Textile Trends

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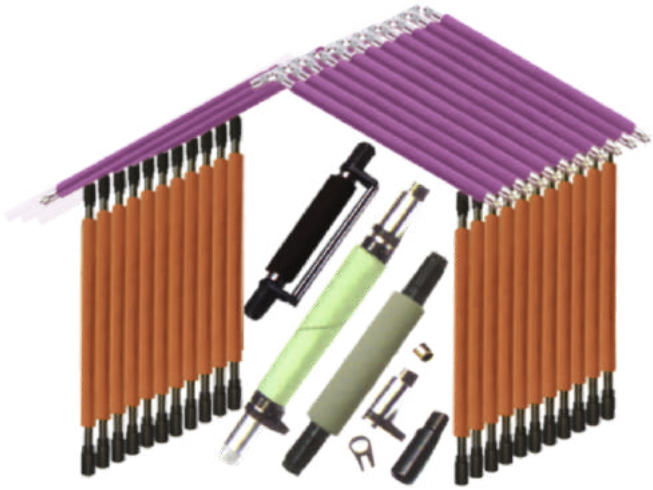

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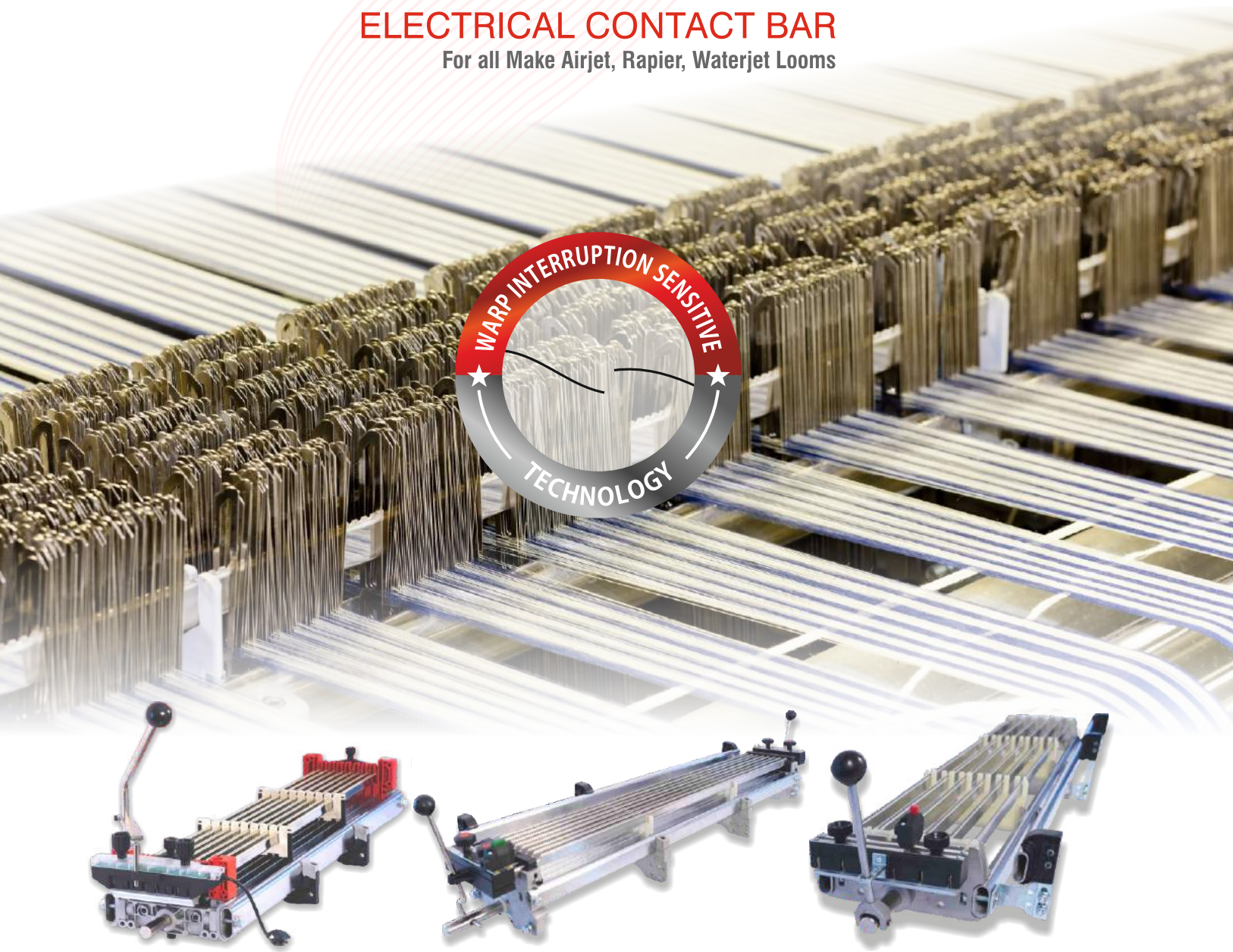

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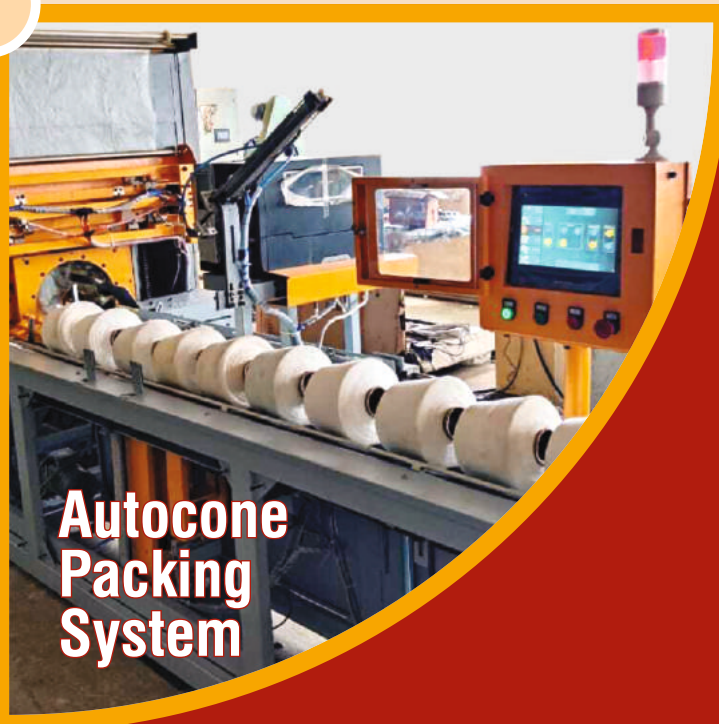

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EDITORIAL

Not absolute khadi

Even before sustainability, slow fashion and conscious clothing became talking point in fashion. Designers have been prioritizing the ethos of sustainable clothing by working with handwoven linen with minimalistic motifs. Until 2011-12 there was the hesitancy of weavers to take linen. Today huge number of weavers' family in Purulia, West Bengal are working in coordination with designer and through interaction with weavers the designers are gaining label a distinct identity. Designers are today experiencing nostalgic feeling with khadi. In Punjab, Bengal Khadi was popular in pre-independence period, elderly women used to prefer white khadi with simple motifs.

Our ancestors knew khadi is climate friendly fabrics. The weavers in Burdwan district in West Bengal have been working with khadi for several decades and the yarn is available locally. The crafts people are adept at using vegetable dyes; 80% of this collection uses vegetable dyes. The sarees, kurtas, anti-fit tops inspired by bandis of yore are woven using fine count khadi with motifs in jamdani. The colour palate ranges from pastel vegetable dyes to shades of indigo as well as brighter pinks and yellows targeting a younger clientele.

Crafts people choose the motifs like pomegranates and birds which they are familiar with. As per instruction of large number of buyers, craft men add new more motifs using khadi and lenin together. Weaver community who are struggling to keep the craftsmanship alive are getting financial assistances from designers, because this community was hard-hit by pandemic and it has made things a lot of more challenging. Situation gradually improve with help of designers. Many weavers using whatsapp are aware of prices at which saree and garments are sold. This help them negotiate better wages and the younger generation is keen to continue weaving.

Today many designers plan to roll-out lifestyle products with khadi, beginning with table linen. Weavers now are attending the meetings hosted by the khadi board or charka distribution. Fashion school such as NIFT also send their design-students to meet weavers. All this boosts morale of weavers. There is more dynamism in the clusters and khadi is no longer a dying craft.

