

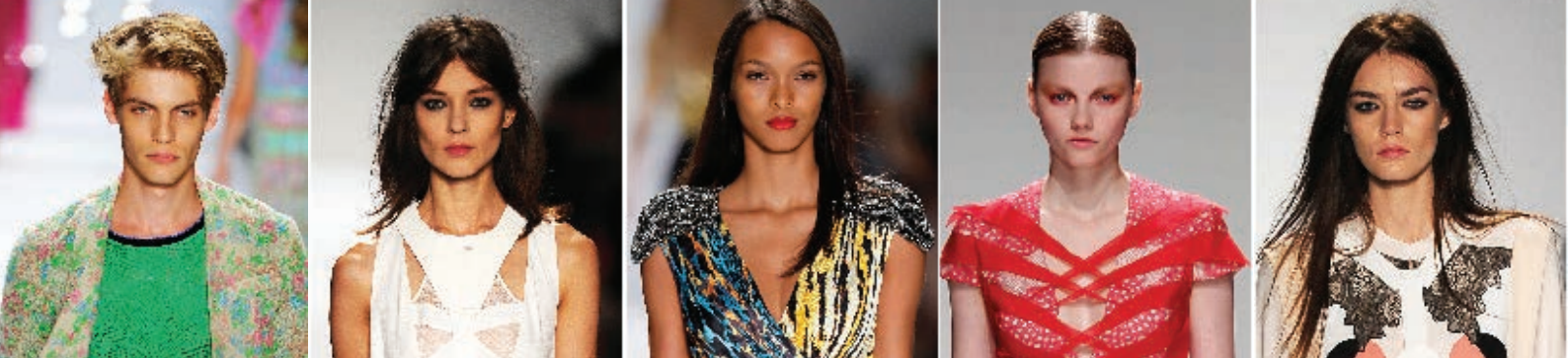
APPAREL

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DISHA: *The Journey so far...*



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SEMINAR SCHEDULE

DATE	CITY	VENUE
18/2/2013	Gurgaon	Exhibition Hall-B, Apparel House, Gurgaon
19/02/2013	Jaipur	Hotel The Fern, 3, Airport Plaza, Tonk Road, Jaipur
21/02/2013	Ludhiana	Hotel Park Plaza, Ferozepur Road, Bhaiwala Chowk, Ludhiana
22/02/2013	Kolkata	Taj Bengal, Kolkata
25/02/2013	Tirupur	Poppys Hotel, Tirupur
26/02/2013	Bangalore	The Atria Hotel, Palace Road, Bangalore
27/02/2012	Chennai	The Residency, 49, G.N. Chetty Road, Chennai
01/3/2013	Mumbai	Indian Merchant Chamber, Church Gate, Mumbai

Subsidised participation fee: Rs. 1000 (including service tax)

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For more information contact:

Rajiv Bhatnagar, Director, Fair & Exhibition Department

International Garment Fair Association, Apparel House, Institutional Area, Sector - 44, Gurgaon-122003 (Haryana) India

Mobile : 9899014590 Tel: +91-124-2708027/8129 Fax: +91-124-2708004

Email: info@indiaapparelfair.com Website: www.indiaapparelfair.com

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Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India



Shri P. Chidambaram, Hon'ble Finance Minister of India

On behalf of the entire garments and textiles Industry, Chairman Apparel Exports Promotion Council, Dr. A. Sakthivel, congratulates Shri Pranab Mukherjee from being Finance Minister to the President of India and Shri P. Chidambaram from being Home Minister to the Finance Minister of India.

APPARELINDIA

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EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING QUERIES:

M: +91 9899762388
E: apparelindia@trendlab.in

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Apparel India welcomes comments, suggestions or complaints if any. Email us, with your full name and address to apparelindia@trendlab.in

Letter from the Chairman



Dear Fellow Exporters,

I wish you all a Happy New Year 2013.

The year 2012 was one of the most challenging years for us which witnessed lower buyer sentiments due to sluggish market. However, powered with resilience and driven by our inherent strength, the garment industry has been able to keep our flag high.

I congratulate all of you for your determination and indomitable faith.

With the active support of Shri Anand Sharma, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce, Industry and Textiles, Smt. Kiran Dhingra, IAS, Secretary (Textiles), our Joint Secretary (Exports) Shri V. Srinivas, IAS, Shri S.R. Rao, IAS, Commerce Secretary, Shri Anup Pujari, IAS, DGFT and other officers, AEPC was able to secure a number of benefits for our industry.

Some of the major achievements have been:

- Upward revision in the Duty Drawback rates
- The continuance of Restructured Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme
- Took up the matter of 840 TUFS refund cases for reconsideration in the Inter-Ministerial Meeting, in Ministry of Textiles.
- 2% interest subvention availability only for SME units has been now extended to readymade garments up to 31st March, 2013.
- Extension of 2% and 4% duty credit script for exports extended to EU & USA as well as extension of additional 2% duty credit script for Latin America, Africa & CIS Countries.
- Inclusion of 7 new markets each in Focus Market Scheme (FMS)
- Zero Duty EPCG scheme has been extended up to 31st March, 2013

- Extension of 1% duty credit scrip for Status Holders has been accepted
- 24x7 customs clearance at identified Air Cargo Complexes and Sea Ports for free shipping bill has been started
- Export credit in Foreign Currency by Banks to exporting units has been started
- RBI has made the changes by allowing exporters to cancel and rebook forward contracts to the extent of 25 percent of the total contracts booked for hedging their exposure
- Ministry of Finance, for the first time, announced the Service Tax refund on the lines of Duty Drawback. After our representation, it was revised upwards to 0.18%, which came into effect from 1st July, 2012.
- Financial support of Rs.105 lacs for study on Competitiveness in Indian Apparel Industry has been approved
- After constant follow up, Central Provident Fund Commissioner has issued a clarification, providing relief to the industry in various provident fund related compliances.

New Dimensions in Export Promotion activities

A new pattern of AEPC delegation was started. As against only EC members travelling abroad earlier, now around 10-15 garment exporters and 2-3 EC members are included in the delegation. This way, the delegations were taken to countries such as Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Colombia and Panama. The delegations were very successful and it has been decided to continue this pattern for the benefit of the trade.

Promotion of Showrooms in Apparel House, Gurgaon

The showroom holders were promoted by inviting foreign buyers during India Market Days organized during April, July, September and November 2012.

New Markets

- In order to diversify our exports, BSMs in new markets such as UK, Israel, Russia, New York, USA, Australia and New Zealand have been planned.
- On behalf of Ministry of Textiles, AEPC successfully organized Tex Trends India during July 2012.

Diversification of Overseas Markets

AEPC participated with a largest ever participation in Japan with 155 booths.

For the first time, AEPC organized BSM in Israel with 45 exporters. It was a successful event. Secretary Textiles Mrs. Kiran Dhingra inaugurated the show at Tel Aviv.

Brainstorming Session

- For the very first time, an opportunity was given to small, medium and large exporters to come together and share their views. This was the first time that RMG industry was recognized by the Government in an open platform.
- For the first time, an industry meet at Jaipur under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Ministry for Commerce, Industry and Textiles was organized. Shri Anand Sharma, Hon'ble Minister for Textiles addressed the export community at Jaipur.

12th Five Year Plan

AEPC is the first council to submit a detailed proposal for the 12 Five Year Plan. Under this, following flagship programmes have been submitted:-

- Integrated skill development programme – Rs.320 crores
- Common Code of Conduct – Rs.29 crores
- Knitwear Technology Mission under product development at Tirupur, Kolkatta and Ludhiana – Rs.60 crores

New Services to the Garment Exporting Community

- Changes in the Memorandum and Articles of Association for the restoration of old RCMC numbers.
- Setting up of "Exporters' Felicitation Cell" in AEPC for redressal of grievances of exporters.
- Providing Apparel India magazine at discounted price of Rs. 275/- per annum.
- Online registration of RCMC implemented with effect from 1st June, 2012.

Cotton & Synthetic Yarn and Cotton & Synthetic Fabric

AEPC has taken the matter of import of Cotton and synthetic yarn and Cotton and synthetic without license at a fixed Customs duty rate equivalent to all industry duty drawback rate and export of furnished garments at a normal admissible rate of duty drawback. I am personally pursuing this proposal with the Government of India.

DISHA

- AEPC intensified the Common Code of Conduct – DISHA and conducted stakeholders meeting with brands and NGO's. Signed agreement with CRB; signed MOU with GIZ and attended equivalence programme with Global Social Compliance programme (GSCP), at Zurich, Switzerland.
- DISHA has been universally accepted and USTR wishes to have MoU with us. I appeal to all exporters to take advantage of this programme. Even the merchant exporters, who are tied up with exporting manufacturers can enroll in the DISHA programme.

Apparel Training & Design Centre (ATDC)

ATDC network has emerged not only as the largest skill provider for apparel sector in India but also the preferred source for skilled Shopfloor workforce and different tiers of technically qualified production and allied professionals. 25 ATDC-Community Colleges offering 6 months Certificate, 1 year Diploma, 2 year Advance Diploma programmes and over 125 ATDC-SMART Centres and skill camps offering Fast-Track Short Duration industry relevant course have together crossed 1,07,592 Trainees (1996-2012) including the ATDC-SMART enrolments for about 2 years of 41,308 Trainees (2011-2012). The other initiatives of ATDC include developing Trainers' manuals, trainees' kits, digital contents, life and soft skill training and above all setting up of 3 Training of Trainers' Academies which all have given an edge to the outcomes. ATDC at the TOT Academy in Gurgaon have trained over 422 trainers and approximately 128 trainers in Thiruvananthapuram which will help to turn out even better faculty resources in the days ahead. In recognition of this commitment, ATDC was awarded Best Skill Provider- Government Funded Category at the UK-India Skills Forum Awards.

Integrated Skill Development Programme

ATDC, under the aegis of AEPC, took up the implementation of the Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) of Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, to train youth, women and other disadvantaged sections of the society in employable skills for apparel industry initially from Oct 2010 and on a Pan-India basis since April 2011. Since then, ATDC has commenced over 125 SMART Centres/ Skill Camps to offer SMART (Skills for Manufacturing of Apparel through Research & Training) Courses and has already enrolled 41, 308 candidates and placed over 75% candidates in SME units as well as Domestic Units, Self-Help Groups, etc. ATDC is providing vocational skill education through industry relevant programmes which will help the rural candidates to seek wage employment in the growing apparel sector.

For the 12 FYP ATDC has submitted a proposal with a target to

train 2.50 lac candidates over the next 5 years period and also to scale up ATDC centres to 250. In addition ATDC will be setting up “product specific speciality centres to build in innovation and design capability; this initiative would be a major thrust area to help exporters to diversify into new market categories.

Institute of Apparel Management (IAM)

Institute of Apparel Management (IAM) positioned as a Multi-Varsity over the past 3 full Academic Years. It has been instrumental in training Industry-Ready Professionals in junior to middle level managerial cadre based on the technological needs & dynamics of the Apparel Industry, in a Global Context. IAM offers full-time International Degree/ Diploma programs in collaboration with leading International Bodies/ Universities like Edexcel, UK, Mod'Spe, Paris, (supported by French ready-to-wear federation) and SMR University, Sansepolcro, Italy. IAM also offers a range of fully delivered in classroom mode B.Tech, MBA and BSc., BA Programmes in collaboration with Mewar University, aiming to develop Designers, Merchandisers, Apparel Technocrats with hands on exposure on latest “digital platforms”. The IAM Gurgaon campus spread over 7th, 6th & 5th floor of Apparel House presently includes Design Studio, IT as well as a Fashion Innovation Lab, Garment Construction, Pattern Making and Digital Fit-Engineering Labs and has a state of art Knowledge Management Resource Centre (KMRC). During the year, IAM also introduced 2 paid services to help the staff working in export houses to access huge resources i.e. Knowledge Management and Resource Center (KMRC) and Fashion Innovation Lab (FIL).

Asset Capacity Building

AEPC has pursued and completed Faridabad project with its own resources for adding our training programmes. Further construction at Immlikhera, Chhindwara, MP has been completed, where ATDC is running successfully. The project at Patna is under construction.

50th IIGF

50th India International Garment Fair will be held in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi between 22- 24th January 2013 and will provide wonderful opportunity for the buyers and exporters to participate and avail good business deals. I request all exporters to participate in this fair.

New Initiatives taken up with Government Departments

In order to increase exports, I have taken up various matters connected with garment exports. In this process I have submitted proposal and have followed vigorously at various levels. Some of the suggestions, which I have taken up with Government are as follows:-

- Enhancement of limit of 3% duty free import of trimmings and embellishments to 5%.
- Extension of zero duty EPCG license scheme up to 2016-17.
- Enhancement of Status Holders Entitlement from 1% to 2%.
- Addition of countries for grant of scrips like Russia, South Africa, Brazil, South Korea, Japan and Australia.
- Reintroduction of Gold card scheme
- To intensify exports to long distance countries like Latin America and Australia to provide 3% license in market linked focus product scheme.
- Waiver of average export obligation in foreign trade policy
- Lower rate of interest for export financing.
- To remove the cap of 50 hours working in a quarter and corroborating the overtime to workers as per ILO standards to 125%.
- Proposal for reviving of Textile Export Promotion Board for faster decision making process in the Government.

Competitiveness Study

The Ministry of Textiles has given the responsibility to AEPC for facilitating in conducting a study on the ‘Competitiveness in the Apparel Sector’. The study will help in focusing AEPC’s efforts on those products where we are losing an edge. The study would cover major factors, responsible for garment exports, in countries like China, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Turkey, Indonesia, etc.

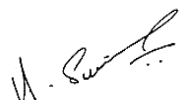
Service Tax Matter

Service Tax matters of Membership and ATDC has been taken up for necessary clarification.

Bilateral Agreements

We are requesting the Government for the faster finalization of FTA with EU and Canada.

I welcome the forthcoming year 2013 which has come with new reforms. The Government’s decision to allow FDI in multibrand retail is a welcome decision which is expected to bring FDI from USA and EU. Only to boost our exports, this FDI will give domestic markets a huge opportunity of growth. I assure you that I will continue to take up industry issues with various stakeholders so that export of garment can be increased to the level envisaged by the Government. I solicit your continuous support in this endeavor. Once again I wish you a Happy New Year – 2013.



Dr. A Sakthivel
Chairman AEPC

**Apparel Export Promotion Council, India
organizes**

Clothing & Textile Trade Show in South Africa

After the huge success of Buyer-Seller-Meets at South Africa in the last **SEVEN** consecutive years since 2006, AEPC is once again organizing a Trade Show in association with SRTEPC, TEXPROCIL, ISEPC, EPCH, PDEXCIL, HEPC, WWWEPC, CARPET EPC & NATIONAL JUTE BOARD at Johannesburg & Cape Town in South Africa from 07-12 March, 2013 with 70 booths at each venue. Ministry of Textiles & Ministry of Commerce has approved funding under Market Access Initiative for the **India Clothing & Textile Trade Show** in South Africa.

Participation fee for 9 sqm built up stall - Rs. 1.5 lac

Participation charges of 9 sq.mtrs. booth	:	Rs. 1,50,000/-
Early Bird discount (upto 17.12.2012)	:	Rs. 15,000/-
Amount payable (upto 17.12.2012)	:	Rs. 1,35,000/-
Amount payable (after 17.12.2012)	:	Rs. 1,50,000/-

Venue	Date
Johannesburg Ballroom 1/40, Sandton Convention Centre	7-8 March, 2013 (Thursday/Friday) (From 08.30AM to 04.30PM)
Cape Town Hall 1, Cape Town International Convention Centre	11-12 March, 2013 (Monday/Tuesday) (From 08.30AM to 04.30PM)

**Last date
17th Dec.
2012**

RMG Imports Statistics

All figures in USD Millions

South Africa RMG Imports		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	% Change 2011/2010
	From World	895.8	895.0	966.6	1248.1	1395.2	11.8
	From India	51.0	50.3	51.1	60.3	73.1	21.2
	Our Share (%)	5.7	5.6	5.3	4.8	5.2	8.4

*Source : UNCom Trade, 2012

For further details:

Mr. K S BISHT, Dy. Director (F&E)

Apparel Export Promotion Council, Apparel House, Institutional Area,

Sector-44, Gurgaon-122 003, Haryana, (India), Tel: 0124-2708158, (M) +91 9810527747 Fax: 0124-2708004-005,

E-mail: kbisht@aepecindia.com Website : www.aepecindia.com

AEPC Chairman sends proposal to Commerce Secretary for boosting garment exports from India

Proposes measures to enhance 100% garment exports in 3 years, and 10% within 2012-13

Dr. A Sakthivel, Chairman AEPC, on behalf of the garments and textiles exporters submitted the proposal to Shri S. R. Rao, Commerce Secretary in the Department of Commerce, Government of India. Speaking on the proposal, Chairman AEPC said that, “We have learnt that Ministry of Commerce/Ministry of Textiles is likely to announce certain sops to the garment industry in order to face challenges on global slowdown. I am providing herewith further details of my proposal”

Proposal 1

Cotton yarn be permitted imports without license at flat fixed customs duty rate, equivalent to all industry rate of duty drawback. Exports of finished product made from such imported yarn be allowed at corresponding rate of duty drawback. For example, import of cotton yarn be allowed at flat 3% rate (rate of duty drawback) or dyed cotton yarn be allowed at flat rate of 3.5% (rate of duty drawback). Exports of garments made from such cotton yarn be allowed at drawback of 7.9% on FOB (rate of duty drawback).

Proposal 2

Fabrics be permitted imports without license at flat fixed customs duty rate, equivalent to all industry rate of duty drawback. Exports of finished product made from such imported fabrics be allowed at corresponding rate of duty drawback. For example, import of cotton fabrics be allowed at flat rate of 4.5% (rate of duty drawback). Exports of garments made from such cotton fabrics be allowed at drawback of 7.9% on FOB (rate of duty drawback). On the issue of price stability in cotton yarn and fabrics, Chairman AEPC proposed that the import of cotton yarns and fabrics at fixed customs duty, equivalent to rate of drawback rate, may also be permitted and drawback may be allowed on export of readymade garments manufactured from such imported cotton yarn/fabrics at pre-determined drawback rates, he added.

Dr. Sakthivel further proposed that, In order to protect the interest of the Government, garment exporters, member of AEPC may be permitted imports of yarn/fabrics maximum to the extent of 25% of their export performance in the preceding year.

The countries, which have attained good growth in garments are listed below:

Country	2005 (Exports) US\$	2012 (Exports) US\$	Growth%
Bangladesh	3 Bn	20 Bn	566.67%
Vietnam	Almost negligible	12 Bn	Infinity
Cambodia	Almost negligible	6 Bn	Infinity
India	5 Bn	Approx 13.5 Bn	170%

Bangladesh, Vietnam and Cambodia do not have raw material of their own and they have achieved phenomenal growth through easy import policy of yarn and fabrics. The current scheme of advance license in the Foreign Trade Policy of our country, although allows duty free import but it is a tedious route and is not used extensively by the exporters. Under the proposal, new fabrics / yarns, which are not produced in India will also get manufactured and in times to come even these yarns / fabrics will be produced indigenously substituting imports.”

