>  <a href="http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/conference-on-empowering-handloom-and-khadi-from-tomorrow-116092901242_1.html">http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/conference-on-empowering-handloom-and-khadi-from-tomorrow-116092901242_1.html</a></p>
<p>A two-day international conference on empowering handloom and Khadi will start here from tomorrow.</p> <p>The conference is organised by Consortium of Green Fashion (CGF) in association with the department of clothing, textiles of Maharaja Sayajirao University (MSU) of Baroda.</p> <p>CGF is an initiative by MKSSS's school of Fashion Technology Pune.</p> <p>Anjali Karolia, HoD, department of clothing and textiles, MSU said, "The aim of this activity is to sensitise the young fashion talents for innovations in handlooms and to make Khadi glamorous so as to increase the acceptability by youth".</p>	

<b>HANDLOOM WEAVERS RESORT TO NOVEL AGITATION</b>	<b>Ywebindia123.com</b> <a href="http://news.webindia123.com/news/Articles/India/20160929/2957015.html">http://news.webindia123.com/news/Articles/India/20160929/2957015.html</a>
<p>The Cooperative Handloom weavers affiliated to the CITU today resorted to a novel agitation to press their demands. Demanding the provision of Rs.350 as minimum wage, job without any break, 16 days paid holidays in a year and enhancement of rainy seasons relief to Rs.3000, the employees prepared porridge near the office of the registrar of the cooperative societies here and distributed among themselves.</p> <p>The employees had already announced that they will prepare porridge in front of the office of the registrar of cooperative societies and accordingly, took out a procession. However, as police prevented from proceeding towards the office, they prepared porridge on the Tindivanam road near Vedapureswarar Nagar.</p>	

<b>VINATEX LEADS VIETNAM'S RISE AS TEXTILE EXPORTER</b>	<b>Asian Review</b> <a href="http://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Companies/Vinatex-leads-Vietnam-s-rise-as-textile-exporter">http://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Companies/Vinatex-leads-Vietnam-s-rise-as-textile-exporter</a>
<p>DANANG, Vietnam -- As Vietnamese clothing companies rapidly expand exports, Vietnam National Textile Garment Group is becoming their standard-bearer by taking advantage of the Southeast Asian country's trade policy as well as a partnership with Japanese trading house Itochu.</p> <p>The state-owned textile company, also known as Vinatex, invested roughly \$30 million to set up a fabric factory outside the central Vietnamese city of Danang. The plant began operating in 2014, producing fabrics using more than 100 Belgium looms and also dyeing those fabrics at the site.</p> <p>The facility, which the company regards as a strategic production base, ships fabrics to a nearby sewing plant belonging to a Vinatex group company. There, about 2,000 workers churn out more than 5 million articles of clothing annually, such as chino pants and jeans. Some 90% of the plant's output is exported to the U.S. and Europe. In the U.S., these garments are sold at J.C. Penney department stores, the Express casual clothing chain and other retailers.</p> <p>"Thanks to integrated production, we can export a product as quickly as 25 days after receiving the order," an official of the sewing plant said.</p> <p>The textile plant intends to add more looms in October, after which the facility's production capacity will rise to 1.7 million meters per month, nearly two and a half times the current figure.</p>	

<p><b>CAMBODIA RAISES MINIMUM WAGE FOR TEXTILE WORKERS</b></p>	<p><b>DW.com</b>  <a href="http://www.dw.com/en/cambodia-raises-minimum-wage-for-textile-workers/a-35926002">http://www.dw.com/en/cambodia-raises-minimum-wage-for-textile-workers/a-35926002</a></p>
<p>The government has hailed a deal to raise wages for the country's estimated 700,000 garment workers. But some union representatives have criticized the latest raise, saying it falls short of a fair minimum wage.</p> <p>Garment industry representatives, unions and the government agreed to raising wages for garment workers by 9.2 percent by the beginning of next year, Cambodia's Ministry of Labor, Vocational and Training said on Thursday.</p> <p>"The minimum wage of garment factory workers for 2017 has been officially set at \$153 (136 euros) per month," the ministry said in a statement.</p> <p>However, some union representatives said the latest increase of \$13 monthly, compared to \$140 in 2014, fell drastically short of a fair minimum wage.</p> <p>In 2014, police opened fire on textile workers protesting for an increase to their then-monthly wages of \$80, killing at least four people and injuring dozens more in the nation's capital of Phnom Penh.</p> <p>In 2015, Human Rights Watch called on the government to enforce adequate protection of the estimated 700,000 workers in the industry, the majority of them women.</p>	

<p><b>GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO REVAMP TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN ZAMBIA</b></p>	<p><b>Yarnsandfibres.com</b>  <a href="http://www.yarnsandfibres.com/news/textile-news/government-decides-revamp-textile-industry-zambia#.V-205Yh97Dc">http://www.yarnsandfibres.com/news/textile-news/government-decides-revamp-textile-industry-zambia#.V-205Yh97Dc</a></p>
<p>Government in Zambia says it is determined to revamp the Textile and Garment subsector because of its huge potential to spur economic diversification.</p> <p>Commerce Minister Margaret Mwanakatwe said the sector also offers opportunities for technological innovation and adaption for the engineering sector in the production of handloom equipment.</p> <p>She said that Government will continue to promote the implementation of policies and programmes that support the growth of the textile and garment sector in Zambia.</p> <p>She said her Ministry is to this effect revising its Commercial, Trade and Industry Policy in order to have a more integrated and coherent policy intervention that support growth and development of Zambia's trade and industrial sector.</p>	