UK inflation in its highest rate of 9.4% in 40 year

Surging Petroland food prices in June pushed British inflation to its highest rate in 40 years, according to official figures that bolstered the chances of a rare half percentage-point Bank of England interest rate hike next month. The Office for National Statistics said annual consumer price inflation rose in June to 9.4%, the highest since February 1982, up from May's 9.1% and above the 9.3% consensus in a Reuters poll of economists. The latest increase means Britain had the highest rate of inflation seen in any Group of Seven advanced economy since 1985, although many smaller European Union countries are currently seeing even faster growth in prices. Recent data bolstered bets that the BoE will opt for a 50-bps rate hike next month, which would be the biggest since 1995. The European Central Bank is considering such a move 3rd week of July, sources told Reuters recently. BoE governor Andrew Bailey recently said the scale of borrowing costs increase was on the table but not "locked in". The BoE has raised rates five times since December as it tries to stop the surge in inflation from becoming embedded in Britain's eocnomy, and it is expected to increase them again. ❐

Russia, Ukraine signed an agreement on grain export deal with Turkey, UN

Russia and Ukraine signed separate agreements recently with Turkey and the United Nations clearing the way for exporting millions of tonnes of desperately needed Ukrainian grain - as well as Russian grain and fertiliser - ending a wartime standoff that had threatened food security around the globe. Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu and Ukrainian Infrastructure Minister Oleksandr Kubrakov signed separate deals with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and Turkish Defence Minister Hulusi Akar. The ceremony was witnessed by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. "Today, there is a beacon on the Black, Sea," Guterres said. "A beacon of hope, a beacon of possibility, a beacon of relief in a world that needs it more than ever." "You have overcome obstacles and put aside differences to pave the way for initiative that will serve the common interests of all," he said, addressing the Russian and Ukrainian representatives. Ukrainian and Russian military delegations reached a tentative agreement recently on a UN plan that would also allow Russia to export its grain and fertilisers. Mykhailo Podolyak, an adviser to Ukraine's president, stressed that Ukraine and Russia would sign separate agreements. "Ukraine does not sign any documents with Russia." Podolyak wrote on Twitter, adding that his country would sign an agreement with Turkey and the UN, with Russia signing a separate "mirror agreement." Ukraine is one of the world's largest exporters of wheat, corn and sunflower oil, but Russia's invasion of the country and naval blockade of its ports have balted shipments. Some grain is being transported through Europe by rail, road and river, but the prices of vital commodities like wheat and barley have soared during the nearl six-month war. The deal makes provisions for the safe passage of ships. It foresees the establishment of a control center in Istanbul, to be staffed by UN, Turkish, Russian and Ukrainian officials, to run and coordinate the process, Turkish officials have said. Ships would undergo inspections to ensure they are not carrying weapons. Podolyak insisted that no Russian ship would escort vessels and that there would be no Russian representative present at Ukrainian ports. Ukraine also plans as immediate military response "in case of provocations," he said. Guterres first raised the critical need to get Ukraine's agricultural production and Russia's grain and fertilizer back into world markets in late April during meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv. ❐

Germany on edge of recession as Biz Confidence falls

German business confidence deteriorated to the worst level since the early months of the pandemic on growing concerns that record inflation and limited energy supplies from Russia will throw Europe's biggest economy

into a downturn. A gauge of expectations released recently by the Munich-based Ifo Institute fell to 80.3 in July from 85.8 in June. Analysts had predicted a drop to 83.0. An index of current conditions also dropped. "Germany is on the brink of a recession," Ifo President Clemens Fuest said. "High energy prices and the threat of gas shortages are weighing on the economy. Companies are expecting significantly worse business activity in the coming months." The report reflects mounting gloom in Germany, whose pandemic recovery was already muted because of rampant inflation and component shortages exacerbated by the war in Ukraine. A gauge of private-sector activity by S&P Global signaled the economy began contracting in July for the first time this year. The Bundesbank warned recently that price growth is likely to remain elevated in the coming months, and may even resume its ascent in September as temporary relief measures end. Fears over Russian gas deliveries are "weighing on the outlook" for German growth, it said in its monthly report. A key risk for Germany, which imports a large share of its natural gas from Russia, is that further slowdowns or standstills in energy supplies could drive inflation higher still. ❐

China's economy growth at slowest pace, puts GDP target out of reach

China's economy grew at the slowest pace since the country was first hit by the coronavirus outbreak two years ago, making the growth target for the year increasingly unattainable as economists downgrade forecasts further. The 0.4% expansion in gross domestic product reported for the three months to June, when dozens of cities including Shanghai and Changchun imposed lockdowns, was the second weakest ever recorded. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. promptly cut its full-year growth forecast to 3.3% from 4%, saying the figures suggest Covid lockdowns last quarter took a heavier than-expected toll on the economy. The slowdown means Beijing will miss its GDP target of about 5.5% by a wide margin this year, the first time that's likely to happen. The government didn't set a target in 2020, during the first wave of the coronavirus outbreak, and only missed it slightly by 0.2 percentage point in 1998. China's outlook remains highly uncertain as President Xi Jinping stays committed to his Covid Zero approach of stamping out infections, with the emergence of the highly-infectious BA. 5 sub-variant in several cities raising the threat of new lockdowns. The number of confirmed Covid cases on 15th July hit the highest since May. With China a major buyer of commodities from oil to coal to corn, the economy's slowdown is a blow to a global economy already hit by recession fears. Data in first week of July showed China's import growth slowed to just 1% in June. Covid Zero means China "won't make much of a contribution," to global demand this year, said Chen Long, an economist at Beijing based consultancy Plenum. "The base case is for more Beijing-style 'soft' lockdowns. Factories will run and trucks will be able to drive, so the industrial side will hold up well but consumption will be limited." Xi has de-emphasized the importance of the GDP target in recent years, writing into a key Communist Party document last year that it should no longer be a "sole criterion of success." Economists think it's likely the goal will be downplayed rather than abandoned, with preserving jobs becoming the top priority.❐

China posts record, budget deficit

China's broad Budget deficit in the first five months of the year ballooned by almost a trillion yuan to the worst on record as breaks to stimulate the economy caused income to drop. The government took in a combined 10.9 trillion yuan ($1.6 trillion) in general and government fund revenues in January to May, but that was far exceeded by the 13.8 trillion yuan its spend in the period. The 2.9-trillion yuan deficit, which covers the budgets for all levels of government, compares to a small surplus at the same point last year and is almost 43% bigger than in 2020, according to Bloomberg calculations. ■

INDIAN ECONOMY AND TRADE TRENDS

India loses rank of 5th largest econony tag by $13bn

The Indian economy was slightly smaller than the United Kingdom's (UK's), which deprived the former the rank of the fifth largest economy in the world in 2021. Experts say it is just a matter of a year before India overtakes the UK. It should be noted that the figures for other countries are on a calendar year basis, while those for India are on a fiscal year basis (April-to-March). So, 2021 would mean 2021-22 for India and so on. If the figures are rounded off, both the economies were placed at $3.2 trillion in 2021. However, to be specific, the UK's economy was a bit higher at $3.19 trillion against India's at $3.17 trillion during the year, showed the latest World Bank data. India's economy was just $13 billion behind the UK's in 2021. India had also reduced the gap with the UK in 2019 to $50 billion from $200 billion a year earlier but the distance had widened to $90 billion in 2020. Former chief statistician Pronab Sen said India's economic recovery was much sharper in 2021-22 over the pre-Covid period than the UK's in 2021 over 2019. In national currency terms, the UK economy expanded to 2.32 trillion pounds in 2021, which was 2.6 per cent higher than the 2.26 trillion pounds in the pre-Covid period of 2019. On the other hand, India's economy expanded by 17.8 per cent at 236.44 trillion ₹236.44 trillion in 2021-22 againt ₹200.75 trillion in 2019-20. When comparing figures in dollar terms, one has to keep in mind the movement of the exchange rate. Sen said India's currency depreciated marginally against the dollar in 2021-22 compared to 2020-21, while the pound depreciated much sharper against the greenback in 2021 against that in 2020. It should be noted here while the dollar has more value than the rupee, it is the other way round in relation to the pound. India's currency depreciated by 0.55 per cent against the dollar while for the pound it was 6.5 per cent in this period. ICRA Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said India's GDP growth was likely to be one of the fastest globally during 2022-23, which should help India overtake the UK imminently. India continued to race ahead of France, with which it was on a level with $2.65 trillion in 2017. The next year too, both the economies were tied at $2.7 trillion. Since then, India overtook France to occupy sixth spot in the world. The gap stood at $100 billion in 2019 but reduced to $40 billion the next year. The difference widened to $230 billion in 2021. Many would like to see the ranking of countries in terms of pruchasing power parity (PPP), which takes into account the cost of living in a country while converting a currency into dollars. In PPP terms, India continued to be the third-largest economy in the world in 2021-22. The economy stood at $10.22 trillion, which was almost twice as much as Japan's $5.4 trillion in 2021. Japan was the fourth largest economy in the world in PPP terms in 2021. ❐

Core sector output rises to 13-mth high of 18.1% in May

India's infrastructure sector grew at a 13-month high of 18.1% in May from a year ago, boosted by the low base of last year when the second wave of Covid had disrupted the economy. Growth is expected to moderate as this base effect wanes. The Indix of Eight Core Industries is up 13.6% in the first two months of FY23 from a year ago, data released recently showed. The index measures the output of eight key infrastructure industries coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement, and electricity. "The core sector growth for May printed at a robust, but optically misleading 18% boosted by the low base of the second wave of Covid-19, and coming in at the lower end of our expectations range of 18-20%," said ICRA chief economist Aditi Nayar. The index was up 2.5% sequentially in May over April and 8.1% in the month from the pre-covid levels. The index has a 40.27% weight in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). The high core sector growth should boost the industrial growth in May. "We expect the IIP to expand by 16-19% in May 2022, benefitting from the high growth in the core sector as well as various other high-frequency indicators," Nayar said. Several high-frequency indicators such as goods and services tax collections, freight loading, electricity generation, and automobile sales suggest the Indian economy has held firm despite high inflation and rising interest rates. All eight sectors included in the index reported strong growth. Coal output grew 25.1% while fertiliser production was up 22.8% in May from a year ago. Cement output

rose 26.3%, slightly more than electricity generation which was up 22%. The output of refineary products was up 16.7%. Crude oil output was up a modest 4.6% while natural gas production rose 7%. "The coal output despite registering double digit growth the May 2022 is still only 85.6% of the pre-COVID production level (February 2020)," India Ratings said in a note. "All the other sectors except electricity and natural gas are also marginally higher than the pre-COVID level indicating that in terms of robust recovery they still have a long way to go." ❐