“Under this proposal, the procedural hurdles which are faced by SMEs in obtaining and closing advance licensing route for the imports would automatically get solved at one hand and on the other hand the imports for export manufacturing would be subjected to import duty (nil in the case of advance licensing scheme). This proposal would automatically lead to grant of full duty drawback at the time of value added exports in the shape of garments since inputs in the shape of yarn / fabric are subjected to payment of customs duty.”

Chairman AEPC commented that “Under the proposed measure,



it is projected that the garment exports would grow at 10% in the balance period of 2012-13 and would also grow phenomenally by 100% in next 3 years with this scheme in operation. It is requested that proposal as requested above may be considered, in the interest of export promotion so that the garment export industry continues to give employment to 11.22 million workers, besides generating precious foreign exchange for the country. This would greatly help in reducing our trade deficit.”

Chairman AEPC, Dr. A. Sakthivel quotes on trade performance

Dr. A. Sakthivel, Chairman Apparel Export Promotion Council said that, "Situation in USA and EU has not changed much and the contraction still continues. Over all exports to the world have declined by 10% in the period of April-September 2012-13, compared to same period of previous year. Decline was quite fierce for EU by 20% and USA by 8%. Combining USA and EU

exports have declined by almost 16% as compared to previous years. Government should ease the procedure to import fabrics. Easy import policy would help in boosting the textiles exports from the country. AEPC has taken lot of efforts to diversify our markets from traditional to newer markets such as Japan, Israel, South America, South Africa and to Scandinavian countries."

Tirupur first to arrive at Zero Liquid Discharge Technology, announces Chairman AEPC

2000 MW wind mill energy generated via green field technology in power sector

Chairman AEPC, Dr. A. Sakthivel has announced today that Tirupur is the first textiles cluster in India to arrive at the Zero Liquid Discharge Technology. Commenting on the development he said, "We are proud to say that first to arrive at Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) in Dyeing & Processing Technology. At present, all Dyeing & Processing units are using 100% Zero Discharge technology." I also declare that we created and generated more than 2000 MW in Wind Mill Energy. That way also we are helping to achieve Green Field Technology in power sector, he added.

It is to be noted that due to the High Court Order, the Dyeing and the Processing Industry in Tirupur has suffered closing of various units. Dr. Sakthivel informed that on behalf of Dyers Association of Tirupur, I feel proud that all processing is carried out now with 100% Zero Discharge Technology. We are sure, Tirupur will back to normalcy and there will be upward progress in supplies to both in domestic and international markets and will catch up by the time global economic slowdown ends.

Chairman AEPC stated that, "Now both Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) and Individual units are following this ZLD technology and are successfully meeting the requirements of the trade and servicing the requirements. More than 50% of total units are running. Approximately 494 dyeing units and 162

bleaching units were there before closing down due to court order. There are 16 CETPs under operation out of 18 now."

On the problem of water shortage, Dr. Sakthivel stated that, "As far as water is concerned, we are not facing any problem since we are re-using the water up to 90%. Moreover, due to this ZLD technology, some marginal percentage was being used after colour processing - in the form of salt water as concentrated salt solution - called BRINE Solution re-use." He further informed that, on the energy front, we are facing problem in running the units. We are incurring more operational cost due to heavy load shedding and due to usage of diesel gensets.

On the business acumen of Tirupur, the Chairman said that, "People here are very determined. They are very strong in continuing their established business. They will explore various ways and means to live-up to the expectations of their sourcing people both domestic and international, even if they have to do business with minor losses/minor margins, since this is a temporary phase and we have to continue with textile business to go a long way. Tirupur traders are determined people to achieve their goals. In spite of all bottlenecks - like sudden increase in yarn prices, sudden close down of Dyeing & Processing units and to add to that economic slowdown in our traditional markets i.e., USA & Europe."

New Year Message from Chairman AEPC, Dr. A. Sakthivel

*Dear Colleagues,
2013 has arrived in all its glory. Let me convey my choicest wishes to all members and families of Textiles and Apparel Industry. A new year is with us again. 2012 was a tough year for the Exporting Community. With the market giving positive signs in most countries, I am sure 2013 will be a very good year for all the apparel exporters. I hope that we will get good business this year. May I offer my best wishes to you, and to your families, for success, good health and happiness throughout 2013.*

Chairman AEPC meets Cabinet Secretary for boosting apparel exports from India

Chairman AEPC Dr. A. Sakthivel, met Cabinet Secretary Shri Ajit Seth in the first week of December 2012. The meeting was on the efforts to boost apparel exports from India. Both discussed strategies and initiatives that would help in export promotion amidst the difficult global scenario. Dr. Sakthivel informed Cabinet Secretary about the programmes under 12th Five Year Plan which have been finalized by the Council.

With a view to take faster decisions and faster implementation of the projects in export promotion, Chairman AEPC suggested that a committee by the name Textile Export Promotion Board (TEPB) under Cabinet Secretary as Chairmanship may be constituted. Dr. Sakthivel requested that this proposal may be considered in the interest of export promotion.



AEPC Skill Assessment Cell enters MoU with M/s Modelama Exports Ltd.



AEPC Skill Assessment Cell has commenced the skill assessment initiatives in Apparel/ Garment, Khadi and Carpet sectors. This new initiatives will help to create employment, economic growth and social development processes for the above sectors.

The assessment process under Skill Development Initiative Scheme is a project guided by Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India. It aims to test and certify the competency of persons, seeking certification of their skills acquired informally or the persons who have been trained at the registered Vocational Training Provider (VTP).

In last one and a half years (March 2011 to November 2012) AEPC Skill Assessment Cell has done more than 3312 assessments. The Skill Assessment Cell has established their Regional offices, State Offices and panel of Assessors all over India. To achieve its mission Skill Assessment Cell has further explored the Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) of MOT and has entered an MoU with M/s Modelama Exports Ltd on 3rd December 2012 for assessment of 10,000 candidates being trained by them over a period of 4 years under ISDS Scheme of MoT component II category.

AEPC to organize India Clothing & Textile Trade show in South Africa

After the huge success of Buyer-Seller-Meets at South Africa in the last seven consecutive years since 2006, AEPC is once again organizing a Trade Show in association with SRTEPC, TEXPROCIL, ISEPC, EPCH, PDEXCIL, HEPC, WWWEPC, CARPET EPC & NATIONAL JUTE BOARD at Johannesburg & Cape Town in South Africa from 07-12 March, 2013 with 70 booths at each venue. Ministry of Textiles & Ministry of Commerce has approved funding under Market Access Initiative for the India Clothing & Textile Trade Show in South Africa.

South Africa is the economic powerhouse of Africa with a gross domestic product (GDP) four times that of its southern African neighbours and comprising around 25% of the GDP of Africa. The country leads the continent in industrial output (40% of total output) and mineral production (45%) and generates most of Africa's electricity (over 50%). Its major strengths include its physical and economic infrastructure, natural mineral and metal resources, a growing manufacturing sector, and strong growth potential in the tourism, higher value-added manufacturing and service industries.

RMG Figures:

India's garment export to South Africa is depicted below.

RMG Imports Statistics

All figures in USD Millions

South Africa RMG Imports		2009	2009	2009	2010	2011	%Change 2011/2010
	From World	895.8	895.0	966.6	1248.1	1395.2	11.8
	From India	51.0	50.3	51.1	60.3	73.1	21.2
	Our Share (%)	5.7	5.6	5.3	4.8	5.2	8.4

*Source: UNComTrade, 2012

- South Africa Imported worth US\$ 1395 million apparel from world in 2011 which is 12% higher what it imported in 2010.
- India accounted for 5.2% share in total import of RMG in South Africa. India's share in overall import from world has declined since 2007 however in 2011 apparel import in South Africa increased by 21% from India.
- Total import market size of South Africa is of US\$ 1.4 billion which has increased by 56% from 2007.

The Textile/Clothing Industry:

South Africa has a robust clothing industry. Clothing sales in SA are dominated by a number of retail houses, each with three or four store brands and each brand represented by a chain of over 100 stores within SA alone. The top seven chains account for roughly 70% of domestic market share. Some of the brands are also expanding into the rest of Africa.

Who should Participate

Exporters registered with AEPC and other textile EPC's can apply for participation in the India Clothing & Textile Trade Show. Members of AEPC can apply directly. Applicants from other EPC's can send their application with full participation fees, in the shape of Demand Draft payable in favour of APPAREL

EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL (payable New Delhi/Gurgaon) to respective EPC's. However, they may send advance copy of application to AEPC for information.

Inviting Buyers:

In order to invite leading buyers/buying agents/representative of retail chain stores, the details of items of exports of the participating company would be sent to the Public Relation Agencies in advance for the invitation of buyers. The proposed event is AEPC's continuing Export Promotion event since 2006. Good buyers such as Woolworths, Trueworths, Foschini, Mr. Price, Platinum Group, EDCON, Guess, Edgars Sourcing Team, Jet Stores, Marianne Fassler, Perltext Agencies, Fleeceytext, Skye Clothing Group, Trubok, Stuttafords, Sweet Orr, Cape Union Mart, Toledo Clothing, PEP Stores, Exact, Ackermans, Markham, etc. have been invited to visit the show.

Highlights:

- South Africa is the largest consumer of clothing in the African market
- India is their 2nd largest clothing import partner
- Imports from India grew positively from the previous year

India International Garment Fair, 50th IIGF

A blend of the traditional and the modern, 50th IIGF, will be the biggest ever event on Indian textiles featuring over 400 exhibitors and 2000 global buyers displaying diverse range of products from the entire length and breadth of the country. Aiming to showcase the strengths of the entire Indian textile industry, IIGF is the biggest platform in Asia for the exporters and the buyers. The event will showcase India's huge potential as an exporting country and will offer a great variety for its global buyers.

Dr. A. Sakthivel Chairman AEPC commenting on the IIGF stated that, "We are very hopeful that 50th IIGF will serve as a much needed platform and an opportunity for a large number of exhibitors and buyers from across the globe to interact under one roof. Response to the earlier IIGF had been commendable and this time too it will definitely provide the much needed fillip to the Indian Textile industry."

- The 50th IIGF will be from 22nd – 24th January 2013 in New Delhi. The following promotional plan has been undertaken for the promotion of 50th IIGF:
- A dedicated website www.indiaapparelfair.com has been set-up and registration facility for the buyers has been activated. Over 250 buyers have registered on the website since November 2012.
- A communication has been sent to Indian Missions abroad intimating about the organization of the 50th IIGF and guidelines for sponsorship of buyers with a request to disseminate the information and send us name of the buyers for providing complimentary scheme.
- An E-blast has been sent to 9376 number of buyers on 11th October 2012.
- Advertisements have been released in foreign fashion magazines.
- Flyers have been distributed and standees have been displayed at various international fairs (MAGIC, USA, International Apparel & Textile show, Israel, BSM in Spain, London Garment Expo, UK, China Knitting Fair, Shanghai) participated by the Council.
- 50th IIGF has also been promoted in the India Knit Fair, Tirupur and in the India International Trade Fair, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- Google Campaign had already been started in 56 countries (USA, Canada, Chile, Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, Peru, Colombia, Paraguay, Sweden, Costa Rica, Norway, Hungary, Poland, Netherlands, Germany, UK, France, Spain, Turkey, Belgium, Finland, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, South Korea, Philippines, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Israel, Nigeria, Ghana, Tanzania, East Germany, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Slovenia, Croatia, Bangladesh, UAE, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Italy, Syria, Vietnam, Tunisia, Kenya, Jordan).
- Printed Mailer – I has been sent to 9644 buyers through Indian

Post on 14th November 2012.

- E-blast – II has been sent to 10481 buyers on 5th November 2012.
- For the first time, we have made a site for the mobile handsets for easy uploading on the mobile phones.
- LinkedIn PPC campaign has been done for the first time.
- For buyers' promotion, we have also started social media campaign which includes Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

AEPC requests all exhibitors and companies to book the space at the earliest and make use of the wonderful opportunity awaiting for the business generation.

The following associations have already booked space for the 50th IIGF:

Associations	Participants
AEMA	40
GEA	36
CMAI	47
GEAR	18
AEPC	08
TOTAL	149

"A unique fair, that brings together the best in Indian Apparel & Accessories, Fabrics, Home Furnishings & Made-ups, Indian Handicrafts, Wool & Woolen products, Jute and Carpets – all under one roof."

Total available stall area = Rs. 7000 sq. mtr.

Buyer Seller Meet in Chile & Uruguay



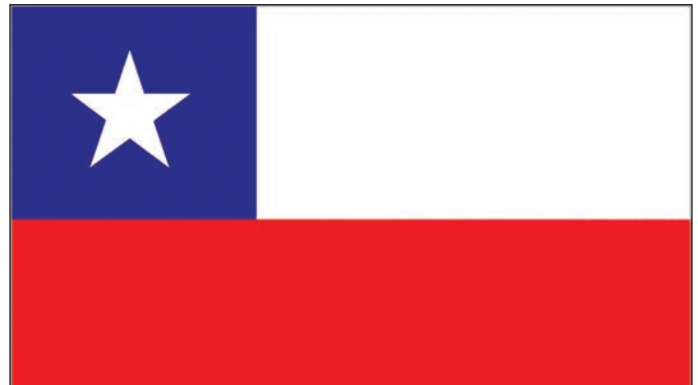
Apparel Promotion Council has proposed to organize Buyer Seller Meet in Santiago, Chile and Montevideo, Uruguay from 28th February to 5th March 2013 with 25 booths at each venue. Ministry of Textiles & Ministry of Commerce has approved its funding under Market Access Initiative for the BSM – Chile and Uruguay.

Country/City	Dates	Days
Santiago, Chile	28th Feb., - 1st March, 2013	Thursday/Friday
Montevideo, Uruguay	4th – 5th March, 2013	Monday/Tuesday

Economy in Chile & Uruguay

Chile

Chile has a market oriented economy characterized by a high level of foreign trade and reputation for strong financial institutions and sound policy that has given it the strongest sovereign bond rating in South America. Exports account for more than one-fourth of GDP, with commodities making up some three-quarters of total exports. Chile deepened its longstanding commitment to trade liberalization with the signing of a free trade agreement with the USA.



Chile's RMG Imports

All figures in USD Millions

		2009	2010	2011	%Change 2011/2010
Chile RMG Import	From World	1293.2	1720.1	2384	38.6
	From India	2.9	18.5	27.4	48.2
	Our Share (%)	1.0	1.07	1.14	7



Uruguay

Uruguay's economy is characterized by an export – oriented agricultural sector, a well educated work force, and high levels of social spending. Uruguay's total Imports of RMG were to the tune of US\$ 214.7 million in 2011 showing a growth of 32.6%. Major supplier countries to Uruguay were China, Argentina, Brazil, India, Hong Kong, Italy, Paraguay, Spain, Cambodia and USA. India's share was only 4.7% and it was the largest supplier to the country of RMG in 2010.

Uruguay's RMG Imports

All figures in USD Millions

		2009	2010	2011	%Change 2011/2010
Uruguay RMG Import	From World	122.1	161.9	214.7	32.6
	From India	6.7	9.4	10	6.1
	Our Share (%)	5.5	5.8	4.7	-20

Buyers' Promotion

The Council has tied-up with the Santiago Chamber of Commerce in Chile for inviting garment buyers in the Buyer Seller Meet. Santiago Chamber of Commerce is the prime agency for fixing appointments with the apparel importers and buyers in Chile and previously successful Buyer Seller Meets have been also organized with the help of the Santiago Chamber of Commerce.



Open House Meet held under Chairmanship of Additional Director General of Foreign Trade

Under the Chairmanship of Shri Sumeet Jerath, Additional Director General of Foreign Trade, a meeting was held at CLA, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi in December 2012. Shri H K L Magu, VC (NR) led the team of AEPC, A presentation was made by AEPC where AEPC requested the following:



- a) The old manual system may run parallel with the new online system till the new system starts functioning properly.
- b) Banks may be allowed to select Shipping Bill from the repository without having to input the details of shipping bill. Banks may fill up the realization value only, so that the serious errors may be avoided.
- c) A committee may be institutionalized in which representatives from AEPC, top exporters, CLA Office, DGFT Head Office, NIC, Customs may play an active role to support and advice on the matter.
- The export house, Orient Craft raised the issue of difficulties being faced by exporters in using the ECOM application of DGFT online. A presentation was shown and matter was deliberated with intense participation from exporters, Addl. DGFT, AEPC etc.
- The buying agency, Tets N Rat raised the issue in which the Landing Certificate was required from an “Accredited Agent”. This considerably increases transaction cost. They also raised the issue of Declaration of Intent (now withdrawn) which was required earlier and authorities have kept several files pending related to the period when it was enforced.
- Another export house, Shahi Exports raised the issue of Advance Authorization in which licenses have not yet reached Customs ICGATE.
- Manufacturers, Jyoti Apparels raised the issue of J179 lining which is not duty free. Jyoti Apparels also took up the case of high transaction cost with Export Inspection Council and AEPC suggested that AEPC and Textiles Committee may additionally be given the mandate for such inspections.
- The manufacturers, RMX Joss restated the issues related to EBRC and accredited agent.
- The export house, Radnik Exports raised the issue of SHIS and Annual License data is not yet online. They also took up the matter of streamlining of procedures related to Para 4.7 in which reference is made to Norms Committee. The company also suggested that more than 25 Shipping Bills may be accepted in Ecom Application for online uploading as this will reduce transaction cost.

Textile Policy of the Government of Maharashtra aims to attract investment of Rs. 40,000 crores by 2017

The textile industry has the capacity to create the maximum jobs or employment after agriculture. The main objective of the Maharashtra cotton policy is to lay special emphasis on raising processing units at various levels from cotton to manufacturing textiles for the assured long term development on priority basis in the cotton producing sector, expansion of the textile industry and growth of employment in the state...

The aim of the Textile Policy is to attract a total investment of Rs. 40,000 crores in the sector for the purpose of adding value to 45 lakh surplus cotton bales produced in the state. It is proposed to create 11 lakh new jobs in the State in next five years in the sector. The proposal to announce the new textile policy was under consideration of the Government.

Cooperative Spinning Mills

New cooperative spinning mills in Vidarbha/Marathwada and North Maharashtra will be given equity support as per the existing financial pattern and New Cooperative Spinning Mills in Talukas where government has already given equity support for setting up of Cooperative Spinning Mills shall not be eligible for the assistance. The Government may also consider giving subsidies in order of merit to projects of cooperative societies of shuttle less powerlooms /warping / sizing /yarn dyeing Textiles Policy /dyeing /processing / garmenting etc.

There is another scheme to give subsidies to the cooperative powerlooms units/bodies of scheduled castes, tribes and minority communities according to the following pattern viz. own share capital, Government Share Capital and Loan 5:45:50 instead of 10:40:50 will be considered in consultation with the concern departments. Assistance in the form of success fee shall be given to professional agencies for the preparation, submission and sanction of modernization project from the banks and financial institutions for existing powerloom of S.C./S.T./Minorities.

