

Press Release

AEPC's 44th India International Garment Fair (IIGF) ends successfully with much fan-fare

- ✓ *44th IIGF a 3 day event held in New Delhi from 20th – 22nd Jan'10*
- ✓ *Over 1314 visitors from 60 countries attended the event*
- ✓ *Apparel export industry looks forward to a positive 2010*

27th January 2010, New Delhi: 44th India International Garment Fair organized by Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) successfully concluded on 22nd Jan in New Delhi. The event witnessed around 721 buyers from 667 companies and 593 buying agents from 412 companies. The exhibitors showcased their Autumn/ Winter collections and attracted more than 1,314 visitors from approximately 60 countries.

The turnout of **buyers** was **up 87%** this year as compared to 42nd IIGF Autumn/Winter held last year. There was a **54% increase** in the number of **buying agents** registered at the 44th IIGF. **Business worth 9.67 million dollars was booked/negotiated**, leading to a **62% hike** as compared to the orders registered at last year's IIGF for Autumn/ Winter collections. In purview of the buyers expected at the 44th IIGF, the display area was extended to 1440 square meters resulting in 26% more space available for the Indian exporters to display their creations.

On the occasion, **Mr. Premal Udani, Chairman, AEPC** said "We are very happy with the response received at the 44th IIGF. IIGF being a flagship event of Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) has mostly succeeded in bridging the gap between the Indian exporters and global buyers by giving them numerous options and a platform to showcase their creations. This fair was all-the-more important for all the exhibitors and buyers as it was held just when the economy started picking up."

Mr. Udani said garments are the final link in the textile chain that starts from fibers and consequently has the maximum value addition and job creation possibilities. "A slight push in apparel exports can see the entire textile chain moving up. But the government should refund all taxes to improve our cost-competitiveness."

AEPC Secretary General Mr. Vimal Kirti Singh said the downfall in apparel exports during recent months may stop due to receding recession and the next two years may witness a turnaround. Mr. Praveen Nayyar, Council's Senior Vice-Chairman and Mr. Ashok Rajani, Chairman, Export Promotion Sub-Committee were also present on the occasion.

The visitors were from various parts of the world i.e. US, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Venezuela, Argentina, Panama, Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Britain, Uzbekistan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, South Africa, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand majority of which represented US, Britain, Spain, France, Turkey and UAE. The fair was inaugurated by Mrs. Panabaaka Lakshmi, Minister of State for Textiles & Mr. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Minister of State for Commerce & Industry.

Amid dazzling fashion shows, awards for the best display were announced. Shilpayan Decor got the gold prize, Village Crafts India bagged silver and Kack India got the bronze. Merits of certificates were given to Sarash Impex, Manvi Impex, Jain International, NCCR Exports, Dolphin Clothing and Cross Culture Fashions.

The 44th IIGF witnessed participants from locations such as Tamil Nadu, Mumbai, Bengal, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Jaipur, Tripur and some cities in the NCR region. The product profile included women's wear, men's wear, kids' wear, accessories, fashion jewellery and knitwear.

IIGF is jointly organized by the International Garment Fair Association (IGFA), the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC), the Garment Exporters Association (GEA), the Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI), the Apparel Exporters and Manufacturers Association (AEMA) and the Apparel and Handloom Exporters Association (AHEA).

About Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC)

Incorporated in 1978, with 40 offices and 8,000 small, medium and large garment exporters across India, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) is the official body of apparel exporters in India that provides invaluable assistance to Indian exporters as well as importers/international buyers who choose India as their preferred sourcing destination for garments. AEPC is a one stop information centre that provides assistance to garment exporters and helps bridge the gap between the exporters and overseas buyers through continuous improvement of quality management system. AEPC undertakes the responsibility of continuously exploring, sustaining & expanding global markets for the Indian exporters.