Centre targets fiscal deficit to 12.3% in FY23

The Centre's fiscal deficit was 12.3% of the FY23 budget estimate at the end of May on the back of higher expenditure, official data released recently showed. In comparison, the fiscal deficit was 8.2% of the revised FY22 estimates at the end of May in the preceding year. In absolute terms, the fiscal deficit - the gap between revenues and spending that is met with borrowing - was Rs. 2.03 lakh crores at the end of May, as per the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA). "With a low 2% growth in revenue receipts dampened by the fall in the surplus transferred by the RBI, a 15% rise in revenue expenditure, and a robust 70% expansion in capital spending, the Government of India's fiscal deficit widened sharply...." said Aditi Nayar, chief economist, ICRA. India's fiscal deficit is projected at 6.4% of GDP for FY 23 as against 6.7% for the previous year. India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) said continued high inflation leading to help the Centre achieve its tax collection target of FY 23. "No major threat to the government's fiscal deficit target even though the fiscal deficit is 65.6% higher than last year during the first two months of FY 23," it said. ICRA expects a marginal fiscal slippage. "A higher nominal GDP vis-à-vis the BE (budget estimate) is likely to contain the expected fiscal deficit at 6.5% of GDP, only slighly exceeding the budgeted 6.4% of GDP," Nayar said. ❐

Indian digital economy will touch $1 trillion by 2025 : PM

Highlighting the growth of India's digital economy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said recently that its value will reach $1 trillion by 2025 and that the government is supporting innovation in every sector. He also said that the Indian economy is expected to grow by 7.5% this year, which will make it the fastest growing major economy. In a virtual address at the opening ceremony of the BRICS (Brazil-Russia-India China South Africa) Business Forum, Modi said there are investment opportunities to the tune of $1.5 trillion under the country's National Infrastructure Pipeline. He said that the kind of digital transformation that is taking place in India today has never been seen in the world before. "In order to deal with the economic problems arising out of the pandemic, in India we have adopted the mantra of reform, perform and transform. And the results of this approach are evident from the performance of the Indian economy," he said. "This year, we are expecting a 7.5% growth, which makes us the fastest growing major economy. Transformative changes are taking place in every sector in the emerging, 'New India'," Modi said. ❐

India to become fastest growing economy

India's Economy has remained resilient in the face of global headwinds and with inflation coming off, its recent peak is expected to stay on course to become the world's fastest growing economy, the Reserve Bank of India said recently. The recent revival of the southwest monsoon and renewed planting raised demand will soon catch up with urban spending and consolidate a recovery, the RBI said in a bulletin. "Knock-on effects of geopolitical spillovers are visible in several sectors, tapering the pace of recovery," the central bank said. "In spite of this over whelming shock, there are sparks in the wind that ignite the innate strength of the economy and set it on course to becoming the fastest growing economy in the world, though besieged it might be by fears of recession." the bulletin did not give a time frame. RBI said if the commodity price moderation witnessed in recent weeks endures alongside the easing of supply chain pressures, the worst of the recent surge in inflation will be over India's annual consumer inflation remained painfully above the 7% mark and beyond the central bank's tolerance band for the sixth month in a row, data recently showed. ■

Increased freight expenses and higher inflation eating into the margin and growth of home-grown textile industry

The double whammy of increased freight expenses and higher inflation has seen cotton prices rising over 30 per cent to ₹46,700 per bale from ₹35,829 in calendar year 2022 (CY22). This, according to analysts, is slowly eating into the margin and volume growth of the home-grown textile industry.

Moreover, with rising interest rates shackling the purchasing power of consumers, analysts expect muted demand for their products in the near term.

India is the second-largest producer of cotton, after China, with 25 per cent share of overall production. In the past few months, the global demand has shifted from China due to a ban on cotton cultivated in the Xinjiang region.

With a change in global supply-chain patterns, demand of this highly sought-after commodity has multiplied, inflating its prices.

The rise in yarn and fabric prices, together with the international market, has led to a halt in local spinning mills.

According to a report by India Ratings & Research, nearly 10 per cent of the 2,100 spinning units across the southern parts of India are shut since they cannot afford indigenously produced cotton. Likewise, Gujarat and Ludhiana-based spinning mills are also operating at less than 50 per cent capacity on average, suggest reports.

Analysts expect inflated cotton prices to continue to haunt small-sized yarn spinners during the first half of 2022-23 (FY23). However, a correction in cotton prices after a good monsoon can weave a different story for yarn spinners in the second half of FY23.

"We expect domestic cotton prices to cool off after a good monsoon season. However, the near-term is likely to be volatile for the cotton textile industry," says Gaurang Shah, head investment strategist, Geojit Financial Services.

Moreover, monsoon's slow start has led to an 8 per cent decline in the cultivation area of khariff crops this season over the same period last year.

The forecast of lower crop yield due to delayed monsoon has forced the Cotton Association of India to trim its estimates for cotton crop output for the current season to 31.53 million bales (of 170 kilograms each) — a reduction of 831,000 bales from its previous estimate.

Dark clouds over textile companies notwithstanding, analysts at ICICI Securities expect companies with stronger balance sheets and comfortable liquidity position to ride out the storm.

A K Prabhakar, head of research, IDBI Capital, too, believes that companies with healthy inventory levels can soldier on.

"Among textile companies, we expect KPR Mill (formerly KPR Cotton Mills) to perform well because it was able to procure cotton inventory at the right time. However, Welspun is likely to widen losses due to untimely procurement," adds Prabhakar.

In a bid to cool off prices of cotton and lift domestic demand, the government has increased the minimum support price (MSP) of kharif crops, with the MSP of cotton up 6.18 per cent to ₹6,080 per quintal and restricted exports unless domestic demand is met.

Despite the government's concerted efforts, analysts remain circumspect on margin pressure looming over the textile industry as companies hesitate to pass on complete price hikes to consumers.

"Although the government's increased MSP support to cotton prices can offer some relief to farmers, the quantum of cost passed on by textile companies to consumers has to be observed," adds Shah.

Meanwhile, the stocks of cotton yarn spinning mills have been under pressure in CY22.

KPR Mill, Ambika Cotton Mills, Trident, Nahar Spinning Mills, Nitin Spinners, Vardhman Textiles, and Lakshmi Mills have slipped between 14 per cent and 46 per cent thus far in CY22.

In comparison, the S&P BSE Sensex shed over 11 per cent during the same period, reveals ACE Enquity data. ■

Take necessary measures to reduce yarn price, EPS urges Modi

AIADMK co-coordinator Edappadi K. Palaniswami has appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take steps to reduce the price of yarn, in the light of the non-functioning of production units.

In a petition addressed to Mr. Modi recently, Mr. Palaniswami said that in eight districts of Tamil Nadu, including Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Namakkal, Kancheepuram and Tiruvannamalai, the production units employed lakhs of weavers. According to an estimate, more than 25 lakh people were jobless.

He urged the Prime Minister to expedite the implementation of the Godavari-Cauvery link project and sanction funds for the project to clean the Cauvery. He also requested Mr. Modi to ensure the resumption of air services between Chennai and Salem. ■

Centre mulls beneficiary sentiment survey of important textile schemes

The Textiles Ministry is planning an impact assessment and beneficiary sentiment survey of important schemes and initiatives for the industry to identify challenges related to their implementation, and take targeted measures to overcome them so that benefits are optimised.

Bids have been invited to hire agencies for carrying out impact assessment for schemes such as the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, Scheme for Integrated Textile Park, Silk Samagra, PowerTex India and Samarth, that aim to drive sectoral growth and position India as a global textiles manufacturing hub.

"The ministry proposes hiring of agency with focus to understand the impact assessment of various schemes from beneficiaries' stand-point and undertake sentiment and perception analysis across the value chain...," per the RFP (Request for Proposal) floated by the Textiles Ministry. The start date for submission of bids is July 7 and the end date is August 5.

The bids are to be opened on August 8.

Highly needed step

Industry players are hopeful that the exercise will help in better identification of the problems faced by them and lead to more prompt redressal of grievances.

"Carrying out an impact assessment of existing schemes is a much needed step. If the survey gets done then all problems voiced by the industry will be put together and get officially documented," a Noida-based garments manufacturer said.

A survey is important for the government not only to assess if its money is being well utilised, but also to improve implementation, said Sanjay Jain, Managing Director, TT Ltd.

"For instance, in the ATUFS (Amended TUFS), there is a backlog in payments. The industry faces a lot of problems in following procedures. A proper evaluation needs to be done of the situation," he added.