For modernization of powerloom units of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and minorities, sanctioned by bank's scheme to give 10% capital subsidy of the capital investment i.e. 10% of the permissible investment for the purpose of interest subsidy for projects which are approved in TUFs on machinery, besides the concessions received from other sources, by such units will be framed in consultation with the concern departments.



Scheme of interest subsidy on long-term loans linked to centrally sponsored TUFs Scheme

Interest subsidy on long term loan linked to centrally sponsored TUFs will be started for new textile project as well as modernization/expansion/rehabilitation project of existing textile units. Orders regarding interest subsidy for Textile Park will be issued separately.

10% capital subsidy scheme for new textile project in Vidarbha, Marathwada and North Maharashtra

The orders regarding nature of the scheme, eligibility conditions, eligible units and modality of release of subsidy of the scheme will be issued separately. There is a need for skilled workers to use higher technology in the textile sector. The Skill Development Programme with the help of the Higher and Technical Education Department will be implemented for this purpose. Separate Committee will be set up under the chairmanship of principal secretary with representatives from Labour & Environmental Department to review various regulatory provisions of labour and environmental laws, which adversely affect growth of textile sector.

DISHA *The journey so far...*

Driving Industry towards Sustainable Human Capital Advancement (DISHA) is a first-of-its-kind industry-owned and driven initiative and programme by the Indian Apparel Manufacturing Industry...



Adopting multi-stakeholder approach, DISHA Programme has developed a self-regulatory voluntary Common Code of Conduct (CCC) along with a capacity building framework for guiding and supporting apparel manufactures. The program has been rolled out to the factories in the year 2012 after developing and designing various documents and tools.

Launch of Disha

After preparing the draft code of ethics along with scheme guidelines, the scheme DISHA was launched on 21st December 2011 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi Secretary Textiles, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. Chairman AEPC, Dr. A. Sakthivel in his commenting on the DISHA programme stated that, "It will benefit in terms of enhancing the confidence of apparel exporters in India and supplier factories as a responsible and preferred sourcing destination. The management system has to undergo fewer audits which will help to avoid duplicative monitoring and inspection burden there by reducing time and cost of auditing for the buyer."

For India to remain competitive in this scenario, we have to focus intensively on two competitive levers: innovation and social compliance. While innovation will lead to better quality and productivity, social compliance, an issue that has taken center stage for leading apparel brands, will attract global buyers. Apart from the fact that the law requires garment manufacturers to protect workers'

rights, all global apparel buyers now insist on full compliance with international and national labor standards, regulations and conventions. Global consumers no longer tolerate the production of garments by children or in sweat shops. It is to position India as the destination of choice for ethical sourcing of garments. The Common Compliance Code project will prepare the Indian garment and apparel industry on a common platform towards a more social and environmentally compliant industrial environment. Being one of the first of its kind innovative and socially-relevant initiatives, it will greatly help in improving India's image in the global market and make India the global benchmark for social compliance in apparel manufacturing and export. Alongside the monitoring process, the DISHA provides "**capacity building**" activities. These activities help build the knowledge, skills and ownership required to achieve sustainable improvements in social compliance. The focus and content of capacity building sessions is adapted to the audience, priority issues and main non-compliances in a region. The DISHA supports its members through the organization of information seminars and training.

Benefits of the program

To the Industry

Based on a national level estimation of the top 10 manufacturing cluster of apparel, there are around 29,296 numbers of manufacturing units comprising domestic as well as export units. These comprise knitting, woven and jobbers for small, medium and large manufacturing units. Thus a tremendous effort on the part of both Government and Industry needs to be taken to take the industry's size at acceptable quality levels with that of competing countries.

The scheme of 'Common Code of Conduct' (CCC) provides to set-off the global disadvantages faced by Indian Clothing Industry in the field of environment and social standards as enumerated above and the new legislations which are going to be made effective in a definitive phased manner by countries like EU and USA.

European Union has implemented Regulation (EC) No.1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on 18th December, 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) establishing a European Chemical Agency.

Non-compliance to this directive may immediately impact our exports. The Scheme is crucial for the development of infrastructure particularly for the small scale segment of the industry. It is necessary to continue the process of strengthening the SME sector through this scheme.

To the Government

Garment, a labour intensive industry, requires capacity building for managing social issues

It is recognized that there is a lot of potential in the value added segment of garments, which provides high value addition and employment generation and accords high priority in the capacity building?

The New GSP scheme encourages compliance activities

As per the New GSP scheme, to be implemented from 2014, and applicable for the next 10 years, more support will be provided to countries who are serious about implementing international human rights, labour rights and environment and good governance conventions.

International recognition for DISHA

AEPC's efforts on social compliance and standard setting has been appreciated by the USTR and they want to sign MoU with the Government on this project.

International Trade Centre (ITC, Geneva)

International Trade Centre (ITC, Geneva) compared AEPC CCC with 8 other major international codes and found the CCC robust and aligned to best international code specifications. The following are observations of ITC, Geneva on the DISHA codes:



- Strong alignment between AEPC CCC and the other major standards and codes that operate in the textile and apparel sector worldwide.
- CCC shows very good potential to meet its main objectives to reduce the burden of the factories having to undertake multiple audits.
- The India specific context will require AEPC to develop side trainings and capacity building of factories and employees.

ISEAL Alliance, London

ISEAL Alliance, London, an international body for setting standard for formation of codes also appreciated the process being followed for code and guideline formation of DISHA

MEP, European Parliament Rapporteur, on Corporate Social Responsibility appreciates DISHA

Mr. Richard Howitt MEP, European Parliament Rapporteur, on Corporate Social Responsibility took an overview of Government sponsored programme- DISHA, during his visit to India to compile compliance initiatives being done in India. His objective was better harmonization of CSR policies in India and other regions of the world. It can also contribute to EU's CSR policy. He appreciated DISHA and its facilitation approach for increasing awareness on social compliance.

Global Social Compliance Programme

Global Social Compliance Programme encourages equivalence between various codes, with the aim to reduce duplication of codes and standards and audits. Since late 2011 a dedicated Expert Working Group has been working on the GSCP Reference tool on Social and Labour Management Systems for Suppliers. A wide range of input and expertise has gone into ensuring to meet its objectives in providing a Reference framework for suppliers' management systems, helping them to efficiently and

systematically integrate social compliance issues in their daily operations.

DISHA team has also been requested to provide their inputs. The DISHA team has also been invited to the GSCP workshop in November 2012, to share the AEPC Code of Conduct – its approach, methodology, etc, to understand how it can reduce duplicity. AEPC is engaging with GSCP for recognition of DISHA programme, following which it can greatly reduce duplicity in compliance audits.

Project Objectives

- Improve the competitiveness of the apparel manufacturers.
- Increase awareness and enlightenment among apparel manufacturers on social and environmental standards based on applicable Indian laws.
- Build capacities of apparel manufacturers to work towards improving standards of workplace systems and practices related to social and environment issues.
- Promote a management system oriented thinking and approach for engaging with the social and environmental issues.
- Promote a process-based certification system that enables measurement of progress towards adoption and maintenance of the benchmark practices in the DISHA Common Code of Conduct (DISHA-CCC).

Target Beneficiaries:

Tier 1 : Factories

- Improving Units
- Initial Units (Typically small factories)
- Mature Units (Typically large factories)

Tier 2 : Subcontracted workers

Tier 3 : Home Workers

The program will be open to whole textile industry units and not limited to the garments manufacturing unit. In the first phase the programme will target Tier 1 factories, especially those in the small scale sector.

Target : 2600 units to be covered under DISHA programme in 2013-14 to 2016-17

Project strategy

Capacity Building: Partnership and Facilitation, as against Auditing or Consulting

DISHA Framework: Laws of the Land

Standardization across the Country

Enabling Environment

Putting the Systems in Place

Fixed Term Programme



DISHA orientation cum enrollment workshops

was conducted at the following locations in Feb and March 2012

Tirupur	Jaipur
Bangalore	Mumbai
Chennai	Ludhiana
New Delhi	Kolkata

First level of intervention started in factories

The methodology for the initial intervention programme was as follows:

As per the methodology, the first level of intervention at the factories will be the self assessment, through the self assessment tools (SATs).

Self Assessment Tools (SAT) Session Details

As part of the base line assessment, self assessment forms were circulated and cluster level sessions on the Self Assessment Tools (SAT) were conducted in 8 clusters and covered 96 factories.

Baseline assessment of the expectations through Quality Assessment Questionnaire (QAQs)

Another important feedback and evaluation format developed is the Quality Assessment Questionnaire (QAQs). DISHA team visited each cluster and collected information on the participant's expectations and challenges that will be useful in mapping the overall programmes effectiveness in meeting the exporter's expectations in meeting compliance challenges.

Activities towards Global Endorsement of the Programme

Stakeholder meeting in New Delhi

As part of the programmes agenda to promote brand India as an ethical sourcing destination, several activities were conducted to strengthen the culture of social compliance in the Indian apparel industry. An important initiative was to offer a common platform for various stakeholders in the industry to interact and discuss issues on compliance, through the AEPC Stakeholders Forum.

Comparative analysis of CCC by ITC and ISEAL

A workshop on comparative analysis of AEPC's CCC with other global and national standards in collaboration with ISEAL & ITC was held on 11th May 2012, at Conference Hall, AEPC, Gurgaon.



3 days workshop to strengthening Code & guidelines

An open in house workshop was conducted for 3 days from 25 – 27 July at Apparel House wherein experts from labor law, industry experts, renowned people from buying houses, 3rd party auditors, representatives from NGOs etc. participated.

Training of Trainers program

After preparing the base documents of DISHA, 2 Residential TOT sessions were organized with an objective of acquisition of knowledge, skills and competency as a result of the teaching of practical skills and knowledge that relate to training

competency. TOT's were 4 full day programs and were held at Bhiwadi & Bangalore respectively.

Branding and promotion of DISHA

Letters sent to various High Commissions/Ambassadors of apparel sourcing country's requesting them for an opportunity to give a detailed presentation regarding AEPC's Common Compliance Code – DISHA scheme.

Letters were also sent to Chief Secretaries of all states and the Chief Labor Secretaries seeking their cooperation and participation in the DISHA project.

Participation in Tel-Aviv, Israel during 5-6 Sept., 2012

AEPC has created a theme pavilion in the BSM- Israel showcasing the Council's activities, DISHA – a concept of Common Compliance.

Pilot Factory visits all India level

From 7th Sep. onwards DISHA trained trainers along with one lead trainer and one AEPC official conducted pilot factory visits in 8 units .

Material Development

- Common Code of Conduct (CCC)
- Guidance Document
- Baseline Assessment & Gap Analysis
- Toolkit – Based on the guidance document a toolkit has been prepared and submitted to AEPC on 20th Sept 2012.

This national programme for improving the compliance standards in the apparel industry has received global appreciation in the last one year of its roll out. The programme targets to reach out to around 3000 factories in this plan period. At present the programme is being implemented in 140 factories across India. It will surely help factories here to understand and use the expertise of the Common Code of Conduct envisaged by DISHA.

Pre-Budget Proposal for the year 2013-2014

With a view to enhance the export-competitiveness of the Indian textile and garment industry, mitigate the impact of imminent recession in major markets, which have adversely impacted garment exports this year, following recommendations are put forth:

DIRECT TAXES

1. DISALLOWANCE OF EXPENDITURE FOR NON-COMPLIANCE OF TDS PROVISIONS

Existing Provision: TDS provisions of Sec.40a(ia) disallowed the expenditure for delayed or no compliance of TDS.

Suggestion: The provisions Sec.40a (ia) can be amended in such a way that if tax is deducted before filing 'return of income', the relevant expenditure may be allowed, irrespective of date of payment.

2. INCREASE IN THE RATE OF DEPRECIATION FROM THE ASSESSMENT YEAR 2011-2012

Existing Provision: Schedule XIV to the Companies Act, 1956 provides for the rates of depreciation to be charged on the assets by the companies while preparing their balance sheet and profit and loss account in accordance with Section 350 and while providing the dividend under section 205, respectively, of the Companies Act, 1956 (the "Act").

Suggestions: Under the circumstances, we request to enhance the depreciation rate from the 15% to previous level of 25%. Otherwise, at least for Garment Sector, the rate of depreciation may be fixed at 25%.

3. WEIGHTED DEDUCTION ON EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON EXPORT PROMOTION TO THE EXTENT OF 1/3RD, AS WAS PERMISSIBLE EARLIER UNDER SEC 35B

Provision: Under this section, domestic companies and non-corporate taxpayer residents in India, who incurred any expenditure under specified heads for promoting sale outside India of goods, services or facilities dealt in or provided by them in the course of their business, were allowed an Export Market Development Allowance. The Export Market Development Allowance (Section 35B) became effective from April 1, 1968, which was withdrawn in 1987

Suggestions: weighted deduction on expenditure incurred on Export Promotion to the extent of 1/3rd, as was permissible earlier under Sec 35B should be restored

4. PRESUMPTIVE ASSESSMENT

Provision: 44AD (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary



contained in sections 28 to 43C, in the case of an eligible assessee engaged in an eligible business, a sum equal to eight% of the total turnover or gross receipts of the assessee in the previous year on account of such business or, as the case may be, a sum higher than the aforesaid sum claimed to have been earned by the eligible assessee, shall be deemed to be the profits and gains of such business chargeable to tax under the head "Profits and gains of business or profession". In case of persons carrying on small business, the provision require either 8% of turnover as profits or a lower figure provided the books are subjected to audit.

Suggestions: List of such trades can be identified after public debate and necessary exemption provisions incorporated in Income-tax Rules.

5. SPECULATIVE TRANSACTION

Where there is no delivery and a contract is settled in such circumstances, the resultant loss is termed as speculative loss. In case of futures and options in commodities, foreign exchange, interest rates etc., delivery is not possible. In such cases, just as the exemption provision for derivative transactions in case of stocks and shares, similar provisions may be introduced for commodities, stocks, interest rates etc., provided such transactions are routed through exchanges now setup by the Government.

Such derivative transactions may be held to be non-speculative if transacted through banks and exchanges subject to the regulations of the Regulating Authority.

6. SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Where cash or valuables including bank balances are seized in the course of search operations, the affected assessee must be permitted to request the department to appropriate such seized assets towards any tax liability for any of the six assessment years for which reassessment proceedings are initiated after such search operations. This adjustment need not wait till the completion of reassessment proceedings consequent to the search operations.

7. INTEREST

In complex cases involving litigation in various forums the interest liability accrues till the date of the completion of the proceedings. To illustrate, an assessee getting a favourable order before the High Court but finally loses his claim before the Supreme Court in an appeal filed by the department, interest runs from the original date to the date the Supreme Court order is given effect to.

In all such cases instead of going through the waiver route the Act itself must contain a suitable cap on such interest liability.

8. REVENUE AUDIT OBJECTIONS

Even in genuine cases, audit objections are not withdrawn in time even though the Income-tax Authorities including higher authorities are of bonafide view that the audit objection is wrong. In all such cases remedial actions is taken and the assessments revised to be in tune with the audit objection and prolonged litigation ensues. In all such cases where the audit objections are not withdrawn within a reasonable time after the CCIT/CIT are of the opinion that such objections are not tenable, the audit objection must be treated as withdrawn and remedial action shall not be initiated.

The concerned Commissioner or CCIT being the highest authorities in the hierarchy of the department in assessment proceedings shall be given this power and discretion in the Act itself.

CUSTOMS DUTY

COTTON YARN be permitted without license at fixed custom duty rate, equivalent to all industry rates of duty drawback. The finished product made from such imported yarn be allowed at specified rate of duty drawback.

FABRICS be permitted without license at fixed custom duty rate, equivalent to all industry rates of duty drawback. The finished garments made from such imported fabric be allowed exports at specified rate of duty drawback.

AEPC MEMBERS Such facility may be permitted to member of AEPC who may be permitted imports of yarn/fabrics maximum to the extent of 25% of their export performance in the preceding year.

1. ZERO CUSTOMS DUTY FOR MACHINERY

The special machinery intended to manufacture synthetic garments and also processing of fibres have to be permitted to import under Zero Percent Duty so that more entrepreneurs make investment to manufacture synthetic garments, which has a major market globally.

2. REQUISITION TO REMOVE EXCISE DUTY FOR BRANDED GARMENTS

In the last Budget, excise duty at the rate of 12% was imposed on Readymade Garments sold under a brand name in the domestic market and 45% of the retail sale price attracts 12% excise duty. As per the recent agreement with Bangladesh, the garments imported from Bangladesh do not attract any customs duty and also their prices are lower than the Indian products due to various factors. Considering the employment and also to face the competition from the Bangladesh products, we request to remove the excise duty imposed on branded readymade garments.

3. UNDER NOTIFICATION NO 12/2012 CUSTOMS DATED 13.3.2012 THE% ENTITLEMENT BE INCREASED FROM 3 TO 5% (AT PAR WITH HANDICRAFTS).

EXCISE DUTY

MANMADE FIBRE the excise duty for Manmade Fibre should be made it as zero which will help to increase the usage of manmade fibres and the production of garments which will ultimately help to increase the export of manmade fibre garments, as the global market is available for these garments throughout the year.

FACILITY OF SINGLE REGISTRATION for all manufacturing units should be provided as handling various offices at Delhi, Noida, Gurgaon is a very cumbersome and time consuming process.

FOR THE PROOF OF EXPORT the details duly certified by CA/Chartered Engineer should be acceptable in lieu of thousands of papers currently being submitted, such as Invoice, Shipping Bill, AWB/BL and BRC for each clearance.

DUTY FREE CLEARANCE against Jobbing Notification 32/97 has now been linked with both customs and excise departments, which was earlier handled by customs only for all purposes. This should be restored.

SERVICE TAX

WAIVING OF SERVICE TAX on taxable service to in sub clause (zzze) of clause (105) of Section 65 of Finance Act on services to specified associations under (zzze) of Finance Act) for the period viz. 16.06.2005 to 06.07.2009

The Union Budget for the year 2009 announced on 06.07.2009, exemption was provided from payment of service tax in relation to provision of services, facilities or advantage for a subscription

or any other amount of association mentioned in the said notification to EPCs till 31.03.2010. Name of AEPC appears at (xiv). (Notification No. 16/2009 (ST) dated 07.07.2009 – File No. 334/13/2009-TRU).

ANNEX-I

The exemption was granted from 16.06.2005 to 31.03.2008 in the Union Budget of 2011 (Service Tax Corrigendum Notification No 29-2011 dated 25.04.2011, effective from 01.05.2011)

ANNEX-II

In the said Corrigendum Notification No 29-2011 dated 25.04.2011, the exemption from service tax was mentioned on the membership fee, being given to the associations for the period from 16.06.2005 to 31.03.2008. The provisions in the two budgets of 2009 & 2011, have left out a period from 01.04.2008 to 05.07.2009 uncovered for the purpose of exemption of service tax.

HASSEL TO AEPC

The field formations are issuing demand notices for the payment of service tax in relation to services for subscription other than membership fee for the period from 16.06.2005 to 31.03.2008 and are also issuing demand notices for the service tax on membership fee also for the period from 01.04.2008 to 06.07.2009.

REQUEST BEFORE THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

The Govt. should notify that service tax on taxable services mentioned in sub clause (zzze) of clause (105) of Section 65, should be exempted for the period from 16.06.2005 to 06.07.2009 owing to inadvertent anomaly, as notified vide Notification No. 16/2009 (ST) dated 07.07.2009, read with Service Tax Corrigendum Notification No 29-2011 dated 25.04.2011

EXEMPTION OF SERVICE TAX ON ECGC PREMIUM

- As per Notification No.41/2007-Service Tax dated 6th October, 2007 Section 65(105)(d), Services provided to an exporter by an insurer, including a re-insurer carrying on general insurance business in relation to insurance of said goods is refundable provided document issued by the insurer, including re-insurer, for payment of insurance premium shall be specific to export goods and shall be in the name of the exporter. We request to exempt payment of service tax for the premium paid to ECGC either through banks or directly for insurance of export cargo to reduce paperwork / compliance cost.

- AEPC would request to waive of the service tax on membership fee of the council for left out period viz. 1-4-2008 to 6.7.2009.

- The council is also requesting to waiving of service tax in connection to business exhibition organized with in India. It would help to attract large no. of participation of a RMG exporters to the exhibitions organized in India.

GOODS AND SERVICE TAX (GST)

We request to introduce GST in this budget to enhance our competitiveness in the global market.

BANKS & FINANCE

1. SEPARATE CHAPTER FOR EXPORT SECTOR:

In view of protecting the export sector from increasing credit rates, a separate chapter for export sector is required in Monterey Policy and the export sector should be delinked with the base rate system being followed by the banks. As the base rate is the minimum lending rate, pre shipment and post shipment export credit in Indian Rupee has to be given at the Base Rate itself.

Till a separate chapter for export is announced, the Bank credit rate given to exporters may be fixed at 7.5% as the interest rates prevailing in our competing Countries are lower than our banks rates.

2. THE RUPEE EXPORT CREDIT INTEREST RATE SUBVENTION SCHEME

The 2% Interest Subvention Scheme in pre and post shipment credit is available for specified export sectors, including knitwear sector up to 31.3.2013, should be extended up to 31.3.2014

As our competing countries are keeping the Bank interest rate at lower level, we request to extend 2% interest subvention on packing credits for another two years and should be extended to entire apparel export.

3. EXPORT CREDIT IN FOREIGN CURRENCY

We request that the exporting units in all categories should be given foreign currency credit, which is not given by the banks and this measure will help to reduce the cost of credit considerably.

4. GUARANTEE CHARGES COLLECTED BY BANKS

The exporters are allowed to import capital goods at lower rate of import duty under EPCG Scheme of Foreign Trade Policy by under taking to export goods equivalent to eight times the import duty saved in the next eight years to come. For this purpose the JDGFT issues licence after obtaining the Bank Guarantee. The bank issues this Bank Guarantee at 3% p.a for an amount not over 75% of the "Guarantee Amount" the balance of 25% is to be arranged by the exporter by way of pledging Fixed Deposit Receipts with the bank. Now if the exporter takes say, 6 years to complete this turn over target, he has to spend 18% of the money so saved by importing the capital goods. The bank continues to collect this guarantee charges year after year until it is cleared by the exporter of course after meeting the export obligation. In view of this, the banks may be advised to collect guarantee charges of say 3% or less only once and not every year.



USA- Colombia Free Trade Agreement

Approval of the U.S.–Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement (TPA) will support more American jobs, increase U.S. exports, and enhance U.S. competitiveness:

- Colombia's economy is the third largest in Central and South America.
- The International Trade Commission (ITC) has estimated that the tariff reductions in the Agreement will expand exports of U.S. goods alone by more than \$1.1 billion, supporting thousands of additional American jobs. The ITC also projected that the Agreement will increase U.S. GDP by \$2.5 billion.
- The Agreement will provide significant new access to Colombia's \$166 billion services market, supporting increased opportunities for U.S. service providers.
- U.S. goods exports to Colombia in 2010 were \$12.0 billion
- The Agreement will remove significant barriers to U.S. goods from entering Colombia's market:
- Over 80 percent of U.S. exports of consumer and industrial products to Colombia will become duty free immediately, with remaining tariffs phased out over 10 years. With average tariffs on U.S. industrial exports ranging from 7.4 to 14.6 percent, this will substantially increase U.S. exports.
- Key U.S. exports will gain immediate duty-free access to Colombia, including almost all products in these sectors: agriculture and construction equipment, aircraft and parts, auto parts, fertilizers and agro-chemicals, information technology equipment, medical and scientific equipment, and wood.
- Many agricultural commodities also will benefit from the Agreement, as more than half of current U.S. farm exports to Colombia will become duty-free immediately, and virtually all remaining tariffs will be eliminated within 15 years.
- The Agreement is crucial to maintaining the U.S. share of this important market:
- Colombia implemented a trade accord with Mercosur (Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay) in 2009 and with Canada in August 2011. It will soon implement one with the European Union. Colombia expects to conclude a free trade agreement with South Korea by the end of 2011 and to begin steps toward negotiating an economic partnership agreement with Japan.
- If Colombia's trade accords with other countries are implemented before the U.S.-Colombia TPA comes into effect, U.S. exporters would face an average tariff of over 9 percent while many products from these other countries will enter Colombia duty free. This would leave U.S. products at a competitive disadvantage in relation to products of many of Colombia's other trading partners.



OTHER BENEFITS OF THE AGREEMENT INCLUDE:

EXPANDED ACCESS TO SERVICES MARKETS

Colombia will accord substantial market access across its entire services sector. Colombia agreed to eliminate measures that prevented U.S. firms from hiring U.S. professionals, and to phase-out market restrictions in cable television. Colombia also agreed to provide improved access for U.S. suppliers of portfolio management services.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGRICULTURE

In 2010, the United States exported \$832 million of agricultural products to Colombia, the second highest export total in South America. Top U.S. exports include wheat, corn, cotton, soybeans, and corn gluten feed.

GREATER PROTECTION FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The Agreement provides for improved standards for the protection and enforcement of a broad range of intellectual property rights, consistent with U.S. and emerging international standards of protection and enforcement.

COMMITMENTS TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

Both parties also commit to effectively enforce their own

domestic environmental laws and adopt, maintain and implement laws, regulations, and all other measures to fulfill obligations under covered multilateral environmental agreements. Environmental obligations are subject to the same dispute settlement and enforcement mechanisms as commercial obligations.

FAIR AND OPEN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

U.S. suppliers are granted rights to non-discriminatory treatment in bidding on procurement opportunities offered by a broad range of Colombian government ministries, agencies, public enterprises, and regional governments. The Agreement requires the use of fair and transparent procurement procedures, such as advance notice of purchases and timely and effective bid review procedures.

A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR U.S. INVESTORS: U.S.

companies in Colombia are protected against discriminatory or unlawful treatment, and the Agreement provides a neutral and transparent mechanism for settlement of investment disputes.

MORE MANUFACTURING EXPORTS TO COLOMBIA:

The U.S.-Colombia TPA creates new opportunities for U.S. manufacturers seeking to export to Colombia, giving American manufacturers more market access in two ways: (1) by eliminating tariffs, or duties, charged when U.S. exports enter Colombia, and (2) by laying out a framework to address other barriers to U.S. exports – including those that may arise in the future.

INCREASED TEXTILE ACCESS FOR U.S. APPAREL

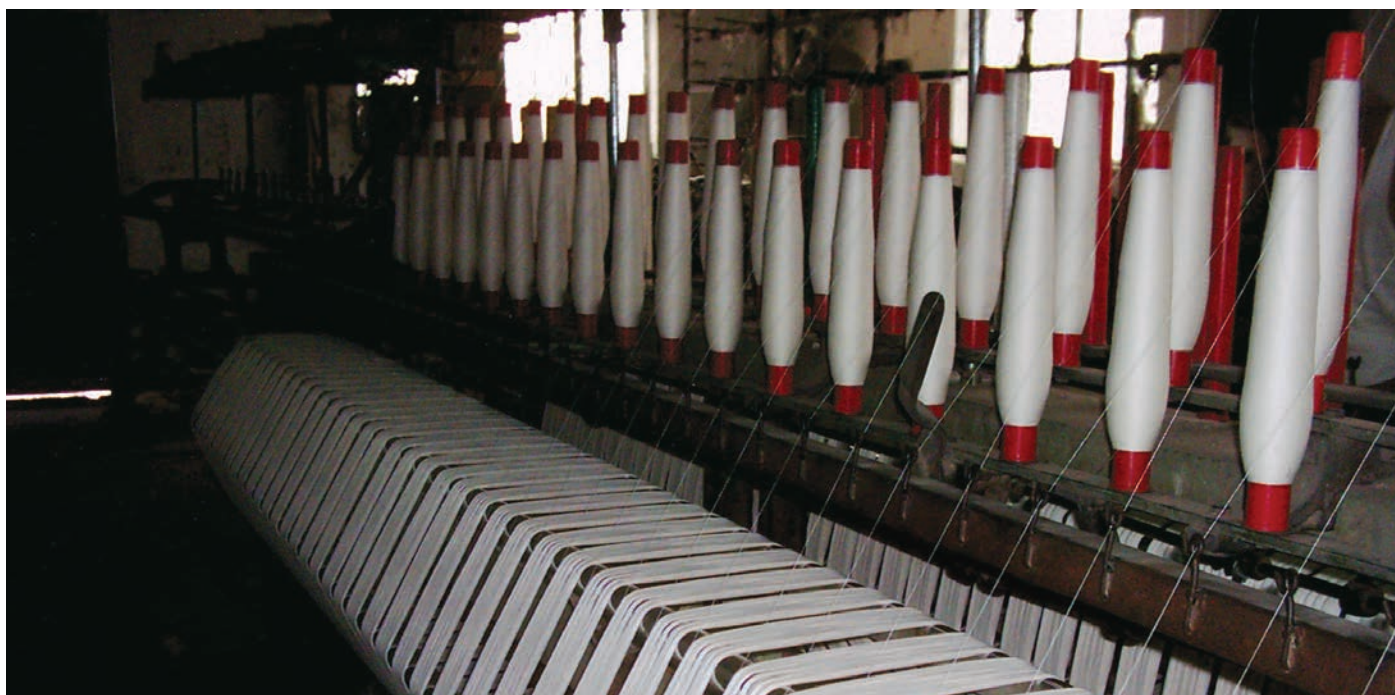
Colombia is an important market for U.S. textiles and apparel. The U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement opens new market access opportunities for U.S. textiles and apparel manufacturers and strengthens customs enforcement mechanisms to verify claims of origin and deny illegal customs circumvention. Qualifying U.S. textile and apparel exports to Colombia would receive duty-free treatment immediately upon implementation of the Agreement.

SMALL BUSINESS EXPORTERS

Thousands of small businesses across the United States export goods to Colombia. In 2009, U.S. small and medium enterprises (SMEs) exported \$3.1 billion in merchandise to Colombia. This represented 34.4 percent of U.S. merchandise exports to Colombia -- above the 32.8 percent SME share of U.S. exports to the world. Of the 13,177 U.S. firms that exported to Colombia in 2008, 11,562 or 87.7 percent, were small and medium businesses.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

In an increasingly dynamic environment, U.S. telecommunications operators continue to look for opportunities to extend the reach of their global networks in order to deliver the advanced telecommunications their customers demand. The U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement provides a new opportunity for U.S. operators to gain the legal certainty necessary to either make significant investments abroad or tap into existing telecommunications infrastructure to better expand their businesses.



Apparel Export Promotion Council's Response to US DoL Report dated Sept 2012

Chairman AEPC Dr. A Sakthivel responded to the alleged US Department of Labour report of September 2012 under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act and Executive Order 13126. In a letter to Ms. Marcia Eugenio, Director, Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor wrote, "The AEPC would like to express its concern about the proposed inclusion of "Garments" under the EO list. We expressly deny the apprehension expressed by the US Authorities through the above notification as would be apparent from the following submission."

INDIA'S CONCERN & POSITION

The Apparel Export Promotion Council of India is disappointed to note that garment and embellished textile continue to figure in the executive order 13126 and Trafficking and Victim order report.

Following are our concerns and position:

Legal Prohibition: Indian Constitution and the specific legislation do not permit the use of Child or Forced labor.

International Certification Procedures: A factual analysis would indicate that the elaborate system of certification leaves no room for use of any child or forced labour in garment manufacturing units.

Exemplary initiatives: The last three years have witnessed various policy changes, industry efforts and NGO initiatives that have lead to reduction of young workers by 45% as against the global average of 3%. AEPC has been sharing details of such coverages but the same has not been taken into account.

Analysis of bibliography used by US DOL in their letter dated 26th September, 2012.

The bibliography referred as the basis for the inclusion of Indian garment exports in the TVPRA and EO list were analyzed and the following observations were made:

- Only 5 new bibliographies used
- The media reports of child labour were found. Have been followed with strict action and prosecution.
- The studies did not capture the new initiatives undertaken by various stakeholders and is not updated.
- Many of the bibliographies are dated or state old positions



Industry Efforts: Considering the fact that US is one of the major markets for India, the garments industry has made special efforts to ensure that there is no incidence of child or forced labour.

A. UPDATE ON AEPC INITIATIVE - DISHA

Driving Industry towards Sustainable Human Capital Advancement (DISHA) is a first-of-its-kind industry-owned and driven initiative and programme by the Indian Apparel Manufacturing Industry. Adopting multi-stakeholder approach, DISHA Programme has developed a self-regulatory voluntary Common Code of Conduct (CCC) along with a capacity building framework for guiding and supporting apparel manufactures.

- **The programme has been extended to the 12th plan,** with a target of covering 2600 units by 2017.
- The programme has **reached out to around 900 factories across 10 major clusters** with awareness workshops. The coverage includes jobworkers, domestic sector units and SMEs. With an average of 200 workers, the

awareness has been reached out to 1.8 lakh workers.

- **First level of intervention started in factories.** Between August 2012 and November 2012, 40 factories have been covered.
- **The AEPC Common Code of Conduct amended** to give greater stress to management systems and practices.
- **Pool of trainers developed:** A pool of 22 trainers have been developed through CRB's master trainers for handholding the factories. AEPC has conducted Training of Trainers session and through a rigorous selection process build this trainers pool.
- **Comparative analysis of CCC by ITC and ISEAL:** Two workshops were conducted with ITC for comparative analysis of AEPC's CCC with other global and national standards. ITC, Geneva has found Strong alignment between AEPC CCC and the other major standards and codes that operate in the textile and apparel sector worldwide. ISEAL Alliance, UK also appreciated AEPC's multistakeholder approach.

SIMA's Recruitment guidelines and Code of Discipline for Women Employment in Textile Industry: The Southern India Mills Association, Coimbatore have introduced code for mills. Code covers following elements Recruitment, Selection process, Induction and training, Legal compliances, Hostel amenities, Hostel, Food, Washing and cleaning, Welfare / entertainment facilities, General. Besides, SIMA also entered into a MOU with the international certifying body M/s. TUV Rhineland to visit and audit the textile mills in respect of recruitment policy, legal compliance, health, safety etc. Star rating would be provided by the certifying agency in this regard.

Initiatives taken by Tirupur Stakeholders Forum

Tirupur stakeholders Forum has been regularly holding multi-stakeholders meeting with garment manufacturers, Brands Ethics Working Group (BEWG), NGOs, Trade unions etc. TSF has sent the guidance documents to the members advising against use of child or forced labour and a committee has been created to monitor the implementation. TSF has decided that if any issue is identified in any of the units, the unit name has to be brought to the notice of TSF and categorically stated that TEA will take care of the monitoring activity and there is need to set up a common committee / multi stakeholders committee.

As per TSF estimates, only 5 to 10% of the total yarn produced in Tamilnadu/South India region is used in Tirupur and rest of the yarn is either used to make woven fabrics in the rest of the country or exported to other countries. These yarns produced out of mills practicing sumangali is used to make garments in countries like Bangladesh, China, Korea, etc.

TSF suggested Brand Ethics Working Group could advise their buyers that they should not buy products made out of yarn from the mills having sumangali scheme. For ensuring traceability, a self declaration has been advised to be given by the mills.

NEW GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Amendment in Child Labour Act vide cabinet Note on August 29, 2012 - Union Cabinet has banned all work for children under the age of 14, and restricted non-hazardous work to adolescents between the age of 14 and 18. Employing a child under 14 for any work will be a cognizable offence punishable with imprisonment up to two years or a fine up to Rs 50,000 or both, an increase from the current one-year jail or Rs 20,000 punishment. Repeat offenders can be imprisoned for up to three years.



Magnitude of Child labor in India: The 61st round of NSSO data, 2004-05 reported that there were 90.75 lakh working children in India which is 45% reduction during last 5 years. The International labour organization (ILO) estimates that there were 215 million child labourers world wide in 2008, a three% decrease from 2004 and 12% from 2000. This indicates that India is doing much better for eradication of child labour.

New Institutional mechanisms set up: There is a child labor advisory board (CAB) in ministry of labor and employment to review the implementation of existing legislations administered by the central government to suggest legislative measures as well as welfare measures for working children and to recommend the industry the areas where there must be progressive elimination of child labor. There is a central monitoring committee (CMC) under the chairmanship of secretary, labor and employment to review the magnitude of the child labor and to monitoring of all the steps taken for elimination of child labor.

Under the child labor act, a technical advisory committee is constituted to advise for inclusion of further occupations and processes to the schedule which is a statutory committee. Government of India has developed a protocol on prevention, rescue, repatriation, and rehabilitation of trafficked and migrant child labour.

ENHANCED FUNDING IN VARIOUS SCHEMES

Right to education act 2009: The right of children to free and compulsory education act, 2009 has been enforced from 1.4.2010. The funds allocated to implement RTE act during 2012-13 are Rs 25,550 crore.

Mahatma Gandhi NREGA: The scheme aims at enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas of the country by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in

a financial year. The amount of 33000 crore has been earmarked during current financial year i.e., 2012-13.

Mid-day meal scheme: The scheme aims to improve nutritional status of children, To encourage poor children, belonging to disadvantaged sections, to attend school more regularly and help them concentrate in classroom activities, To provide nutritional support to children in drought affected areas during summer vacation. The budget allocation for 2012-13 is Rs. 11,937 crore.

Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)

The objectives of the scheme are to contribute to the improvement in the well being of children in difficult circumstances, as well as to the reduction of vulnerabilities to situations and actions that lead to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children from parents. Funds allocated for ICPS of MO WCD during 2012-13 are Rs 400 crore.