Need to evaluate

The textiles industry is the biggest employer in the country after agriculture, and provides direct employment to over 45 million people. It is also the source of livelihood for over 100 million people indirectly, according to government figures.

There are over 40 schemes, programmes and missions under the Ministry of Textiles.

"In order to ensure that various schemes are benefiting artisans, craftsman and other value chain segments, it is essential to consistently evaluate and assess the impact of different schemes," the RFP said.

The selected agency will need to prepare case studies of beneficiaries covering impact of assistance under the schemes and provide feedback on best practices for designing policy/schemes and ensuring ease of implementation at field level.

They would also have to identify implementation related challenges and provide for interventions, if required. ■

Inflated cotton prices make trouble of yarn spinners : Ind-Ra

Spinning units across the country are not likely to get respite till the arrival of the new cotton season in October this year, as increased cotton prices will continue to stress working capital and liquidity of yarn spinners, especially small-sized ones, said the latest report of Mumbai-headquartered credit rating agency India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra).

As per the report, inflated prices of cotton may lead to lower capacity utilisation of small-sized spinners during 1HFY23. However, an operational recovery is expected by 2HFY23, on the back of a likely correction in cotton prices with the arrival of the new cotton season in October 2022, claimed the report. Cotton production could be higher in the new cotton season compared to the current season, says Barath Ramjee, Ind-Ra director (emerging corporate), adding, "While the duty-free import of cotton and arrival of summer cotton are likely to support the moderation in the domestic cotton prices in the short to medium term, a decline is expected in cotton yarn prices in tandem with cotton prices. This could benefit apparels and textile players, who are already facing challenges to pass on raw material price inflation to consumers."

In the beginning of the current cotton season, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) had 12.5 million bales (170 kg per bale) of cotton. At present, CCI has less than 4 million bales, he said. Agreeing with the Ind-Ra report, S Jagadesh Chandran, secretary of the South India Spinners Association (SISPA), said that most of the spinning units in South India are operating at hardly 50-60% capacities due to increased prices of cotton and other inputs. "Small-sized spinners are facing the challenges of liquidity crunch and issues of availability of working capital in the wake of increased production cost. At the same time, their buyers are not willing to pay price hikes in proportion with the inflated input costs," lamented the SISPA secretary. ■

Govt planning 2nd PLI scheme for textile sector

The Government is planning to roll out a second production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for the labour-intensive textiles and garment sector following good response to the first such programme, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal said recently.

Speaking at an event in Coimbatore, Goyal said : "We are keen to support the apparel manufacturing sector... Talks are going on between the ministry of textiles, the department for the promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT) and Niti Aayog. We will be shortly devising a scheme after consulting the industry. We will then put up a proposal for Cabinet approval."

The government has already selected 61 companies, including Shahi Exports, Arvind, Mills, Gokaldas Exports and Monte Carlo, under its first PLI scheme for man-made fibre and technical textiles products.

Incentives of ₹6,013 crore will be extended to them, which represent 56% of the ₹10,683 crore that the government had initially earmarked for this scheme. As per sources, the government will likely use the remaining funds to launch the second PLI scheme, instead of spending it elsewhere. Goyal said, given the recent drop in cotton and yarn prices, the government may not need to keep allowing duty-free imports of the fibre beyond September 30 (when the new crop hits the market).

If at all an extension is required, it's unlikely to be more than a month beyond the September deadline, he said.

The government is expecting a bumper cotton crop in the next marketing year starting October.

So, it's mindful of the fact that permitting duty-free cotton imports when new crops arrive in the market may drag down farmers' earnings, said textile industry sources.

The minister exuded confidence that India and Canada, which have been engaged in negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA), will firm up an early-harvest deal by the end of 2022.

New Delhi is in talks for a flurry of FTAs on top of the two trade deals already signed—with the UAE and Australia.

These FTAs will help drive up India's textiles and garment exports, which will exceed $50 billion in FY23 from about $44 billion in the last fiscal, the minister said. New Delhi is currently negotiating with the UK, Israel, Canada and the EU for FTAs. The country is aiming to achieve textiles and garment exports of $100 billion annually in the next five years. ■

Top 10 textile firms registered much higher growth in FY22 than pre-Covid levels

The Indian textile industry has recorded significant growth in sales and EBITDA in FY22 over pre-Covid levels, according to the latest Wazir Textile Index, which is based on a detailed financial analysis of the top 10 textile companies, compiled by Wazir Advisors, a management consulting firm.

In FY22, overall sales have seen an 18 per cent y-o-y growth since FY20. The overall EBITDA in FY22 improved significantly by 85 per cent when compared with the one reported in FY20. Raw material costs and manpower costs have seen a rise of 36 per cent and 19 per cent when compared to FY20 levels.

Vardhman Textiles posted the highest sales (standalone operating income) at ₹9,277 crore in FY22 (₹5,956 crore in FY21), followed by Arvind, which recorded sales of ₹7,460 crore (₹4,529 crore in FY21). Trident occupied the third position with sales of ₹6,944 crore (₹4,519 crore). Welspun India, which recorded the highest sales in FY21, moved to fourth position with sales of ₹6,703 crore (₹5,956) crore). KPR Mills and Indorama took the fifth and sixth positions with sales close to ₹4,000 crore in FY22, it said.

In terms of EBITDA margin, KPR Mills reported the highest margin at 25 per cent in FY22, up from 23 per cent in FY21, followed by Vardhman at 24 per cent (up from 13 per cent), Trident at 22 per cent (18 per cent) and Nagar Spinning Mills at 22 per cent (9 per cent). Welspun reported a decline to 13 per cent in FY22 from 18 per cent in FY21. Arvind's margin was flat at 10 per cent. Average IIP (index of industrial production) for textiles has increased by 32 per cent in FY22 over FY21 and for the apparel has increased by 29 per cent in the same period.

India's textile and apparel exports have grown at a CAGR of 13 per cent during FY20-FY22 and stood at $43.4 billion in FY22. Fibre witnessed the highest export growth rate of 46 per cent (at $4 billion in FY22), followed by yarn with a growth rate of 36 per cent ($6.5 billion). Home textiles grew by 16 per cent (at $7.1 billion), while apparel recorded a marginal growth of 2 per cent and stood at $16 billion.

In FY22, exports of fibre have been on the higher side due to the increase in cotton exports amid the US ban on the purchase of cotton products from Xinjiang, China. The share of India's exports to Bangladesh has increased from 7 per cent in FY21 to 12 per cent in FY22. The US and European Union are the largest export markets with a value share of 26 per cent and 15 per cent respectively, the report said. ■

For airline fashion there is no limit

Recently, the newest airline on the block, Akasa Air rolled out the first look of its crew uniform. Created by Delhi-based fahsion designer Rajesh Pratap Singh, the look essays comfort and originality with a bandhgala-style jacket reimagined in a futuristic avatar. The crew sports cushioned black and white sneakers with orange laces, desinged by Vanilla Moon. It's rare sighting in airline uniforms and one that is believed to be speaking directly to the brand's ethos — easy, playful, and fun.

Akasa is also highlighting its focus on sustainability through the outfits. According to designer Nikhil Sharma of menswear brand Lacquer Embassy, "Akasa Air has forayed into garments made from recycled polyester fabric which is a great step to show sustainability as one of the brand's key messages."

Fashion in the ariline industry is not a new concept. Airlines have been betting on it for years to create a distinct identity and attract flyers. When Air India introduced its trademark sari for air hostesses in the 1960s, it was away to advertise India as an exotic destination. The perfectly pleated sari became a sort of symbol for the East, projecting a well-groomed and hospitable image of India to global travellers.

But this was back when air travel was the prerogative of the rich. More recently, Indian airlines have moved towards youthful, aspirational and fun identities, to cater to evolving travellers. In 2017, SpiceJet engaged Mumbai-based designer Nimish Shah to give a 'Red-Hot-Spicy' makeover to their crew uniforms. The revamped look featured short shift dresses with sling bags and box heels for women, and three-piece suits with lace-up oxfords for men.

Indigo's all-female staff are seen in deep blue tunics, accentuated with hats and scarves, also designed by Rajesh Pratap Singh. In a first, the airline partnered with celebrity hair and makeup artist Ambika Pillai to create a global look for the girls — pink and red lips, nude eyes and short hair.

Vistara, on the other hand, brought in the designer duo Abraham & Thakore when it launched back in 2014. Their use of the classic V-shaped yoke, trouser suit for women and mandarin-collar jacket for men, has a distinctly Asian look. A Vistara spokesperson says, "Vistara's uniforms...captures the spirit of the airline, embodying the best of Indian traditions."

Fashion designer Rohit Bal says the priorities for airline fashion are comfort, practicality, smart fit, international appeal, minimal jewellery, lasting appeal, though not necessarily in that order.

Indeed, the ensembles of each of these airlines clearly speak to the appeal of the brand. While SpiceJet pops in reds & blacks for a bold and vivacious feel, the cool and professional chic of Indigo comes alive in shades of blue. The global sophistication of Vistara finds expression in purple and gold, a palette that seeks to set it apart from low-cost carriers. Amidst these, Akasa is looking to create its space in the skies with the warmth and glow of orange.