NGO INITIATIVES

ETI's work on homemaker groups - The Indian National Homemaker Group has been working to improve the lives of homeworkers as also improving transparency in the supply chain. By imparting on health and safety, basic record-keeping, quality control, etc

Dr. A Sakthivel, Chairman-AEPC has given a presentation before the USDOL authorities in February, 2012 for "Deletion of Garments & Embroidery Textiles Made in India from TVPRA & EO13126 lists

The AEPC therefore respectfully urges ILAB to consider the updates submitted and accordingly make clear in its reports and lists that the garment export sector in India is not marked by child labour or forced labour and there have been significant increase in initiatives at the government and industry level to improve awareness on compliance standards.



AEPC's Kaleidoscope



Snap Shots 2012



Market Focus Report on Switzerland

The economy of Switzerland is one of the world's most stable economies. Its policy of long-term monetary security and political stability has made Switzerland a safe haven for investors, creating an economy that is increasingly dependent on a steady tide of foreign investment. Because of the country's small size and high labor specialization, industry and trade are the keys to Switzerland's economic livelihood. Switzerland has achieved one of the highest per capita incomes in the world with low unemployment rates and a balanced budget. The service sector has also come to play a significant economic role.

Switzerland's economy is peaceful and prosperous. It is a modern market economy with low unemployment with highly skilled labour force, and has per capita GDP, among the highest in the world. The major sectors contributed to the Switzerland's economy are highly developed service sector, led by financial services, and a manufacturing industry that specializes in high-technology, knowledge-based production.

The Swiss have brought their economic practices largely into conformity with the EU's, to enhance their international competitiveness, but some trade protectionism remains,

particularly for its small agricultural sector.

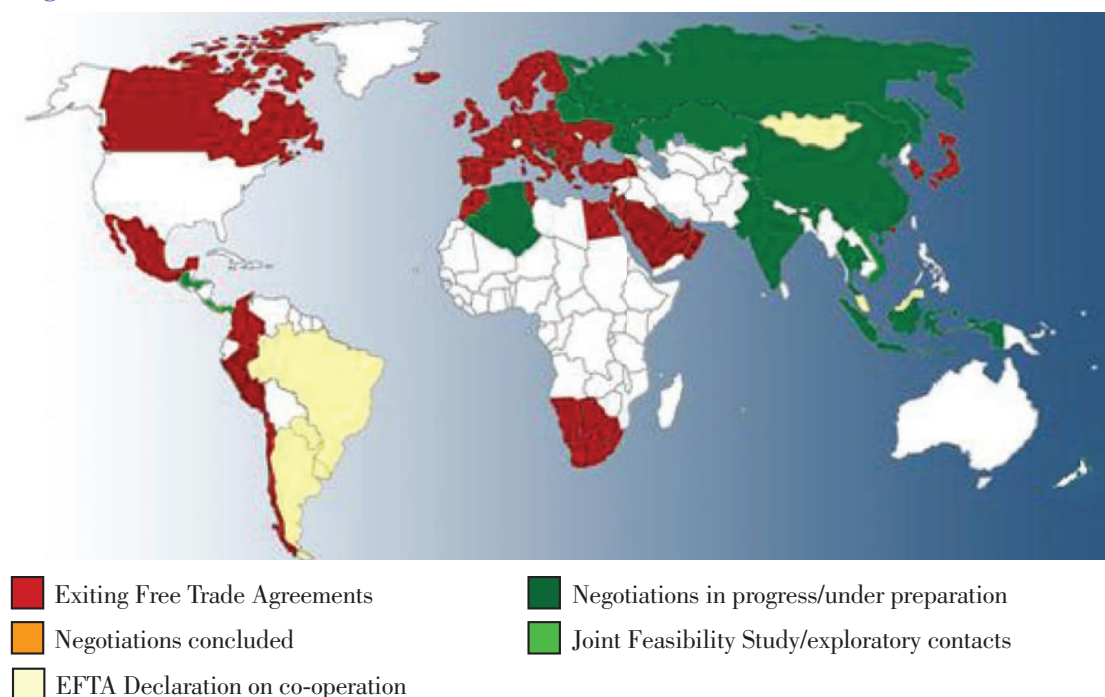
The fate of the Swiss economy is tightly linked to that of its neighbours in the euro zone, which purchases half of all Swiss exports. The global financial crisis of 2008 and resulting economic downturn in 2009 stalled export demand and put Switzerland in a recession. The Swiss National Bank (SNB) during this period effectively implemented a zero-interest rate policy to boost the economy as well as prevent appreciation of the franc, and Switzerland's economy recovered in 2010 with 2.7% growth.

Switzerland Trade Agreements and Arrangements

Switzerland has close relations with the European Union on the political, economic and cultural levels. These relations are

governed by a whole structure of bilateral agreements concluded over the years between Switzerland and the EC/EU.

Figure 01



WTO/DDA issues

Switzerland's International Trade

Strong background makes Switzerland one of the strongest economies of Europe & world. Switzerland's total export to world in 2011 was 234.4 billion dollars which increased by 19.8% from previous year. On the other hand Switzerland's import in 2011 stood for 207.3 billion dollars which was 17.6% higher than previous year.

Import from India is continuously lower compared to what Switzerland exported to India. Terms of trade remained in the favor of Switzerland. Export to India is almost double than to

import from India. In the last five years trade between India and Japan has increased substantially in term of value but in term of percentages is not that very significant. India accounted only 0.9% share in total export of Japan in 2005 which increased to 1.4% in 2011 while in Japan's import from world India accounted for 0.4% in 2005 which increased to 0.7% in 2011. Over time trade relation between India and Japan has increased manifold. Below in the Table 1 brief summary of export and import for last seven years is given.

Table 2: Switzerland's Trade with India & World in US\$ Bn.

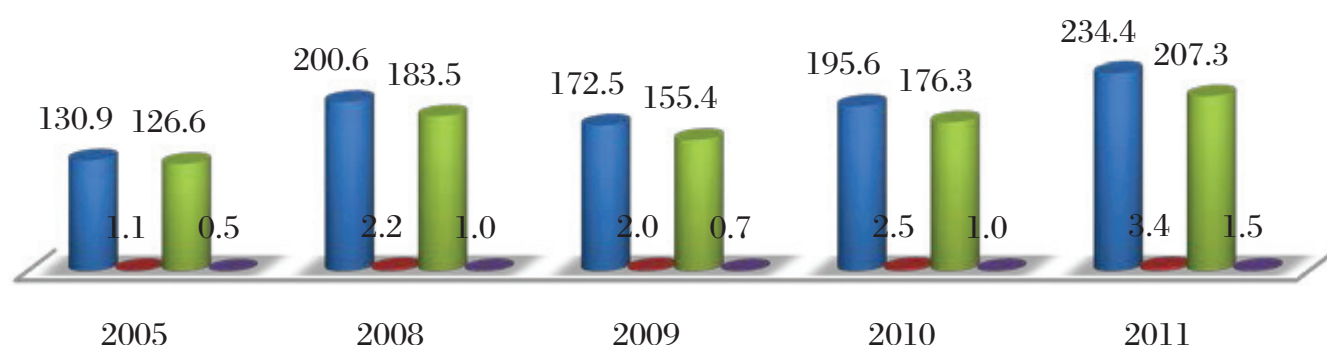
	2005	2008	2009	2010	2011	% CAGR (2005-2011)	% Change 2011/2010
Export to World	130.9	200.6	172.5	195.6	234.4	10.2	19.8
Export to India	1.1	2.2	2.0	2.5	3.4	20.2	36.6
Import from world	126.6	183.5	155.4	176.3	207.3	8.6	17.6
Import from India	0.5	1.0	0.7	1.0	1.5	18.5	51.7
India's Share in Export in%	0.9%	1.1%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	x	X
India's Share in Import in%	0.4%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.7%	x	X

**Source: World Bank 2012*

Figure 02

Switzerland's Trade with India & World in US\$ Bn.

■ Export to World ■ Export to India ■ Import from world ■ Import from India



Switzerland's Apparel Market

Switzerland's RMG (Ready Made Garments) Imports

In the table 3 Switzerland's import of RMG from the world since 2005 is given. Table reveals increase in the total RMG import of Switzerland from world and share of knitted apparel in total RMG had been increasing since 2005 but still woven import is dominating the Switzerland's market. Since 2005 though

woven import is surpassing the knit import but import share of knit products are increasing continuously. However, there can't be any question on growth of 3 Switzerland's RMG market growth where both Knit & Woven products are noticing upward trends. Knit apparel share in total RMG import is 44.6% in 2011.

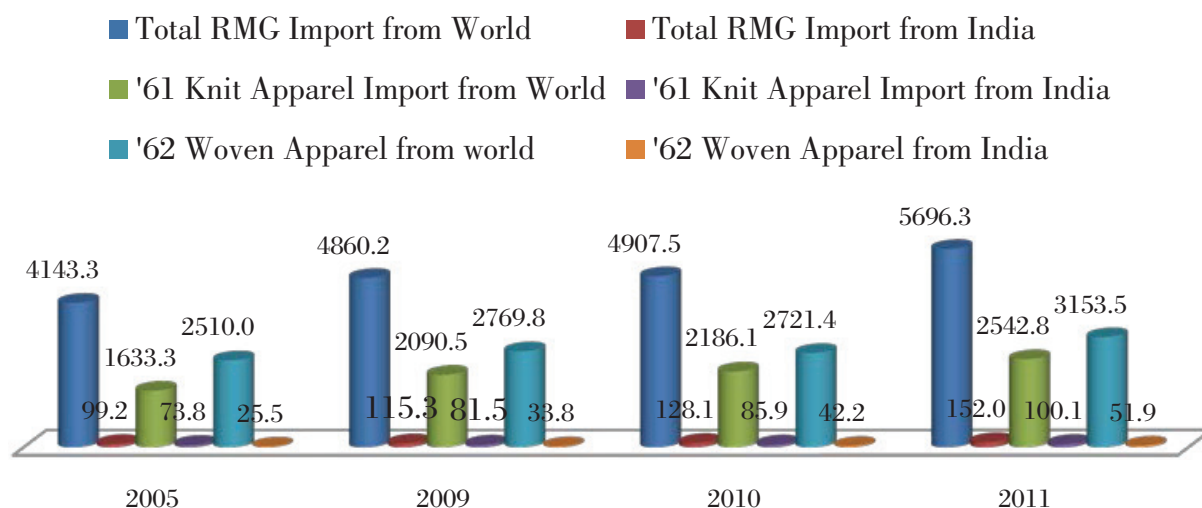
Table 3: Total RMG (Woven and Knitted) Imports of Switzerland (million dollars)

HS Code	Description	Value of Import (US\$ Million)				%age share				%age Growth 2011/2010
		2005	2009	2010	2011	2005	2009	2010	2011	
Total RMG	Import from World	4143.3	4860.2	4907.5	5696.3	100	100	100	100	16%
	Import from India	99.2	115.3	128.1	152.0	2.4%	2.4%	2.6%	2.7%	19%
'61	Knit Apparel Import from World	1633.3	2090.5	2186.1	2542.8	39.4%	43.0%	44.5%	44.6%	16%
	Knit Apparel Import from India	73.8	81.5	85.9	100.1	4.5%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	17%
'62	Woven Apparel from world	2510.0	2769.8	2721.4	3153.5	60.6%	57.0%	55.5%	55.4%	16%
	Woven Apparel from India	25.5	33.8	42.2	51.9	1.0%	1.2%	1.6%	1.6%	23%

*Source: WTA, 2012

Figure 03

Total RMG (Woven and Knitted) Imports of Switzerland from world & India in US\$ Mn.



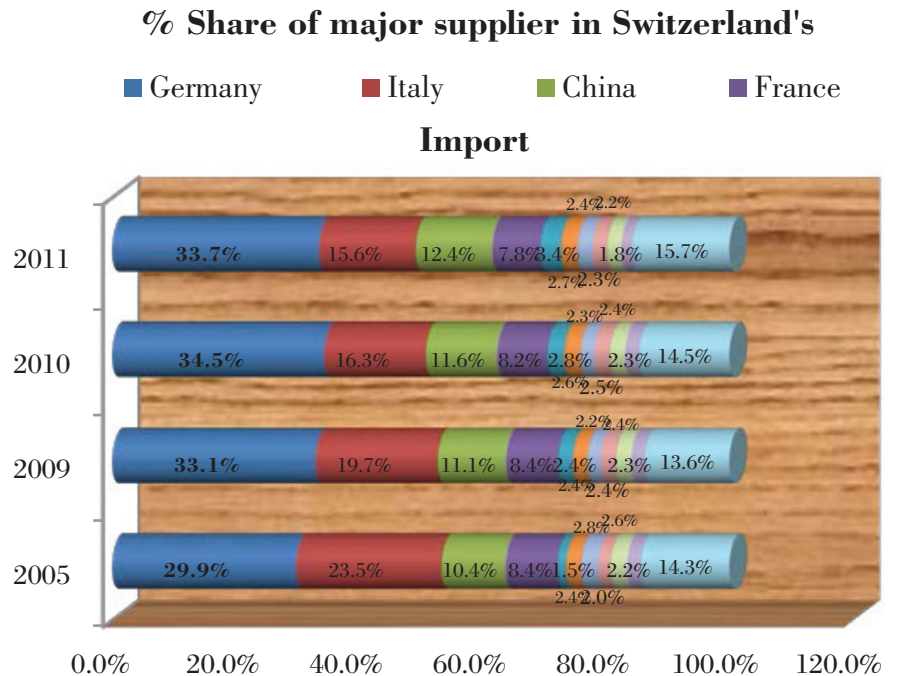
Major Suppliers to Switzerland for RMG

Switzerland's imported worth of US\$ 5696.3 million RMG which is 16.1% higher than previous year. It is amongst one of the few market places where China is not topping the list. Germany is enjoying the leading supplier status to Switzerland for over the years. Germany is source of 1/3rd of Switzerland's import. China is also amongst the list of major supplier & at the 3rd place with 12.4% share. India's story in the Swiss market is quite interesting as they at the 6th position but having only 2.7% import share. However Bangladesh is making their significant marks in the Swiss market with well above 40% growth in 2011 compared to previous year, enjoying 3.4% import share.

*Source: World Bank 2012

From the above table it is evident that Swiss market is highly dominated by European nations. Almost 3/4th Swiss import covered by the European nations. It can be analyzed from the below graphical representation.

Figure 04



It is evident that Germany is enjoying the market leader status & way ahead from their next competitor Italy though other countries have achieved excellent growth from 2005 to 2011 but it can be easily drawn out as there is no immediate competition for Germany but China & Bangladesh are making significant growth & in years to come these

nations would certainly challenge Germany dominance in the Swiss market. India should take lot of inspiration from Bangladesh, as it has grown manifold in the Swiss market in the last few years. It is advisable that Indian exporters should concentrate more & more on the products recommended in this report.



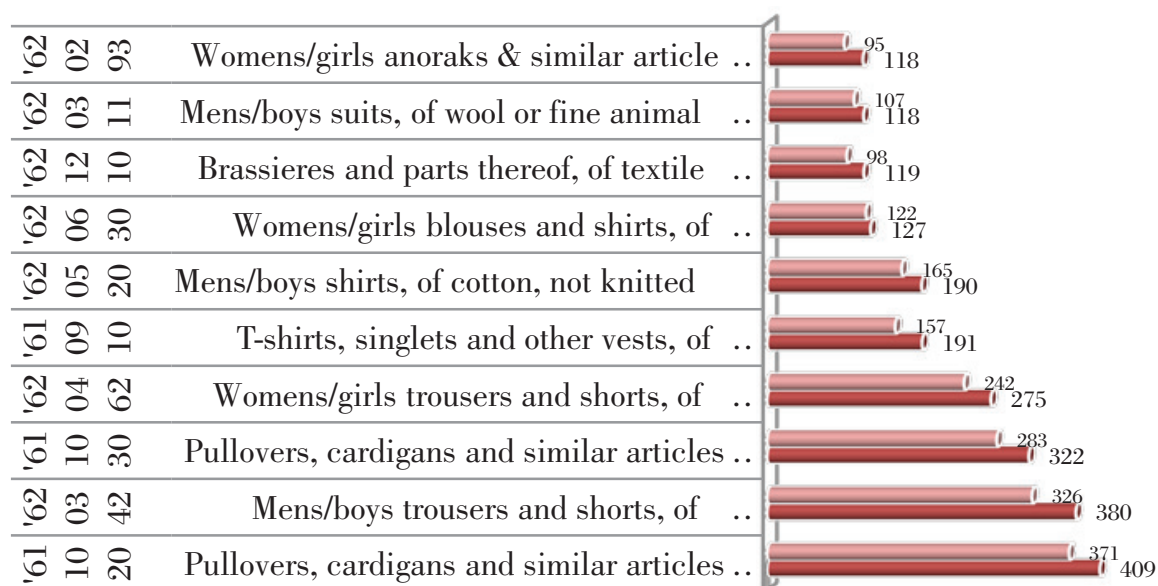
Table 7: Top 5 Recommended Products for Indian Exporters

Rank of Import from India		Rank of Import from India		HS CODE	Rank of Import from India	Import from world in US\$ Mn.		Import from India in US\$ Mn.	
2010	2011	2010	2011			2011	2010	2010	2011
1	1	1	1	'611020	Pullovers, cardigans and similar articles of cotton, knitted	409.4	371.5	35.945	30.743
24	18	2	2	'620342	Mens/boys trousers and shorts, of cotton, not knitted	380.0	325.8	2.095	0.916
16	21	3	3	'611030	Pullovers, cardigans and similar articles of man-made fibres, knitted	322.0	282.6	1.632	1.719
23	14	4	4	'620462	Womens/girls trousers and shorts, of cotton, not knitted	275.2	242.3	2.207	0.978
3	4	6	5	'610910	T-shirts, singlets and other vests, of cotton, knitted	190.5	157.4	9.059	8.031

*Source: World Bank 2012

Top 10 Products of Swiss Import in US\$ Mn.

■ 2010 ■ 2011



A New Skill Horizon for Apparel Sector

The apparel sector is quite labour intensive. For every Rs 1 crore of investment, about 275 people get directly employed and another 125 people are indirectly employed. After the agriculture sector, the apparel sector offers maximum employment opportunities. However there are many challenges facing the skill development in our country...



The Hon'ble Finance Minister budget speech in 2010 had announced to launch a new scheme in Textiles Sector envisaging skill development of 30 lakh persons in 5 years. The Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India selected ATDC as a Nodal Agency Initially in Tamil Nadu in October 2010 for implementing the Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) later, on a Pan-India basis from April 2011. ATDC has been given the mandate of training 1.72 lakh people for the apparel sector in the next 5 years.

Since October 2010, ATDC has enrolled over 41,000 candidates against the target of 48,000 till 31st March 2013 to provide basic training, advance training in current and emerging manufacturing technologies, re-training, skill upgradation, entrepreneurship

development and Training to Trainers to cover all facets of skill development under the SMART Training Project.

The major achievements so far include:

CREATION OF BRAND 'SMART' FOR SHOPFLOOR COURSES

Our field studies and discussions with the apparel industry doyens and potential candidates and their parents revealed that textile and apparel industry has been passing through turbulent times and diminishing attractiveness of industry made it slip out of top of the mind of potential candidates. There were also issues of youth being attracted by MGNREGA scheme etc.



Thus, we had to create a BRAND which is contemporary and would help ATDC to position a number of courses in today's context of modern apparel industry. SMART was thus conceived as *"Skills for Manufacturing of Apparel through Research & Training"* and as a brand which stands for the above factors. The humane quality of the whole endeavour was also visually represented by embedding a young man and woman as part of the M in the Brand. The brand also stands for research into the training methodology and pedagogy. Thus the SMART brand was launched as part of National Launch of Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) of Ministry of Textiles (MOT), Government of India (GOI) on 8th October 2010. Since then the brand has captured the imagination of over 41,000 candidates as of November 2012 and more than 75% of the candidates have been absorbed in apparel manufacturing large factories, SMEs, domestic apparel units / womens' self-help groups etc.

SETTING-UP OF ATDC-SMART TRAINING OF TRAINERS' ACADEMY

ATDC has been systematically upgrading the training infrastructure, pedagogy, industry-relevant curricula and systems and processes since the introduction of Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) in October 2012/ February 2011. One of the major initiatives of ATDC is to train the trainers as there is acute shortage of quality trainers to train the candidates envisaged under the skill mission of the Ministry of textiles especially considering the huge target of 1.72 lakh people mandated to ATDC.

ATDC thus initiated the Training of Trainers' Academies in Gurgaon and in Thiruvananthapuram to train trainers and have trained over 500 trainers with an objective of

upgrading the skills and competencies of existing and new faculty resources. In addition, the academies have been entrusted for the task locating and identifying international experts to offer high quality training in the areas in which India is weak like Industrial Engineering etc. The 3rd Academy will be operational by December in Chhindwara & during 2013 in the State of Rajasthan. Also the Academies have been given the task of creating digital contents for blended learning approach for the courses offered under SMART and to create 'online' support system for aiding the learning in the long run.

TECHNOLOGICAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPGADATION

It is well established that China which has achieved US\$153 billion of apparel exports, cornering 68% of the market and Bangladesh, which has crossed US\$18 billion would not have been able to do without upgrading of its technology with Under Bed Trimmer (UBT) machines and various advanced workstations etc. The Indian apparel industry was slow in upgrading the technology which can be seen from the fact in the first edition of Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF) Scheme, there was less than 4% off take of funds by Apparel sector. ATDC therefore decided to bring in State-of-Art technology at all its training centres.

This had a positive effect in terms of infrastructure and technology used in ATDC's instructional context. In addition an Enterprise Resource Planning(ERP) system to link all the 128 centres on a real time basis is getting ready by next year.

FROM 'OPERATOR' TO 'SMART OPERATOR' INDUSTRY FEEDBACK

ATDC has developed a unique data base of all the candidates who were given not only the chance to acquire non-credit certification but also lateral/vertical mobility to join creditised courses of 6 months, 1 year and 2 years. In order to continuously monitor industry feedback a separate Placement Cell was created at the NHO which not only organises placement across the country but loops in feedback on the courses and the candidates.

"ATDC's short-term courses under SMART and long-term courses under "ATDC Community College" address critical knowledge and skill-sets required for the apparel sector, to make candidates 'Industry Ready' right from the start."

-Dr. A. Sakthivel,
Chairman, AEPC (ATDC & IAM)

"We need better workforce, beginning from the shop-floor level, so that we can compete in the global world and SMART courses are well designed for that."

-Sh. H.K.L Magu,
Chairman, AEPC (ATDC & IAM)

"The ATDC students I hired suggested a new way of checking garments which proved to be efficient. I still remember the innovations that they made."

-Sh. Vijay Jindal,
Owner, SPL Industries

NEW HORIZONS FOR SKILLS IN APPAREL SECTOR: CREATING DYNAMIC SKILL PYRAMID FOR APPAREL INDUSTRY

AEPC being the largest export Council with the largest network of training institutions needed to create a model for the country's skill development. In this context the "skill pyramid" which will address all the skill requirements creating an eco-system from shop floor to junior managers and supervisors and managers and designers at the top of the pyramid. The SMART brand created under ISDS has enabled for Shop floor training while 25 Community College in the middle have enabled 6months, 1 year and 2 years Diploma programmes and at the top the Institute of Apparel

Management through its International and Indian Pathways offering high quality designers and managers. If we look at the DNA of all these institutes it is "by the industry, of the industry, for the industry" and therefore being industry ready is the key factor which differentiates these institutions.

It is our endeavour by 2014-15 that these 3 integral parts of pyramid help to cross 50,000 candidates underlying the rationale for setting up India's largest apparel vocational university by aligning these institutions. There are millions of youth in India who are seeking employment and the several industry units in India seeking employable youth and it is this linkage which can be created by the skill pyramid by connecting it as an integrated model.



"There are millions of youth in India who are seeking employment and the several industry units in India are seeking employable youth and the ATDC-SMART Training Project is aimed at bridging this gap by 'Imparting Skills, Improving Lives'"

India-Asean Trade to reach US\$ 100 billion mark by 2015

AEPC-DISHA participates in 2nd India-Asean business fair

India's search for economic and strategic space in changing world order resulted in 'Look East' Policy. The bedrock of this policy is to foster economic and security cooperation with our east neighbouring countries...

Believing in philosophy of the Look East Policy, India is aiming at leveraging its economic and strategic interest by greater integration with East and South-east Asia. It is also an attempt to forge closer and deeper economic, social and institutional assimilation with its eastern neighbours'. Keeping this in mind, India signed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), which now provides a land bridge to connect with member countries. ASEAN is not merely an external economic policy; it is also a strategic shift in India's vision of the world and India's place in the evolving global economy with intent to become India's partner in trade and investment which is a significant factor in our policy paradigm.

A Deepening Relationship

India-ASEAN agreement took around six years to negotiate, eliminates tariff on some 4000 products by 2016. The India-ASEAN FTA came into force on 1st January, 2010 and expects bilateral trade to reach US \$ 70 billion in next three years. The Trade in Goods Agreement would further boost bilateral trade between India and the ASEAN. ASEAN is a major trading partner for India and accounts for 10% of India's global trade. As per the provisional data received from DGCIS, Kolkata, during the period 2011-12, export from India to ASEAN amounts to US\$ 36.64 billion and import from ASEAN to India amounts to US\$ 42.56 billion. The main sectors of cooperation between India and ASEAN are: Agriculture & Food Processing, Infrastructure, Tourism, Automotive, Education, Pharmaceuticals, Textiles, IT, etc.



The Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, Shri Anand Sharma lighting the lamp to inaugurate the 2nd India-ASEAN Business Fair & Conclave, in New Delhi on December 18, 2012.

The Agreement would lead to growth in bilateral trade and investment resulting in economic welfare gains to India. Indian exporters of Machinery & Machine Parts, Steel & Steel Products, Oilcake, Wheat, Buffalo Meat, Automobiles & Auto Components, Chemicals, Synthetic Textiles, etc would gain additional market access into the ASEAN countries. Indian manufacturers would be able to source products at competitive prices from the ASEAN markets.

The partnership between India and ASEAN comprising Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, has been developing at faster pace. The India-ASEAN FTA covers 95% of trade providing huge opportunities for exports in sectors of trade complementarities.

2nd India - Asean Business Fair

Inaugurating the 2nd India- ASEAN Business Fair in New Delhi on 18th December 2012, the Union Minister for Commerce, Industry & Textiles, Shri Anand Sharma expressed confidence that the two-

way trade between India and the ASEAN countries “will be able to reach USD 100 billion mark by 2015”. He added that the early operationalization of the Services and Investment Agreement would provide greater impetus to the trade and investment flows.

India views its partnership with ASEAN as a crucial block in sustaining the growth momentum. We would like to benefit from ASEAN experience in key sectors of economy such as infrastructure, agro-processing, retail and value added manufacturing. Equally, Indian companies can be invaluable partners for ASEAN economies in augmenting their productivity, said Shri Sharma.

Speaking on Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, Shri Sharma emphasized that the negotiations would be a momentous step. The fruition of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership which will have in its embrace ASEAN and the six countries including India, China, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Japan and

arising from the India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement. A couple of areas are in India's interest. In services there are some areas in the investment side. Both sides are promising to show flexibility for mutual cooperation.

AEPC Participation

AEPC is participating via theme pavilion of DISHA in this fair. Apparel Export Promotion Council, sponsored by the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, is implementing an ambitious project “Common Code of Conduct – DISHA (Driving Industry towards Sustainable Human Capital Advancement)”. AEPC is implementing an ambitious project “Common Code of Conduct – DISHA” for capacity building in garment industry with financial support from the Ministry of Textiles. The pre-event launch of the Common Compliance Code was launched by Secretary (Textiles), Government of India on 21st December, 2011 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Chairman AEPC, Dr. A Sakthivel in his comment has congratulated the organizers and stated that, “DISHA programme would benefit in terms of enhancing the confidence of apparel exporters in India and supplier factories as a responsible and preferred sourcing destination. The management system has to undergo fewer audits which will help to avoid multiplicative monitoring and inspection by reducing time and cost of auditing for the buyer.”

Ms. Chandrima Chatterjee, Director Compliance, said, “As part of our endeavor to increase participation of apparel factories in India, we have showcased the strengths of the programme via posters and photo galleries here. Objective was disseminating information via visitors. The visitors were handed over the vouchers, guide books and other relevant matter to enable them to enroll in the programme in huge numbers.” This national programme for improving the compliance standards in the apparel industry has received global appreciation in the last one year of its roll out. The programme targets to reach out to around 3000 factories in this plan period. At present the programme is being implemented in 140 factories across India. It will surely help participants to understand and use the expertise of the Common Code of Conduct envisaged by DISHA, she added.



The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh addressing at the plenary session of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit, 2012, in New Delhi on December 20, 2012.

Australia, will truly have a defining influence on the global economic architecture.

2nd INDIA - ASEAN Business Fair Business Fair was an international conference and exhibition, that brought together business leaders and practitioners for knowledge sharing and business development across industry segments from the 10 ASEAN Countries. This fair was aimed at enhancing Bilateral Trade between India and ASEAN countries. The event covered three days with the Prime Focus on the Business Conference, Exhibition, Reverse Buyer-Seller Meetings (RBSM), B2B Meetings, etc.

India-ASEAN Business Fair epitomize the post-ASEAN FTA synergy between the two major trading partners. This second major event after the FTA was a unique blend of exhibition, meeting of captains of trade and industry and business conclave. The main objective of the fair is to provide a platform to Indian companies to showcase their strengths and capabilities in both developed and emerging markets with respect to Indian products, technologies and services. It provided unique opportunity to build on the positives

Asia, a Continent of Hope

This business fair has endeavoured to engage with the economies of the East in a comprehensive manner. India has already progressed towards economic integration with countries such as Singapore, the ASEAN block, Korea, Japan and Malaysia and is in the process of negotiating a Comprehensive Partnership Agreements with Thailand, New Zealand and Indonesia. In future, pan-Asian integration through initiatives such as the Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA) would be part of the future dynamics of Look East Policy. India is working actively with other partners to facilitate such integration and provide appropriate direction and pace. Businesses in ASEAN countries and India should together form partnerships to take advantage of the synergy and also aim to expand to other parts of the world complementing each others' strengths and capabilities. As a new global economic order emerges, world is looking at Asia with hope. India and ASEAN can together leverage their advantages to promote and strengthen Asia to play a major role in changing global economic and political landscape.

ITME 2012

The India International Textile Machinery Exhibition (ITME) 2012 was held from 02-07 December, 2012 at the Bombay Convention & Exhibition Centre, Mumbai. The 9th edition & the most anticipated Textile Machinery Exhibition showcased textile technology, machinery, accessories and services.

By Nipun A. Jacob



(Right) Shri Rajnikant S. Bachkaniwala, Chairman of India International Textile Machinery Exhibitions Society

With 820+ exhibitors from 51 countries, and 1,00,000 visitors, ITME 2012 had visitors representing all segments of the manufacturing chain. Visitors and buyers from almost all Asian Textile manufacturing countries converged here.

Many delegations from new textile markets, eminent technocrats and textile experts spoke at the seminar, and the event was the largest so far India has ever hosted. The event hosted a seminar on how Gujarat as a state is poised to grow and contribute to the economic growth of the country. The seminar included a presentation by GIFTCL on how the government of Gujarat plans to accelerate industrial growth through its various initiatives and textile policy.

GIFTCL, on behalf of the Government of Gujarat, plans to build a financial city that will help aspiring entrepreneurs to set up new businesses and have a strong infrastructure background within the state. "Gujarat significantly contributes to the growing textile industry in the country; 30% of the total contribution to the textile industry comes from Gujarat alone. The state is also an

emerging hub for technical textiles, and has a steep growth in this sector,” said Mr. Kamal Dayani, IAS, Industries Commissioner, Government of Gujarat.

Mr. Rajnikant Bachkaniwala, Chairman, ITME said, “India is also developing its export machinery market and now exports machinery worth US\$50 million each month. This is a sizeable amount for an industry that was almost zero a few years back. In long-term outlook is very positive as GDP is growing, especially in countries like India and China, and GDP per capita is increasing. There are also new applications for textiles which will drive demand for textile machinery”.

Professor Roshan Shishoo, Director of Shishoo Consulting, an eminent speaker at the Technical Seminar quoted, “India will invest US\$ 1 trillion in infrastructure in the country over the next five years, to highlight the potential for technical textiles. India’s growing middle class, which is expected to increase tenfold to 583 million people or 41% of the total population by 2025, will propel the country to become the World’s fifth largest consumer market.”

Addressing the technical seminar at ITME 2012, T C A Ranganathan, Chairman & MD of Exim Bank of India highlighted the areas where the bank could extend support to the Indian textile industry. He also explained that the bank’s mandate is to offer loans and services such that the export potential of the sector gets enhanced. He urged the textile industry to grow in organized clusters.

Here we bring to you an interview with Shri Rajnikant S. Bachkaniwala who is the present Chairman of India International Textile Machinery Exhibitions Society (India ITME Society) for 2009-2013. Shri Bachkaniwala is the Director of Himson Textile Engineering Industries, Surat and Director in various Companies of the Himson Group. (Himson Group is one of the largest manufacturers of Textile Machines in India).

WHAT ARE THOSE CHALLENGES THAT YOU EXPECT WITH RETAIL INDUSTRY OF TEXTILE?

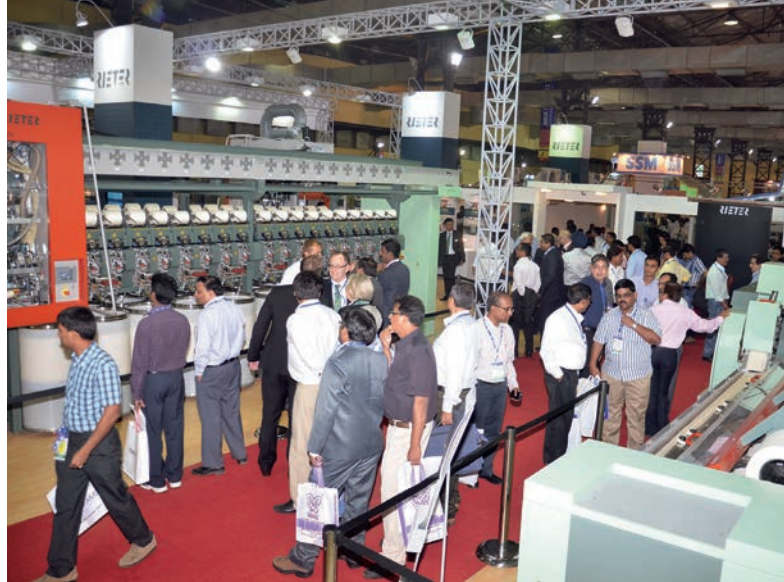
With the growing retail market in India which is mainly in major cities where, cost of land is much higher and hence there is a tremendous price pressure on retail brands.

WHERE DO YOU SEE THE FUTURE OF TEXTILE INDUSTRY?

In fact future of textile industry would be in all segments of textiles as after China, India is the only country with inherent capabilities to meet the global demands.

WHAT ARE THE LATEST TEXTILE INNOVATIONS IN THE INDUSTRY?

To be frank, there are not much innovations happening in India. Only productivity and quality improvements are happening. No prominent innovations are happening the way they should happen in development of new technologies.



HOW DO YOU SEE YOUR GOALS BEING ACCOMPLISHED AT THE ONGOING ITME 2012?

I am very happy with the splendid response given by domestic as well as international players. We could stream line processes to get better control on logistics and aesthetic look of overall exhibition set-up, is in erection of machinery, controlling pollution control norms etc. at the same time exhibitors have brought latest models eyeing on Asian market.

HOW DO YOU SEE THE INDIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTING TO THE CURRENT ECONOMIC GROWTH OF THE COUNTRY?

From investment point of view textile is ranking third by financial institutions for exposure to term loan. It is the highest foreign currency earning industry. It creates maximum number of direct and indirect jobs in India.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ON THE RECENT FDI OPENING, AND ITS IMPACT ON THE INDIAN TEXTILE MANUFACTURERS?

FDI should be opened as it will drive the entire value chain in India and will cater to neighbouring countries as well. Most of the investors from the developed countries are eyeing India as the most preferred investment destination. India has tremendous potential to cater to global textile and clothing needs. We have all types of raw materials, technical skills, huge manpower and mainly in-depth knowledge and communication skills required in global market. All foreign investors are positive on India and its strengths. Once international textile brands start investing in India, they will have a positive grip on manufacturing base in India which they can convert as a sourcing hub for their global requirements. Hence, I feel, it will create a lot of opportunities in overall Indian textile industry.

AS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, HOW DOES ITME AS A BODY SERVE THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN INDIA AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL MARKETS?

ITME Society has a Board of Directors which represents most of the machinery manufacturers from the country. These board members are also having collaboration with world renowned machinery producers. The members have complete idea about customer requirements and they are eager to fulfil their demands for betterment of textile industries.

Nicaragua's Delegation visits AEPC

Both sides agree for mutual cooperation in areas of skill development and boosting Apparel exports...



A high level delegation from Nicaragua, headed by H.E. Mr. Saul Arana, Ambassador, Embassy of Republic of Nicaragua to Japan visited the Apparel Exports Promotion Council, Gurgaon on 29th November 2012. H.E. Mr. Comandante Bayardo Arce Castaño, Economic & Trade Adviser to President of Nicaragua and Honorable Mr. Alejandro Lacayo, Honorary Consul of India in Nicaragua were also part of the delegation. Shri H K L Magu, Chairman (F & B), AEPC and Shri Vijay Mathur ASG, AEPC welcomed the delegation.

Assistant Secretary General, AEPC, Shri Vijay Mathur gave a presentation to the delegation, that highlighted the prime activities of AEPC entailing participation in overseas Garment Fairs; organizing Market Week; organizing 'India International Garment Fair', 'Tex-Trends India' and 'Source Zone'; AEPC to be the Interface between Government & Exporters along with Issuance of Export Performance Certificates for duty free import of trimmings and embellishments; Issuance of Certificate of Origin; Market Development Assistance etc.