The style and grooming of flight attendants have long been associated with the service one would expect on the flight.

As the Vistara spokesperson points out, "We have tried to keep all our uniforms practical and comfortable, allowing cabin crew and staff members to move confidently, and put into action the thoughtful, welcoming spirit of Vistara." ■

Latest tech required to enhance cotton productivity : Goyal

Union Minister Piyush Goyal emphasised the need to introduce "advanced technologies and innovative agronomy" to enhance the productivity of cotton.

Addressing an ineractive meeting with the Textile Advisory Group in Mumbai recently, the textile minister said supply of good quality seeds is the vital necessity for improving productivity of cotton.

He also called for focus on ways to enhance productivity of cotton with specific outcome-oriented actions from all stakeholders including the government, research institutes and the industry.

For delivery-based contract and open position limits on commodity exchange MCX, Goyal directed his ministry, textile commissioner, CCI and TAG to engage with MCX/SEBI and find structured solutions on contract front.

Any possibilities of manipulations on price front to the disadvantage of cotton textile value chain have to be contained, the minister said.

Goyal, on the suggestions of the industry, directed the textile commissioner that the penal provisions under the relevant sections of Collection of Statistics Act be invoked for compliance to ensure accuracy of statistics across the value chain.

He asked the textile commissioner to utilise services of CCI personnel for data collection from ginning segment under Collection of Statistics Act.

He asked the Cotton Corporation of India to lend agricultural extension services in cooperation with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to farmers through its network of branches all over India. ■

STUDY OF BACKREST SETTING ON QUALITY OF FABRIC

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Abstract

Back rest is important part in weaving machine. It is one of the key parameter in process control in weaving. In this study, the effect of backrest on fabric was studied we have produced three fabrics with different positions of backrest and studied its effect on fabric cover factor, air permeability, tensile strength, elongation at break,

Keyword : backrest, cover factor.

1. Introduction

The Backrest back roller is one of the key parts of the weaving machine. rest roller is rotatably mounted on the outer ends of parallel arms or levers, mounted for oscillation about their inner ends, which are connected for joint movement by a hollow back rest shaft. In this study, effect of backrest on the fabric cover factor is seen. Also, how position of backrest can affect the fabric parameters like warp density, breaking force, thickness, permeability, weft density. The effect of backrest can be described in 2 way, By lowering the backrest, By lifting the backrest.For this purpose 3 samples first with higher backrest height, second with lowered backrest height and third with medium backrest height where taken. Back Beam is also known as the back rest. It is placed above the weaver's beam. Back Beam may be of the floating or fixed type. The back rest merely acts as a guide to the warp sheet coming from the weaver's beam in the first case. Back beam acts both as a sensor and as a guide for sensing the warp tension in the second case.

2. Literature review

Hamideh Tashakori shad and et al[1] studied "Effect of the Backrest Roller Position on the Properties of Denim Fabrics"In this paper, the effect of the backrest roller's position on the properties of grey and finished denim fabrics was studied. Toufiqueahmed, Kazisowrovshad and et[2] studied "The effect of backrest roller on warp tension in modern loom."The effect of backrest roller on warp tension and fabric quality cannot be ignored in any ways. In this study let us know about the amount of tension readjustment while changing any settings related to the backrest. Improper tension is a major cause of faults like starting mark. Farial islamfarha, fahmidasiddiqashad and et[3] studied "Efficacy of whip roller setting on physical attributes of denim fabric."Based on this experimental study, it can be concluded that warp density and weft density of denim fabric were changed due to change in position of whip roller both in horizontal and vertical way. That's why areal density was also affected by backrest roller position.Easkfernando [4] studied "Mathematical model for warp tension with various backrest settings and relation with technological parameters."By increasing the number of back rests a higher warp tension in the working zone was achieved with low initial tension at the weavers beam. By having two backrests it is possible to have a higher warp tension in the working zone which is necessary to produce high density / heavy weight fabric at a low tension at the weavers beam.

3. Methodology

First of all keeping the normal position at backrest the fabric was produced on the loom for two full pirns then after weaving the normal fabric. The position of backrest is raised by about 1" from the normal position and in this position also about 2 meters of fabric is woven. After weaving the fabric at raised backrest position the backrest is lowered by 1" from the normal position and in this lowered position of backrest 2 meters of fabric is woven. After completing the procedures of weaving the fabric in raised & lowered position, adjusted the backrest to the normal position and weave about 2 meters of fabric at the normal backrest position.

The fabric is produced on plain power loom with cotton yarn of warp count 60 and weft count 92, with a width of 52 inches having EPI of 77 and PPI of 70. This fabric is produced with a plain weave.

Table 3.2 Specifications of fabric production

Sample	EPI	PPI	Position of backrest	Fabric width	Warp count	Weft count
S1	79	71	32″	52	60	92
S2	79	70	31″	52	60	92
S3	79	69	30″	52	60	92

4. Testing

The testing of fabric is an important step to determine the effect of a machine parameter of physical properties of fabric. While testing precaution is done that the sample is used for testing which is not about 10 cm close to the selvedge. The testing of fabric sample is done in 65% RH and 27 degree C.

Tests to carried out on the fabrics are

Test	ASTM standard
Air permeability	ASTM D737
Tensile strength	ASTM D638
Fabric thickness	ASTM D1777
Elongation at break	ASTM D5034

5. Results

5.1 Effect of backrest on EPI and PPI of fabric

When the backrest is in normal position, the top and bottom sheds are symmetric to the warp line when shed is leveled. In this case the lengths of two shed lines are equal hence the tension on two shed lines is also equal. However when the backrest is raised from its normal position, the length of shed lines becomes unequal. It can be seen that the fact that the length of top shed line is smaller than bottom shed line, thus the tension in the top shed line will be low than that of bottom shed line. At beat up the shed is fully crossed i.e. the top shed line of last pick has now formed a bottom shed line and vice versa. Thus the higher tension prevailing in the bottom shed-end will force the newly inserted weft to more downward from the cloth plane, thus picks are placed closer. But in warp way direction no any changes are observed in tensile strength as the position of backrest is changed.

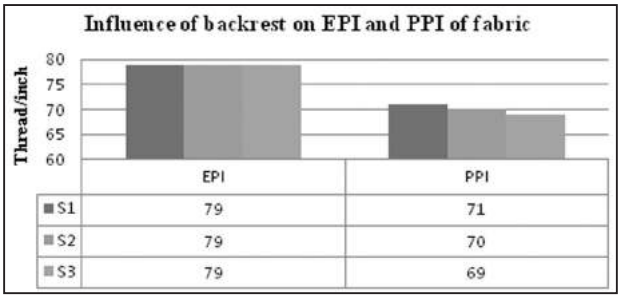


Figure 5.1 Effect of backrest on EPI and PPI of fabric

5.2 Effect of backrest on tensile strength of fabric

The first conclusion we got is that the warp tensile strength is higher than the weft tensile strength this is because the warp yarn is comparatively coarser than the weft yarn. As results the numbers of fibres in cross sections of warp yarn are more thus tensile strength is more than weft yarn. As the backrest is raised the tensile strength increases the reason behind it is, as the backrest is raised the PPI increases thus in weft direction the thread per inch increases thus the number of yarn for given force increases. Hence tensile strength in weft way increases as backrest is lifted.

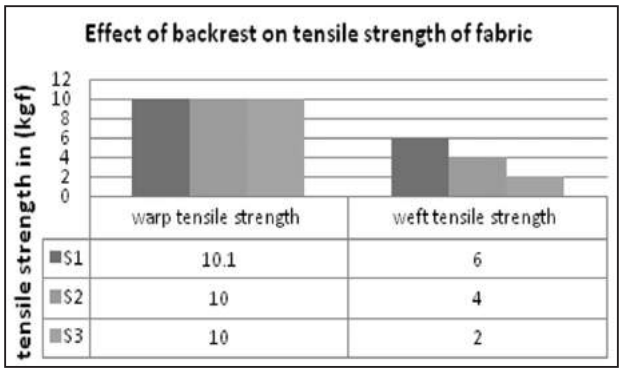


Figure 5.2 Effect of backrest on tensile strength of fabric

5.3 Effect of backrest on elongation at break of fabric

The elongation at break and tensile strength are measured on same machine which is called as tensile strength tester, hence as the backrest is lifted the tensile strength of fabric in weft way increases with increase in elongation. But in warp way direction no any changes are observed in tensile strength or elongation in break as the position of backrest is changed. Also it was observed that the elongation at break in warp direction is comparatively higher than the elongation at break in weft direction.

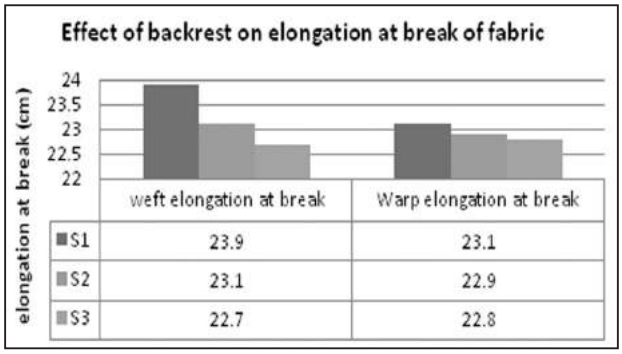
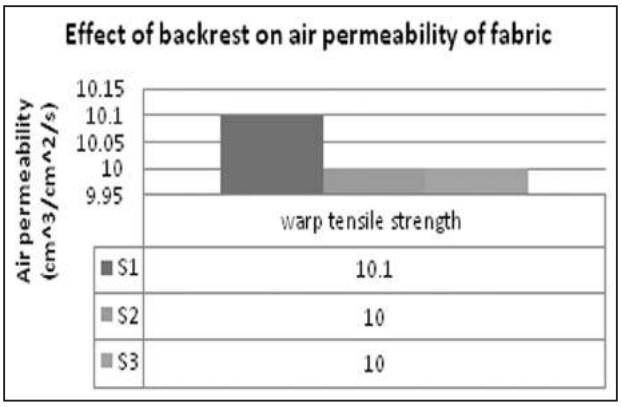


Figure 5.3 Effect of backrest on elongation at break of fabric

5.4 Effect of backrest on air permeability of fabric

The air permeability of fabric is a measure of how well it allow the passage of air through fabric. It indicates the breathability of weather-resistant and waterproof fabrics and is an important factor in the performance of material like industrial curtains, sails, airbags, and parachutes. The air permeability is the one property which reduces with an increase of backrest height. As with the increase in PPI of fabric the number of air gaps or size of air gaps in fabric reduces thus the air permeability reduces with increases in backrest height. The air permeability is seen to be increase when the position of backrest is lowered.

STUDY OF BACKREST SETTING ON QUALITY OF FABRIC



5.4 Effect of backrest on air permeability of fabric

5.5 Effect of backrest on thickness of fabric

Fabric thickness is defined as the distance between the two-fabric surface under a specified applied force which varies if the fabric is high-loft. Thickness is a parameter of a fabric which controls handle, crease, thermal resistance, heaviness or stiffness in use and many other properties of fabric. Due to increase in PPI of fabric the thickness of fabric also increases with an increase in backrest height. As the backrest is lowered the PPI is reduced thus thickness of such fabric is also low.

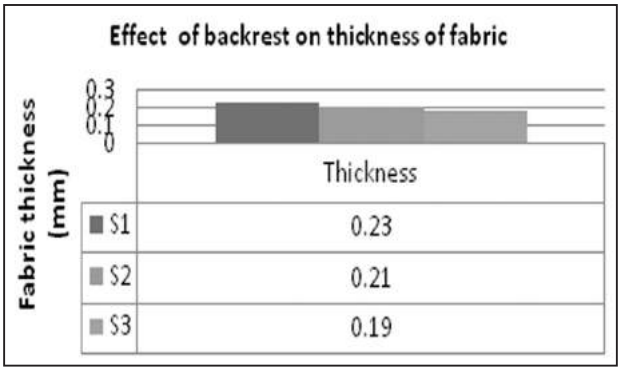


Figure 5.5 Effect of backrest on thickness of fabric

5.6 Effect of backrest on fabric cover factor

Cover factor is a scientific measurement of the percentage area of fabric covered by the yarns and fibre. In other words, the test establishes cover factor by recording a specific amount of light that passes through the gaps in the fabric. The highest amount of cover factor any fabric can have is 28. The cover factor is dependent on EPI, PPI, warp count, weftcount. As warp and weft count are kept same in all three fabrics, but the PPI gets changed with different backrest height. Thus, as backrest is lifted the cover factor increases while the lower backrest position reduces the cover factor.

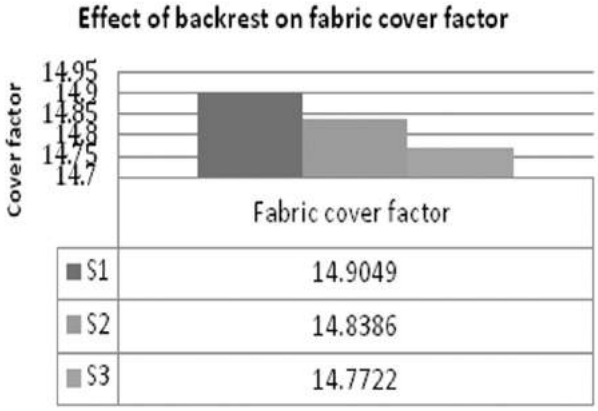


Figure 5.6 Effect of backrest on fabric cover factor

6. Conclusion

1) As backrest height increases PPI of fabric increases and vice versa. There is no effect on EPI of fabric due to change in backrest position. Also the fabric cover factor increases with increase in back rest height.
2) The thickness of fabric increases with increase in backrest height
3) In weft direction as height of backrest increases breaking strength increases and vice versa. Also the backrest position has no effect on the warp way breaking strength of fabric.
4) As backrest height increases elongation at break in weft way increases and no effect in case of warp.
5) As the height of backrest increases the air permeability of fabric is observed to be reducing.
6) As the height of backrest increases cover factor increases.

Reference

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"KNITTING AS AN ART" AND IT'S PREVALENCE IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The art of knitting is practised in diverse cultures and countries. Its traditional textures, colours vary greatly across time and distance. The earliest example of true knitting is a pair of knitting socks found in Egypt, dating back to 1100 A.D. Hand knitting has gone in and out of fashion many times in the last two centuries, and at the turn of 21st century it is enjoying a revival. In the past few years, the use of knitting for an aesthetic purpose emerged in U.S. and U.K. and spread worldwide. But in India knitting is practised only for the functional aspect of clothing, while the potential of the knitting as a serious medium for self-expression is untouched. As a result people are least aware of the use of knitting as an art. Hence a need was felt to introduce knitting as a fiber art in India to spread the awareness among people. The purpose of the study was to explore the current scenario of knitting art in India so as to document the artefacts and to explore the potential of knitting as a medium for self-expression. The present study was conducted in two steps vis a vis an interview of renowned fiber artist of India & a survey to understand the awareness level of knitting art. It was found that in India knitting is mostly practised only for the functional aspect of clothing & apparel like sweaters, pullovers, t-shirts, inners, gloves, socks, slippers etc. and very few people were aware of the use of knitting in the art forms.

Keywords : Knitting, Fiber art, Fiber & Textile artists, Artefacts

INTRODUCTION

Since the antiquity people have used textiles for all range of purposes. From blankets for warmth, to elaborate fabrics for commerce, they have been at the very centre of human life. The need for textiles, combined with our desire to embellish the world around us, has given rise to a huge range of fabric based art[1], everything from basic colored cloth to complex knitted textiles. Hand knitting has gone in and out of fashion many a times in the last two centuries, and at the turn of 21st century it is enjoying a revival. More people are finding knitting a recreation and enjoying the hobby with their family. Knitting parties are also becoming popular in small and large communities around U.S and Canada.[2] In the past few years, the use of knitting for an aesthetic purpose emerged in U.S. and U.K and spread worldwide. But in India where the hand knitting still remains a hobby of womenfolk, is practiced only for the functional aspect of clothing, while the potential of the knitting as a serious medium for self-expression is untouched. As a result people are least aware of the use of knitting in the fiber art. Hence a need was felt to introduce knitting as an art in India to make the people aware of it, along with the following main objectives.

- To understand the present scenario of knitting art in Indiaso as to document the artefacts.
- To explore the potential of knitting as a medium for self expression.

Literature Review

Fiber Art

The term fiber art refers to that style of fine art which consists of natural and synthetic fibers and other fiber based components such as yarn and fabric. It emphasises on the material and the effort made by the artist as part of the work significance, and prioritizes aesthetic value over utility.[3] Art works of this type communicate some sort of message, emotion and go beyond just the literal meaning of the materials. While contemporary fiber art is often preoccupied with materiality and technique. [4]

The term fiber art came into use by curators and art historians to describe the work of the artist-craftsman following World War II. Those years saw a sharp increase in the design and production of "art fabric." In the 1950s, as the contributions of craft artists became more recognized—not just in fiber but in clay and other media—more number of weavers began binding fibers into non-functional forms as works of art.[3]

In 1960'and 70s, an increasing number of trained artists, who were working with the fiber and fabric media, produced great works of miniature to monumental in size using a variety of techniques such as knotting, twining, plaiting, coiling, pleating, lashing, and interlacing and combinations, which explored the limitations of traditional textile forms and techniques, declared that a new art form had been developed, and that, like painting and sculpture, textiles could be used as a medium to express the emotions and ideas of individual,

"KNITTING AS AN ART" AND IT'S PREVALENCE IN INDIA

which liberated the concept of art of the twentieth century. The notable artists of that time such as Lenore Tawney, Ed Rossbachand, Claire Zeisler and Magdalena Abakanowicz "Abakan" investigated in depth the potential of the materials of textiles and constructive possibilities for those pliable, linear elements. Fiber, and the ways in which it could be constructed became content. During 1970s in United States, the Feminist Art Movement sought equal museum and art gallery exposure for women artists and for the feminine perspective, which often was expressed through the use of women's work. These events lead to an exciting climate of artistic innovation and gained recognition throughout the world. [5]

Although sharing a common tradition with tapestry, since 1980s fiber art moves beyond this historical textile form and has become more and more conceptual, influenced by postmodernist ideas. It is the work of one individual, who originates and creates after long standing experimentation with materials and techniques.