Shri Mathur also briefed the delegation on the Advantage India stating that, "India is the 7th largest country in the world by area and 2nd largest by population and supports over 16% of world population. It has a young population with 64% of its population in the age group of 15-64 years and Literacy rate is 64.8%. In terms of labour force, we have 523.5 Mn workers." Shri Mathur also informed that India has a GDP of around 7% and India today also stands number 3 in attracting FDI from the world. He said that, "We have around 80 commercial banks and 23 stock exchanges."

Shri Mathur also briefed the delegation on the product diversity and cost, flexibilities, and speed. He stated that, "India manufactures 236 products across all categories of Knitted and Woven garments. We have about 6 million strong skilled and



efficient labour force and abundant availability of natural Cotton and Silk fabrics and man-made fabrics such as polyesters and viscose, continuous availability of Strong Middle Management in the area of Production, Merchandising and Design and High Social Standards in Manufacturing.” He informed the delegation that we have our own cotton & cotton yarn, we are the third largest producer of raw cotton, second largest producer of cotton yarn, second largest producer of cellulosic fibre / yarn, second largest producer of silk, fifth largest producer of synthetic fibre / yarn and largest producer of jute in the world. We have a stable currency viz- a- viz dollar , duty free import of capital goods & trims. ASG remarked that we export nearly 3 billion garments pieces to the world.

ASG also briefed the delegation on the drive of Common Compliance Conduct Project called DISHA, which has the target of sensitizing 2600 manufacturing units in next 5 years. Shri Mathur also elaborated about the KTM project in Tirupur, where with the state of art technology AEPC is trying to develop new fabrics which will give a new dimension to the creation and exports of fabrics in India.

After the presentation, Shri Magu in the bilateral dialogue, discussed with the delegation on the potential association of both the countries and working together to boost the apparel exports. Mr. Bayardo stated that, “Apparel business in Nicaragua is yet unexplored and the country does not have a developed Textiles Industry. We are looking for strong associations that can help us in building this sector because we are import dependent in this sector. We import our fabrics from China and Arabian Countries.”

ASG AEPC informed that last year India’s export was worth USD 13.6 Billion and India’s exports to Nicaragua was USD 3.7 million which can be increased to 10% in the next year.

The potential areas of mutual cooperation can include Developing bilateral co-operation in Textile & Clothing industries; establishing a framework for co-operation and exchange information on bilateral apparel trade; technology Transfer and exchange of know how in the field of apparel manufacturing and processing; taking necessary steps for joint collaboration for investment in Apparel & Textile trade and participating in Fairs, Workshops & Buyer Seller Meets for Export Promotion.

Mr. Saul Arana, Ambassador, Embassy of Republic of Nicaragua to Japan in the meeting, proposed exploring the possibility of associations through their agency called pro- Nicaragua. He also proposed a trade fair in Nicaragua to exhibit and market the Indian products. An invitation was also extended to the buyers of Nicaragua to participate in the IIGF fair; which is scheduled to take place in January 2013.





« AEPC can play a major role in Ludhiana's knitwear industry to encourage cluster system & by becoming a bridge between the Industry and Central & State Governments for redressal of the problems being faced by the Industry... »

Shree Sanjeev K. Jain, Managing Director of M/s. Jain Udhay International and founder of Blue Mount

Based in Ludhiana, Jain Udhay Group was established in 1957. The company is engaged in manufacturing and exporting garments and established the brand, Blue Mount in 1999. The key brand promoter is Shree Sanjeev K. Jain. Blue Mount has now spread its wings to other parts of India and mainly caters to the youth segment, with a presence in over 1,000 multi-brand outlets (MBOs), 9 exclusive-brand outlets (EBOs) and 5 large format stores (LFS).

PRODUCT PORTFOLIO

The group is specialized in manufacturing highly innovative range of Menswear and Kids as well as Boyswear. It is equipped for efficiently fulfilling the requirements of clients and alliances as per the market demand. Its product range is T-Shirts, Shirts, Jackets, Pullovers, Sweat Shirts, Track Suits, Lowers and others.

We spoke to Shree Sanjeev Kumar Jain, Managing Director of M/s. Jain Udhay International and founder of Blue Mount, who gave us his inputs on the Knitwear export market in India

WHAT IS THE PRESENT STATUS OF LUDHIANA KNITWEAR EXPORTS IN PARTICULAR AND OVERALL APPAREL EXPORT INDUSTRY IN INDIA?

The current status of Knitwear exports from Ludhiana is far behind the other major national knitwear exporting hubs such as Delhi, Tirupur and Kolkata as the city now demands major improvements in the basic infrastructure and amenities. The status of the overall apparel export industry is also not very much encouraging as the

apparel industry is today facing tough competition from better equipped China and even smaller countries like Bangladesh, Vietnam and Pakistan.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHALLENGES THE APPAREL EXPORTERS ARE WITNESSING HERE?

The main challenges being witnessed by Ludhiana's Apparel exporters are :

- 1) Highly fluctuating prices of raw-materials,
- 2) Shortage of power supply, frequent power-cuts, imposition of weekly off days.
- 3) Increasing shortage of skilled and highly skilled labour.
- 4) Lack of basic infrastructure like International Airport, 5 & 7 Star Hotels and restaurants, Exhibition Centre of National level, College of Knitwears & Design Studio, Textile Park, etc.
- 5) The much delayed project of six laning of G.T.Road, Pitiable condition of city roads and local conveyance.

DO YOU FEEL THAT GOVERNMENT POLICIES ARE WORKING IN FAVOUR OF EXPORTS? WHAT STEPS DO YOU THINK THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THIS INDUSTRY?

As far as the government policies are concerned, there is a big void between what is being done and what should be done to counter the threat from competing countries and global multinationals in order to increase our share in world export of Apparel and Knitwear. I suggest that the Central as well as the State Government should come up with exporter-friendly policies and should be more liberal in providing cheaper export finance, increase in export incentives, prompt release and payment of incentives, issue of licences for duty-free import of capital goods, raw-materials, accessories, stores

and spares, exemption from Service Tax, regular supply of power at subsidised rates free from duties & taxes, time-framed plan for providing basic infrastructure etc.

WHAT ARE THE VARIOUS PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY AEPC FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR INDUSTRY AND BOOSTING INDIAN APPAREL EXPORT IN LUDHIANA?

- 1) Arranging Buyer Seller Meets in various countries.
- 2) Participation in International Fairs.
- 3) Sending high level delegations to various countries.
- 4) Arranging Fashion Forecast Seminars
- 5) Programme on Compliance Management.
- 6) Organising India International Garment Fairs.
- 7) ATDC Training Projects.

IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS, WE HAVE EXPERIENCED VOLATILITY IN THE PRICE OF COTTON YARNS. WHAT IS YOUR SUGGESTION TO STABILIZE THE COTTON PRICES?

Sudden and sharp fluctuation in the prices of cotton and cotton yarns is one of the major challenges before the apparel exporters today. To ensure stable and uniform prices of cotton yarns, our Government and Government agencies do have a major role to play e.g. pre-fixation of MSP for the procurement of raw-cotton, introduction of annual uniform policy for export and import of cotton /cotton yarns, effective control on stocks holding by traders, regulatory measures on Commodity Stock Exchanges etc.

WHAT IS YOUR TAKE ON THE RECENT TRADE TIE UP WITH PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH? HOW HAVE YOU PLANNED TO MEET THE CHALLENGES POSED?

There will be good scope for increase of trade among these major south Asian countries. This will generate a peaceful atmosphere, healthy competition and free flow of materials and technologies among these countries which will further help in a long way to stabilize the prices and availability of cotton, cotton yarns and other raw-materials in the region. We should plan to best utilize the emerging opportunities.

SHORTAGE OF SKILLED LABOUR HAS ALWAYS BEEN A MAJOR PROBLEM FOR THE APPAREL EXPORTERS. AS A COMPANY HEAD, WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM?

Foreseeing the gravity of this major problem, AEPC has taken up the challenge and started ATDC Training Projects at almost all the major centres to impart training and skilling the Apparel sector. We, on our part, also employ unskilled and semi-skilled labour and impart training at our manufacturing facilities to make them fully skilled in various fields. We have also been



giving practical training to the students referred to us by various technical institutions.

DO YOU THINK, WE ARE COMPETENT ENOUGH IN TERMS OF MODERN FACTORIES? WHAT IS YOUR TAKE ON THE PRESENT MACHINES IMPORT DUTY STRUCTURE?

Knitwear Apparel Industry is not yet competent enough in terms of modernization. We are far behind our competitor countries. There should be more simplified policies to issue duty free import licences for import of modern plant and machinery by the Apparel and Knitwear exporters based on their past performances and not linking it with any export obligations.

HOW DO YOU LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT ONE YEAR FOR THE LUDHIANA KNITTING INDUSTRY AND THE INDIAN EXPORT INDUSTRY?

The growth of Ludhiana's Knitting industry is almost stagnant in comparison to other major Indian knitting industry centres. AEPC can play a major role to grow awareness among the Ludhiana knitting industrialists for better co-operation among themselves, to encourage cluster system and by becoming a bridge between the Industry and Central and State Governments for redressal of the problems being faced by the Industry.

HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN INTERNATIONAL FAIR OR BSM? DID YOU FIND IT USEFUL FOR THE EXPORTERS?

We have been participating in various Buyer Seller Meets and international fairs organised by AEPC. The last international fair participated by us was held in Germany about 5 to 6 years ago. As the response and results were not very encouraging, we have not participated any fair since then.

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS?

Our future plan and strategy is to increase our knitwear exports to the Middle-east countries under our own brand name and to open our own exclusive brand outlets. For which, we have set up new factories in the Apparel Park, Doraha which are still under completion.

Ennore Port: An alternative gateway to Chennai Apparel Exporters?

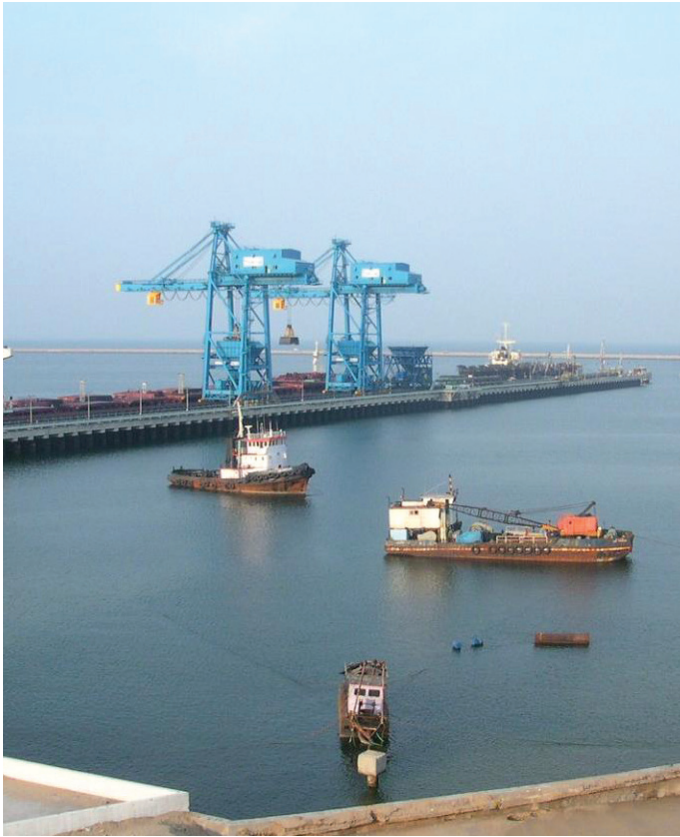
Could the proposed development of container terminal by India's corporate port at Ennore near Chennai be a breather for apparel exporters based in Chennai? This is when exporters based in Chennai apparel cluster are facing intermittent bouts of congestion issues at Chennai container terminal with vessels imposing demurrage charges on the exporters...

By Partha Pratim Basistha



The terminal to be developed will be based on land lord concept model where the port will provide for basic infrastructure such as dredged basin/ channel road and rail infrastructure, aids to navigation fire fighting facilities, utilities and water and power supply and management of the resources. Development and operation of the cargo handling terminal will be done through private sector participation through public private partnership basis on (build operate and transfer) BOT basis. The terminal which is expected to be commissioned by 2014-15 has been recently awarded to Bay of Bengal Gateway Terminal Limited for 30 years for development of the

container terminal at an estimated cost of Rs 1,403 crores for which concession agreement was signed in 2010. Minimum guarantee traffic mentioned in the concession agreement has been indicated at 9.8 million tones. Now, given the colossal export volumes originating through Chennai apparel clusters and other southern apparel clusters nearby exporters can help in realizing the throughput and avail volume discounts on the containers being shipped. Getting volumes discounts on the apparel cargo being shipped should not be difficult for exporters given the fact that exim trade originating from Chennai is well balanced one with equal number of export and



garments per day and services diverse market destinations even countries other than US and EU.

Ideal on Connectivity & Facilities

The case for exporters based in Chennai cluster and also other parts of Tamil Nadu making Ennore Container Terminal the new gateway can be based on the fact that the port is surrounded by good number of container freight stations and thinly populated neighbourhood and availability of large tracts of land to trigger further port based developments. But most importantly, it is the mega connectivity improvement initiative planned by the port that can make using the terminal attractive for exporters. The project for four laning of 9 km long Manalivallur stretch of Thiruvottiyur-Ponneri-Pancheti (TPP) road at a cost of Rs 143 crore, with a view to connect the three national highways(NH4, NH5 & NH-45) to Ennore Port is under implementation .The Ennore Port has contributed Rs. 13.75 crores to the project so far, as against the share of Rs. 34 crores. The port is implemented by Chennai-Ennore Port Road Company Limited, which is a special purpose vehicle promoted by NHAI, Tamil Nadu Government, Chennai port Trust and Ennore Port Limited. Construction work is in progress. The expected date of project completion is June 2013.

With a view to ensure smooth flow of traffic to and from the proposed container terminal, it has already been proposed to develop a four lane northern port access with a right of way of 100 metres of 21 km between Ennore Port North Gate and Tachur on NH-5. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 362 crores. NHAI will implement the project on PPP basis. EPL will bear the cost of land acquisition for the project. NHAI is taking action to select the concessionaire. Now the Tamil Nadu government has proposed to take up the project on commercial format and for incurring land acquisition cost. Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation is the coordinating agency.

The port is connected to Southern Railway network at Attipattu and Attipattu Puthunagar railway stations at about 6 kms from the port, on the Chennai Gudur section of the Southern Railway. Ennore Port is planning to provide rail connectivity to the proposed container terminal from the Indian Railways mainline for rail movement of container traffic at an estimated cost of Rs. 40 crores. A new broad guage line between Puthur and Attipattu costing Rs. 446 cores has been approved by the Central Government. EPL is to meet 50 percent share of the project cost. New connectivity initiatives augurs well for apparel exporters as it will cut down on lead times for the shipment, moreover given the fact that there are proposals to increase the water draft to 16 meters at the container berth area for accommodating vessels with bigger parcel loads. However, it will be important for apparel exporters to make their independent transportation estimate to examine the viability to using the container terminal facilities at Ennore Port.

import containers. This is well likely to draw mainline vessels to the new terminal as it presently does to Chennai Container Terminal, the private container terminal operating at Chennai Port under Dubai Ports World. Bulk of apparel exports from Chennai apparel export cluster is presently handled at Chennai Container Terminal (CCT).

CCT apart from providing mainline vessel services is also complemented by feeder vessel services connecting Chennai apparel trade with direct access to Mediterranean, Europe, Thailand Vietnam, China and Korea. These mainline services are complemented by feeder services connecting Colombo, Vizag, Penang, Port Klang Malaysia and Singapore. Presently CCT is connected to 58 plus ports across the globe. Further improvement in productivity will enable it to bring couple of more services. Similar services can be provided by the new container terminal at Ennore and exporters can go on to avail the benefit of the same under joint collaboration between the exporters and terminal operators by higher productivity assured by higher apparel export cargo throughput.

Chennai apparel cluster is predominantly an export centric centre. It contributes Rs 2500 crore as an annual turnover to Indian garment industry. The near 100 exporters manage to turn in nearly Rs 2000 crores of business per year accounting 80 percent of the cluster's turnover. Conforming to buyers demand this group of manufacturers has in house production facilities with even small players operating with more than 100 machines. The larger exporters have over 500 machines each. Employing latest technology like Juki and Brother sewing machine, this segment of players stitches close to 3 lakh

Service Tax: Restoration of service specific accounting codes for payment of service

NEGATIVE LIST

Negative List based comprehensive approach to taxation of services came into effect from the first day of July, 2012. Accounting code for the purpose of payment of service tax under the Negative List approach [“All Taxable Services” – 00441089] was prescribed vide Circular 161/12/2012 dated 6th July, 2012. Subsequent to the issuance of the Circular, suggestions were received from the field formations that the service specific old accounting codes should be restored, for the purpose of statistical analysis; also it was suggested that list of descriptions of services should be provided to the taxpayers for obtaining registration. These suggestions were examined and a decision has been taken to restore the service specific accounting codes. Accordingly, a list of 120 descriptions of services for the purpose of registration and accounting codes corresponding to each description of service for payment of tax is provided in the annexure to this Circular. Descriptions of taxable services given in the annexure are solely for the purpose of statistical analysis.

On the advice of the office of the C & AG, a specific sub-head has been created for payment of “penalty” under various descriptions of services. Henceforth, the sub-head “other receipts” is meant only for payment of interest payable on delayed payment of service tax. Accounting Codes under the sub-head “deduct refunds” is not to be used by the taxpayers, as it is meant for use by the field formations while allowing refund of tax.

REGISTRATIONS

Registrations obtained under the positive list approach continue to be valid. New taxpayers can obtain registrations by selecting the relevant description/s from among the list of 120 descriptions of services given in the Annexure. Where registrations have been obtained under the description ‘All Taxable Services’, the taxpayer should file amendment application online in ACES and opt for relevant description/s from the list of 120 descriptions of services given in the Annexure. If any applications for amendment of ST-1 are pending with field formations, seeking the description ‘all taxable services’, such amendment may not be necessary and the officers in the field formations may provide necessary guidance to the taxpayers in this regard. Directorate General of Systems will be making necessary arrangements for display of the list of 120 descriptions of services and their corresponding Accounting Codes in Form ST-1 and Form ST-2 as may be necessary.

Officers in the field formations are instructed to extend necessary guidance to the tax payers regarding the selection of appropriate description of taxable service and facilitate the payment of service tax/cess due under the appropriate accounting code. Trade Notice/Public Notice may be issued to the field formations and tax payers. Please acknowledge receipt of this Circular. Hindi version follows. Further details can be seen on the site of Ministry of Finance, Government of India along with the connected annexure with regard to this notification.