Generally the techniques and materials incorporated with fiber art are: spinning , weaving & its various types, felting, needle felting crochet, sewing , beadwork, , various methods of dyeing and printing including batik, tie-dye, natural dyeing; embroidery, appliqué, cutwork and other needle arts; mixed media, macramé & braiding, knotting, quilting, lacework, knitting and many more[4]. Each of these techniques has its own potential and challenge to express the ideas and emotion in an interesting and unique way.

The art of knitting is the technique in which loops of yarn are interlocked with the help of two or more needles to create the fabric. Originally, knitting was done with the help of single needle made of bone or wood, and was known as "nalebinding". Later it was done using two needles, which gradually moved to three and more. The earliest example of true knitting is a pair of knit socks found in Egypt, dating back to 1100 A.D. This evolution continued and the art of knitting has evolved from hand to machine method.[6]

However originally this craft & art was entirely limited to making socks and stockings .Since 1960s, knitting has been evolving as an art form, expanding and enriching the fiber art field. In early 1960, Mary Walker Philips (1924-2007) aspired to elevate the knitting domestic craft to the professional arena and thus became the first professional art knitter in US. The number grew slowly during 1970s and 1980 in U.S, more rapidly in Europe & U.K. and many of the artists like Janet Lipkin, Jack Lenor Larsen, Arline Fisch, Rober Hillestad had explored knitting with a variety of materials and yarns to express their idea and showcased creativity in the form of wearable art, abstract knitted pieces as wall hangings, sculptures and installations. [7]

During the past decade, in the search of burgeoning ways to make life more meaningful, knitting has been re-establishing itself in people's everyday lives. More people are finding knitting a recreation and enjoying the hobby with their family. Knitting parties are also becoming popular in small and large communities around U.S and Canada. In past few years, the use of knitting for an aesthetic purpose expanded in US and UK and spread worldwide.

Hand knitting has become popular as "yarn bombing" (guerrilla knitting), graffiti or street art, which employs colourful displays of knitted or crocheted yarn or fibre rather than paint or chalk. The practice is believed to have originated in U.S. with Texas knitters trying to find a creative way to use their leftover and unfinished knitting projects. [8]

To provide with a snapshot of the current art knitting scene, I would like to mention the name of few artists, who have explored knitting's artistic potential since 1980's. Although regretfully I cannot include everyone who is doing exciting work in knitting, here [5] [7][9-12]

Some renowned US fiber artists using hand knitting to develop the contemporary art pieces are:

Kathryn Alexander:Kathryn Alexander is an internationally acclaimed US textile & fiber artist—a spinner, weaver, dyer, and knitter whose work is characterized by an abundance of color, richly textured surfaces, and whimsical designs.

Kathryn Cobey, Sculptural Knitter: Fiber artist Kathrine Cobey is an England based fiber artist. She uses spinning and knitting techniques and creates unique knitted sculptures pieces.

Barb Hunt is from Winnipeg and currently lives in Newfoundland. Her recent art practice has focussed on the rituals of mourning, and her current work is about the devastation of war: knitting antipersonnel land mines in pink wool.

Donna Lish is a textile artist who is widely known for her innovative, energetic, knit and

beaded sculptures. A sought after teacher and lecturer, Lish lives and works in Clinton, New Jersey.

Karen Searleis a fiber artist specializing in knit and crochets sculptural works. Her artworks have been exhibited in the United States and abroad since the late 1970s. She lives in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Some famous UK fiber artists using hand knitting to develop the contemporary art pieces are:

- Fiber artist Kerry Mosley with hand knitted wire, creates both abstract and figurative wall hangings and framed pieces. His enduring interest is in the human form particularly portraiture.
- Fiber artist Max Alexander is using hand knitting to create the sculpture form.
- Ruth Lee is an associate lecturer at Cumbria Institute of the Arts (Carlisle, UK). She is a fibre artist, international tutor and writer and knitted textile designer. Ruth has participated in an exhibition for Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria, Australia spring 2007, and authored a book "contemporary Knitting for Textile Artists". Ruth is passionate about moving knit forward as a challenging relevant working method within contemporary fibre arts practice . Ruth's current body of work explores knit, stitch, print and off-loom techniques in a wide range of manmade and natural materials including paper yarn, wire, wool and basketry materials. Applications include small-scale wearables, knitting patterns for publications, exhibitions and site-specific fibre-arts work for exterior spaces.
- Textile artist Patricia Bown is using knitting to create tactile contemporary art pieces for exhibition, installation and interior design. Her latest work centers on the versatility of recyclable and discarded materials.
- Shane Waltener is a textile artist who is using the hand knitting for two and three dimensional art installation for public exhibition.
- Sally Spinks works mainly with textiles including hand and machine knitting. Using predominately domestic materials she produces either installation works or sculptural pieces. Since graduating Sally has exhibited in UK and US and continues to develop her artistic practice in both knitting and other textile medium
- Fine art background artist Françoise Dupré's using looping, and other techniques to makes sculptures and installations. Françoise Dupré's textiles-based installations are conceived as portals for imagination through which artist, participants and public can articulate and engage with their multiple cultural and spatial experiences and celebrate becoming cosmopolitan subjects.
- Steve Plummer: Steve Plummer was a maths teacher earlier for many years. Artist does mathematical knitting which is also known as illusion knitting & shadow knitting. (In illusion knitting a piece of work will look like alternate stripes of two different colors when viewed directly in front but when viewed at an angle a picture or pattern appears)
- Inga Hamilton is driven by a life-long obsession with knit crafts. She spends her life travelling the globe, gathering textile and ceramic skills and applying them to unusual materials in order to create large installations and sculptures for galleries around the world. She has created blends for the people like late Alexander McQueen at Gucci. Joy and humour are always present in her work.
- Houston artist Bill Davenport had created and exhibited crochet-covered objects in Houston in the 1990s. As per the Houston Press release , "Bill Davenport could be called the grand old man of Houston crocheted sculpture."

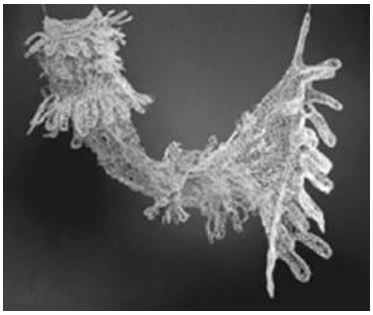
Dave is a contemporary sculpture artist who practised knitting as graffiti for a large-scale public art installation in Melbourne Australia for the Big West Arts Festival in 2009.

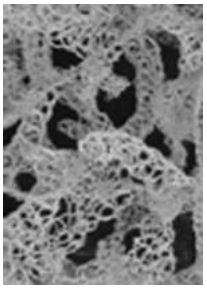
[Figure: 1] Katharine Cobey'sknitted Boatwith Four Figures (source:http://fiberartnow.net/kathryn-cobey-sculptural-knitter)

[Figure: 2] Antipersonnel – 1998 – ongoing – knitted yarn – variable dimensions (life-size replicas) by artist Barb Hunt (source:http://blog.sculpture.org/2015/01/28/barb-hunt-antipersonnel/)

"KNITTING AS AN ART" AND IT'S PREVALENCE IN INDIA

[Figure: 3] How My Mother Dressed Me; Copper wire, hand knitting; 40" long x 18" wide x 20" high by artist Karen Searle (Source:http://www.karensearle.com)





(Close view)

[Figure: 4] Knitted Spirit Dressby Ruth Lee(Source:http://www.ukhandknitting.com)

[Figure: 5] Le Pachamama Cape (back view) 2014 by artist Inga Hamilton(Source:http://www.ukhandknitting.com)

[Figure: 6] Knitted portraiture by Kerry Mosley (Source:http://www.ukhandknitting.com)

[Figure: 7] Sally Spinks Random Acts Of Kindness (Source:http://www.ukhandknitting.com)

[Figure: 8] Installation Knitting Webs by Shane Waltener(Source:http://www.ukhandknitting.com)

[Figure: 9]Knitted Installation by Patricia Bown (Source:http://www.ukhandknitting.com)

(10a) Street Art UtopiaEllen

(10b)Street Art Utopia byB-Arbeiten

[Figure: 10] Examples of Guerrilla Knitting(source: http://restoremyfaithinhumanity.net)[18]

According to an article "Threading Art" by Sandhya Bordewekar (2009) in Art & Deal

magazine [13] and my research work, in India a major part of textile art actually deals with embroidery, weaving, painting dyeing and printing rather than actual fibers. The first person to have started using fibres (sutli, hemp /jute) to create contemporary art pieces ranging from painting to three dimensional sculptures and murals was late artist Mrinalini Mukherjee (1949–2015).[14][15] She had used natural fibers as medium with knotting and braiding techniques.