Online Payment System at AEPC

By Shri Subhajit Chakrabarty, Director, IT & IS, AEPC

AEPC ONLINE MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM

The AEPC online membership system was launched (on Go Live) with effect from 01 June 2012. The system enables exporters to register for membership online, renew online and get endorsements done online. The documents required can be scanned by the exporter and uploaded online. The membership can be approved online by AEPC & certificates (new registration or renewal) can be obtained by the exporter online. The online system makes the process faster as detailed reports are available to check pendency and its causes. At each step there is transparency and the exporter would know the exact status. Now online payment is also possible through credit cards (Mastercard, Visa) and or net-banking (54 banks) options. Therefore, there is no necessity to physically visit the AEPC office to submit documents (or cheque) for new membership, renewal or endorsement, though choice of offline membership services would continue to be available as usual from the local AEPC office.

WHAT MAKES ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM IMPORTANT

With the online payment mode there is no requirement of delivery of the cheque or demand draft as the transaction is done online. There can be bounces on account of insufficient funds and the acknowledgement of payment to the exporter is automatic. Further, the processing of application for the exporter is also instant because payment confirmation is automatic. At times of difficult market conditions, helping the exporter with faster services makes the online payment system important. In particular small exporters, who are travelling can benefit significantly from the online payment facility.

ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM PROCESS

The secured process of online payment is as per international standards. The credit card details for net banking are neither saved by the service provider nor by AEPC. The process of application for a service related to membership system is the same as for offline. On the payment page there will be option of choosing the offline mode (submitting details of cheque or bank draft which will be verified) or choosing the online mode (payment confirmation is automatic). In case of failed transactions the process automatically reverts back the transaction as per international norms. The cost or service charge of online payment transactions is borne by AEPC now in order to encourage exporters to use more online services and embrace technology.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

As the online membership system with payment gateway options gathers more steam, we would seek to provide such online options for all export promotion services including participation in fair and exhibitions. We are also initiating a closer intranet with our exporters so that all export promotion services are administered seamlessly. An MIS is being developed exclusively for Disha – the Compliance programme through which exporters can review their compliance status under Disha. An SMS gateway is being integrated with the online membership system through which exporters can get SMS alerts about payments and notices.

AEPC Bangalore has a New Address

The AEPC office located at No.10, Raheja Chambers, 12 Museum Road, Bangalore-01 is being shifted to the new location at Yesvantpur, Bangalore. All the AEPC services like issuance of Certificate of Origin, Import Certificate, Membership, EP activities etc., will be continued at the new location w.e.f. 01-12-2012.

The address of the new AEPC Office location is as given below:

APPAREL EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

NO.17-G, 40TH MAIN ROAD,
2ND STAGE, INDUSTRIAL SUBURB,
YESVANTPUR, BANGALORE - 560 022.
Landline 080 41283827

CONTACT NUMBERS

MR. R. BALAJI – 9449826354
MR. P. DORABABU - 9448311416

Functional control of Special Valuation Branches

Kind attention is invited to Board Circular No. 11/2001-Customs dated 23rd February 2001 issued from F. No. 467/32/2000-Customs V, prescribing conditions and procedure regarding cases to be taken up for investigation by Special Valuation Branches (SVB) and their manner of processing and disposal. Presently SVBs are located in the Customs Commissionerates of Mumbai, New Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata and Bangalore and are functioning under the administrative control of the respective Commissioners of Customs.

The functioning of SVBs was reviewed by the Board with a view to strengthen their working. It has been decided to vest the Directorate General of Valuation (DGOV) with functional control over the SVBs.

Consequently, the presently existing SVB sections with their existing staff will henceforth function under the supervisory control of the DGOV.

The Board has also decided that the officers posted in SVBs shall not be given any additional responsibilities and they shall exclusively handle work relating to SVB investigations and related issues. The office of the DGOV shall closely monitor the pendency of the SVBs, approve the initiation of SVB inquiries, and supervise the investigations. Furthermore, the Board has desired that the DGOV continuously endeavor for qualitative improvement of SVB investigations/orders. The entire notification can be seen on the Ministry of Finance, Government of India web site.

Notification No. 47/2012 - Service Tax

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section(1) read with sub-section (2) of section 94 of the Finance Act 1994 (32 of 1994), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Service Tax Rules, 1994, namely:-

1. (1) These rules may be called the Service Tax(Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2012.
(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.
2. In the Service Tax Rules,1994, in rule 7, in sub-rule(2), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-
“Provided that the Form ‘ST-3’ required to be submitted by the 25th day of October, 2012 shall cover the period between 1st April to 30th June, 2012 only.”

Notification: Central Board of Excise & Customs

CENTRAL BOARD OF EXCISE & CUSTOMS EXTENDS THE DATE OF SUBMISSION OF THE RETURN FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-rule(4) of rule 7 of the Service Tax Rules, 1994, the Central Board of Excise & Customs hereby extends the date of submission of the return for the period 1st April 2012 to 30th June 2012, from 25th October, 2012 to 25th November, 2012.

The circumstances of a special nature which have given rise to this extension of time are as follows:

- a) ACES will start releasing the return in Form ST3 in a quarterly format, shortly before the due date of 25th October, 2012.
- b) This will result in all the assesses attempting to file their returns in a short time period, which may result in problems in the computer network and delay and inconvenience to the assesses.

Registration of Contracts for Export of Cotton

PROCEDURE AND CONDITIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF CONTRACTS FOR EXPORT OF COTTON (TARIFF CODES 5201 AND 5203)- AMENDMENT THEREOF.

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 (No.22 of 1992) read with Para 2.1 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2009-14, the Central Government hereby amends the procedure and conditions for registration of contracts for export of cotton under Tariff Item HS code 5201 & 5203 [Sl. Nos. 197 & 199 of ITC(HS) Classification of Export & Import Items] as stipulated in Notification No. 17 of 1st October, 2012, with immediate effect.

THE REGISTRATION WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- (i) Registration Certificates (RCs) will be issued by 10 designated Regional Authorities of DGFT at Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, CLA New Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Ludhiana, Mumbai, Rajkot and Vishakhapatnam.
- (ii) An exporter can apply for RC for a maximum quantity of 30,000 bales (1 bale=170kg) or actual quantity exported in the previous cotton season, whichever is less. Exporters who have exported upto 3000 bales during previous cotton season and new comers (a new comer is an exporter who has not exported cotton in the previous cotton season) can apply “upto 3000 bales”. Multiple RCs can be obtained within this eligibility. Eligibility to apply for a subsequent RC will be on completion of at least 50% of the exports against individual RC obtained and not on completing 50% exports against total eligibility of the exporter (exporters would be required to submit the documentary proof of such exports to the concerned RAs alongwith the application for issue of new RC).
- (iii) For ease of calculation, RC holders are encouraged to apply in next higher multiples of 10. RCs will be issued in Metric Tonnes (MTs).
- (iv) Revalidation of Registration Certificates will not be permitted.

Extension of Operation of Residuary Provisions

EXTENSION OF OPERATION OF RESIDUARY PROVISIONS OF YARN, FABRICS & MADE-UPS EXPORT ENTITLEMENT (QUOTA) POLICIES WITH EFFECT FROM 1ST JANUARY, 2013

1. The Government, vide Notification No.1/61/2004-Exports-I dated 9th November, 2004, decided to enforce operation of the residuary provisions of Yarn, Fabrics & Made-ups Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy initially for one year with effect from 1st January, 2005, and extended from time to time. These provisions have since been extended upto 31st December, 2012.
2. The Government hereby decides to extend the operation of the residuary provisions of Yarn, Fabrics & Made-ups Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy for a further one year with effect from 1st January, 2013.
3. All other terms and conditions of the Notification dated 9th November, 2004 mentioned in Para 1 remain unchanged.

Trade Fairs & Industry Events

2013-2014

Event	Date
<u>BSM in London and Copenhagen</u>	MAY, 2013
<u>Fatex Fair in Paris, France</u>	JUNE, 2013
<u>Hong Kong Fashion Week, Hong Kong</u>	JULY, 2013
<u>IFF Fair at Tokyo, Japan</u>	JULY, 2013
<u>Magic Fair, Las Vegas, USA</u>	AUGUST, 2013
<u>BSM in East European countries to Croatia and Estonia</u>	SEPTEMBER, 2013
<u>BSM at New York, USA</u>	SEPTEMBER, 2013
<u>BSM at Barcelona and Madrid, Spain</u>	SEPTEMBER, 2013
<u>BSM at Tel Aviv, Israel</u>	NOVEMBER, 2013
<u>BSM in Australia (Melbourne and Sydney)</u>	OCTOBER, 2013
<u>BSM in Colombia (Bogota) and Brazil (Sao Paulo)</u>	OCTOBER, 2013
<u>Hong Kong Fashion Week, Hong Kong</u>	JANUARY, 2014
<u>Magic Fair, Las Vegas, USA</u>	FEBRUARY, 2014
<u>India Clothing & Textiles Mega Show in South Africa</u>	MARCH, 2014

Role of Professionals in Present Industrial Scenario

The Industry plays an important role for various students' activities such as Internships, Graduation Projects, Design Collections, Exposure Visits and Placements, to name a few. The professionals from the industry play an important part in mentoring the talents of the students. To understand their role further, an event was held on 29th August 2012 at NIFT, Kolkata Auditorium and was jointly organized by the Kolkata centres of National Institute of Fashion Technology, Apparel Export Promotion Council and Apparel Training and Design Centre...

The border topic on which the distinguished dignitaries including Industry Speakers deliberated upon was the Role of Professionals in present Industry Scenario. The objective of this Industry Meet was to deliberate on the various issue for the budding professional of NIFT and ATDC.

THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES

The industry representatives are fully equipped, with their experience and knowledge, to discuss the issues related to the industry expectation from the students who are ready to join and serve the industry. Such a mentorship can help the students prepare to meet the industry expectations. The students can understand the career growth chart. The faculty and officials of NIFT and ATDC who prepare the students to serve the industry, can also get the latest industry requirements from their students.

THE EVENT

The event of Industry Meet – 2012 was inaugurated with lighting of the lamp by the distinguished dignitaries on the dais. Prof. B. Banerjee, Director, NIFT, Kolkata gave the welcome speech and explained the role and responsibility of NIFT Kolkata, to the gathering inclusive of the industry representatives. The distinguished dignitaries enlightened the participants on the broader theme of the Meet in the inaugural session; which was followed by the technical session where the eminent industry speakers gave their presentation on various topics. The final year student participants got a fair knowledge regarding the requirement of the Industry, Industry expectation from the budding professionals, various career avenues and career growth opportunities in the various sectors. There was also an open session for an interactive discussion amongst the industry representatives, student participants, dignitaries and the eminent speakers.

THE DIGNITARIES THAT WERE PRESENT

- Shri Vijay Mathur, Secretary General, AEPC – Chief Guest
- Ms. Heena Gorsia, President, Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, Guest of Honour



- Shri. Anil Buchasia, Executive Committee Member of AEPC, Chairman – Local Management Committee(LMC) of ATDC, Hon'ble Member of SLAC, NIFT - Chairperson – Technical session
- Shri Ranjan Dasgupta, Additional Director, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC), Special Guest

PARTICIPANTS

Some of the representatives of the Industry were as follows: UCS Apparels Pvt. Ltd, Amrit Exports Pvt. Ltd, Pantaloon Retail India Ltd, D2 International Pvt. Ltd, Radhamani International, Jay Ganesh Enterprises, Rupa and company Pvt. Ltd, Jayashree Textiles, Designer Exports, Maa Kali Textiles, Earthy Myths, Ruhul Computex Pvt. Ltd, Enfield Apparels Ltd, Ice Fire Clothing Co. Pvt. Ltd, Rangoli Sarees Ltd, Sriniketan Fashions, RM International and many others

The event ended with a vote of thanks by Shri Ranjan Dasgupta, Additional Director, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC).

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Contact Us

SUBSCRIPTIONS & MEMBERSHIP QUERIES

MS. SNEH LATA SHARMA
JOINT DIRECTOR (F & E),
AEPC

T: +91 124 2708000-3
E: slsharma@aepcindia.com

EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING QUERIES

MS. ANNOU IYER,
EXECUTIVE EDITOR,
APPAREL INDIA

M: +91 9899762388
E: apparelindia@trendlab.in

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NORTHERN REGION

- NEW DELHI** : A-223, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-I, New Delhi-110020, Ph.: 011-26372721, 26814251, Mob.: 9871177799
- ROHINI** : Ambedkar Bhawan, 6th Floor, Sector 16, Near G3S Cinema, Rohini, Delhi-110089, Ph.: 011-27573271, 27573272, Mob.: 09811788576, 9999796075
- GURGAON** : Paridhan Vikas Bhawan, Plot no. 50 P, Institutional Area, Sec - 44, Gurgaon - 122002, Haryana, Ph.: 0124-4085932, 4089565, Mob. 9910690776
- FARIDABAD** : Guest House Portion, Panchayat Bhawan, Ballabh Garh, Faridabad. Haryana. - 121004 Ph.: 0129-4068571, 4068572, Mob.: 09818024153
- NOIDA** : A-15, Sector-24, Opp. Somerville School, Noida - 201301, Ph.: 0120-2411038, Mob.: 09313623553, 9953211425
- KANPUR** : Apparel Park, UPSIDC, Administrative Block, 1st Floor, Road No. 14, Rooma, Kanpur-208007 (U.P.). Ph: 0512-2410225, Mob.: 09956311223
- JAIPUR** : SP-191, Malviya Industrial Area, Near Bhalgari Circle, Jaipur-302017, Rajasthan, Ph.: 0141-2750706, 2750064, 2750982, Mob.: 09785010121, 09636437188, 09610045632
- LUDHIANA** : B-XX-2597/570, Noble Enclave, 2nd Floor, Bhaiwala Chowk, Ferozpur Road, Ludhiana-141001, Ph.: 0161-2402605, Mob.: 09988010949

SOUTHERN REGION

- CHENNAI** : No. 18-23, 2nd Floor, Readymade Garment Complex, Thiru. Vi.Ka. Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032, Tamil Nadu, Ph.: 044-22500121, 22501221, Mob.: 08870008553, 09840578534

- CHENNAI** : Co-optex Campus, 350, Pantheon Road, Egmore, Chennai-600008, Ph.: 044-42656157, Mob.: 9840416769, 9840458213
- TIRUPUR** : AEPD Building, #3, 3rd Street (Off Avinashi Road) Indra Nagar, Tirupur-641603, Tamil Nadu, Ph.: 0421-2232614, Mob.: 08870222299
- BANGALORE** : 17-G, 40th Main Road, 2nd Stage, Industrial Suburb, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022, Karnataka, Ph.: 080-41283827, 23377780, Mob.: 9611238944
- THIRUVANANTHAPURAM** : KINFRA International Apparel Park, St. Xavier's College PO, Thumba, Thiruvananthapuram-695586, Kerala, Ph.: 0471-2706922, Mob.: 09495339453
- KANNUR** : KSIDC Industrial Growth Centre, Valiyavelicham, Mooriyad PO, Kuthuparamba, Kannur, Kerala-670643. Ph: 0490-320-9889 Mob: 09746394616
- HYDERABAD** : Survey No. 64, Near Cyber Towers, Opp. Birla Soft, Madhapur, Hyderabad-500081, Ph.: 040-23112155, 23112156, Fax: 23112078, Mob.: 09866477147

EASTERN REGION

- KOLKATA** : Plot No. - 3B, Block - LA, Sector-III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700098, West Bengal, Ph.: 033-23359994, 23359820, Mob.: 08001152531, 09679695478, 08420964713
- BHUBANESWAR** : A/33, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010, Orissa, Ph.: 0674-2586537, 6546537, Mob.: 09938744986, 09438134861

- JALPAIGURI** : PETC Building, 2nd floor, Shivaji Road, Hakimpura, Jalpaiguri - 735101, West Bengal, Ph: 03561-225019, Mob.: 9830530417, 07699178263
- PATNA** : Udyog Bhawan, Ground Floor, East of Gandhi Maidan, Patna-1, Ph: 0612-2675436, Mob.: 09693347897, 09304320222
- RANCHI** : RIADA Bhawan, Ground Floor, Lowadih Namkum, Ranchi-834010, Ph.: 0651-6571796, M.: 9955159262, 9199415375

WESTERN REGION

- NAVIMUMBAI** : F-201, Sanpada Railway Station Complex Building, 2nd Floor, Sanpada, New Mumbai-400705, Maharashtra, Ph.: 022-41233822/23/24/26, 41239422, Mob.: 9769501780, 7738162858, 9969633137, 9833850877.
- INDORE** : Corporate Block, Readymade Garment Complex, near Electronics Complex) Pardeshipura, Indore, (MP)-4052003, Ph.: 0731-2574700, 2571400, Mob.: 09303581740
- RAIPUR** : Urla Industrial Area, Near Dainik Bhaskar Press, Urla, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001 Ph.: 0771-2322052, 3260990, Mob.: 09770108666
- SURAT** : 7th Floor, Resham Bhawan, Lal Darwaja, Surat, Gujarat-395003, Ph : 0261-6457712, Mob.: 8469410281, 09825884757
- CHHINDWARA** : Near Air Strip, Imlikhera Chowk, Chhindwara, Betul Road (M.P.) Pin- 480001, Phone No: 07162-292240, Mob: 09636437188, 09424948330, 09893664800



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NIMBUS HARBOR FACILITIES MANAGEMENT. PVT. LTD.



OUR COMMITMENT TO GIVE "BEST OF THE BEST"

- ◆ INTEGRATED FACILITY MANAGEMENT
- ◆ COMPLETE BUILDING MANAGEMENT SOLUTION
- ◆ ELECTRO MECHANICAL SERVICES
- ◆ SOFT SERVICES
- ◆ TOTAL SELF PERFORMANCE (NO OUT SOURCING)

DIVINE BUILDING MAINTENANCE PRIVATE LTD.

OUR COMMITMENT TO SERVE "BEST OF THE BEST"

WE CONCEPTUALIZE LATEST TRENDS IN CORPORATE LIFESTYLES, AND, PROVIDE FULLY FURNISHED FIVE STAR EQUIVALENT HOSPITALITY SERVICES TO ALL OUR CORPORATE GUESTS.



NIMBUS REAL ESTATE SOLUTIONS PVT. LTD.



OUR COMMITMENT TO FIND "BEST OF THE BEST"

WE SEARCH FOR THE BEST OPTIONS TAILOR MADE TO SUITE YOUR REQUIREMENTS OF:

- DREAM HOMES
- IDEAL WORK PLACE



Give your **BUSINESS** the required edge of **DISHA**

**Reduce the burden of multiple audits!
Meet the compliance requirements !**

Avail of :



Gap analysis, remedy plan and training by compliance experts



Root cause analysis and guidance by a team of experts on improvement of work place & practices



Guidance and information on Compliance standards, requirements, tools, legislation, legal advise etc.
through an interactive portal



Certification to AEPC Common Compliance Code, an India centric, customized Compliance benchmark,
adhering to the International and recommended standards



Scheme guided by a Board comprising International multi-stakeholders
to ensure maximum acceptability by buyers

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