The next one was Ms. Nita Thakore who began using textiles – patchwork, stitching, embroidery, and quilting – as part of her 'paintings' in 1981 and has continued till date. Presently in addition to the above Dr. Nita is using various mix medium, quilting, tufting and relief technique stitching. In her current artwork she has incorporated flat weaving technique. When Nita made a work titled "Friends", the process led her to create one more visual dimension, making the 'painting' more of a sculpture. It reinforced her view that in textile art, one can go beyond coloured threads being colour lines and textured or printed cloth being the canvas.After having a dozen solo shows of Textile Art and participating in numerous group shows internationally, she has been more involved in the teaching of textile art, designing curriculum, being on jury panels, conducting workshops related to textiles and textile art at NID, Ahmedabad, NIFT campuses all over India, Pearl Academy of Fashion, Jaipur, Indian Institute of Craft & Design, Jaipur and so on. In 2001 she had started the Vadodara Centre for Contemporary Fibre and Textile Arts.

Artist and retired NID faculty, Errol Pires has used technique of braiding yarn which is known as ply-split braiding, since mid eighties and created many beautiful textiles.[16]

Fiber artist Parul Thacker started working with silk threads with a plain embroidery needle and created webs and interlaced patterns. Later she progressed to exploring other fibers and material like nylon monofilaments, acrylic tubes, paper yarn and created sculptures and three dimensional art pieces. Her trademark stitch is the angle stitch with which she creates a trail of triangles, sometimes knotting crystals and minerals into the fibres to create the contours of a rugged landscape.

The popular textile and fiber artist Gopika Nath is inspired to embroider, rather than paint on canvas. She believes that Textile Art is a key element in defining the future of India's hand-crafting legacy. Working with needle and thread, exhibiting her work as an artist/ craftsperson in the environs of the Art Gallery, she hopes to be able to lend dignity to the notion of hand-crafting as 'Art', elevating it beyond mere skilled labour, as it is largely considered today.[17]

In addition to these artists, there are a number of others such as Shatrughan Thakur, Lavanya Mani, Delhi based Ranjith Raman, Manish Nai from Mumbai, Kruti Thacker Gupta from Saurashtra; Gujrat, Pravena Mahicha Soni, Ahmedabad-based senior weaver-artist R.P Rajen, artist & faculty of NIFT prof. Kripal Mathur, Smiriti Dixit, Boshudhara Mukherjee, Nilima Sheikh, Hemali Bhuta from Barodaand others who are also experimenting with textiles in an interesting way. But I did not come across anyone, who is using knitting as a technique for fiber art in India.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was carried out with the key objectives – to explore the current scenario of knitting art in India so as to document the artefacts and to explore the potential of knitting as a medium for self expression. The following methods were adopted to achieve the above objectives.

1. Existing literature from various books, magazines and websites has been reviewed and analysed.
2. India's renowned Baroda based textile artist Dr. Nita Thakore was interviewed over the telephone.
3. A survey was conducted in NIFT Hyderabad among the students of 2nd year Knitwear Design dept. A questionnaire was structured with close and open ended questions and a judgemental sampling method was used, keeping in mind that it might be more appropriate to judge the awareness level of knitwear students as they are studying the knitting and related subject and their awareness level might be little better than others. Also it was felt that, since they have already been taught the basics of knitting and exposed to development of various structures, they might be the right people to comment on the potential of knitting technique as a medium for fiber art. However the students from 3rd year onwards are exposed to the related topics, therefore they were not included in the sample.

"KNITTING AS AN ART" AND IT'S PREVALENCE IN INDIA

A total of 30 respondents were selected and collected data was analysed using percentage method.

Findings

As per the information shared by Dr. Nita Thakore during her telephonic interview, where she has thrown some light on the present scenario of Indian contemporary art.

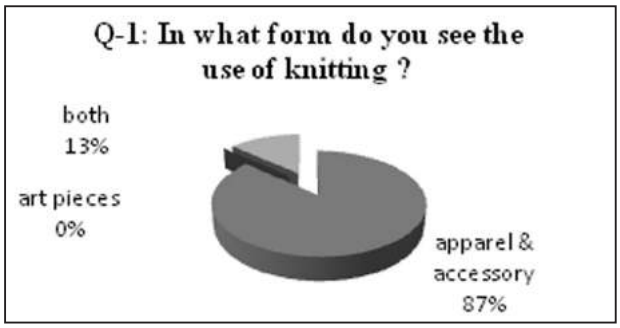
In India the textile and fiber art has now slowly started making its presence. The artist who is having affair with the art and wants to use fibres and textiles to create the various art forms has the endless heritage backlog to experiment, innovate and create with its strongly rooted varied traditional and cultural textiles in woven, knitted, dyed, printed, patch work, embroidered with the use of different type of thread, mirror work etc.

However in India, very few artists are following textiles and fiber art practices as a medium for self expression as compared to western artists, where its use is countless in the contemporary art scene. Here only the artists who are passionate about doing differently are following it. Since most of the artists are working independently, the recognition is very less and as such there are few formal galleries to showcase and support the work of fiber artists.

Fiber art as a style of art is not being included in the curriculum of most of the art and design colleges, therefore its movement at the institutional level is lacking as a result the art & design students are least aware of its use to express the idea & art.

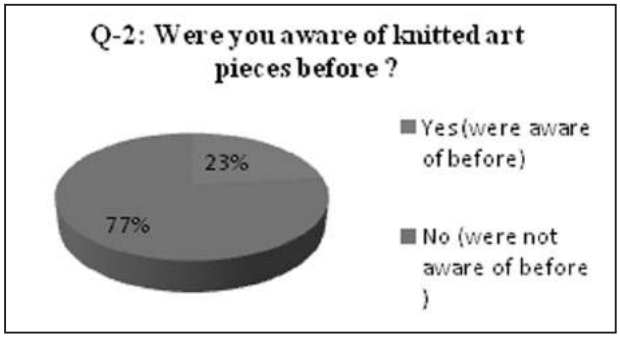
According to Nita Thakore, the present scenario of textile and fiber art is not as serious and up to the mark, as it could have been in a country like India, which is very rich in terms of its diverse heritage of textiles. Although, presently artists have started exploring and working with a wide range of materials from paper to metal by incorporating various techniques of fiber art but the use of different handmade textiles of woven art, incorporating various surface ornamentation techniques such as embroidery, patchwork, dyeing and printing etc. is very less. Only very few artists, who have affair with fiber, fabric and its components, are following fiber as a medium to express art, and there is no one who is using knitting as a technique for fine art in India. Although she has stated that knitting as a technique has a vast potential to create art forms and further could be explored like western countries. She has also mentioned that this is the time when each one of us, all art lovers should take a necessary step forward to spread awareness of textile & fiber art and India should lead the fiber art movement of 21st century.

A survey was undertaken to understand the awareness level of people and also to explore the potential of knitting as a technique for fiber art. Where a questionnaire was prepared with close & open ended questions and the total of 30 students of knitwear stream were interviewed. Since the students were aware of knitting, therefore directly they were asked the following questions.



[Figure: 11]

On being asked that in what form you see the use of knitting, around 87% people said that they generally see its use in the form of functional clothing such as apparel and accessories. And very few people around 13% responded that they had seen its use in both clothing and art form and not even a single person mentioned that they had seen its use only in art form. Although it is a fact that knitting has always been seen as a technique to create the functional cloths and not the art pieces. But on the other hand this is a clear indication that its use as an art form has never been explored to the limit it could have been to bring to the notice of people as an art technique in India.



[Figure: 12]

Majority of the people approx 77% were not aware of use of knitting in fine art pieces before. However 23% were aware of the knitted art pieces and out of which 13% have already answered in previous question that they had seen the use of knitting in art pieces. Hence the remaining 10% might have been aware of the use of knitting as a technique for art but they have not seen its use here.

On the question: what is your comment on the potential of knitting as a technique for fiber art: almost all the respondents have supported and described very positively about the potential of knitting as a technique for fiber art. However only few have been mentioned here as describing all of them is not possible.

To quote a few...

"Knitting makes the art look more aesthetically appealing and hence it shall be practised in our beautiful Indian culture".

"It is an innovative approach and I have never perceived knits in the form of an art piece, it would be great to see creativity in the use of knits".

"Knitting as a technique itself is an art and its expression as art piece has great potential to surprise the world".

Also I personally feel that compared to other fabric construction techniques, knitting is very versatile and many innovative structures, surfaces and forms can be created through it.

Conclusion

Based on this study and analysis it can be concluded that in India knitting, a practical and creative craft still remains a hobby of womenfolk and it is practised only for the functional aspect of clothing and apparel like sweaters, gloves, caps and socks. However the foreign artists, who use knitting to create contemporary art offers us a platform to think, create, grow and develop this technique in to an expression of art. Although textile and fiber art has also now started making its presence in India, but during my study I did not come across to any artist who is using knitting as an art technique for self-expression and aesthetic purpose. This shows people are least aware of the use of knitting in the art forms. Hence being a knit & art lover, with due hope my idea to choose such topic with the aim to introduce knitting as an art technique in India may widen its awareness among people.

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CONTRIBUTION OF TEXTILES IN FREEDOM FIGHT OF BHARAT

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Abstract

As this year marks the 75th anniversary of the country's independence, we have focused on the bond of textile field and freedom fight of Bharat. Everyone will comprehend the significance of textiles in the independence struggle after learning the Saga of the struggle. This paper demonstrates the connection between textiles and India's struggle for independence through the events and movements of Gandhiji, Savarkar, and Martyr Babu Genu. Anyone reading this can infer that the textile industry played a significant role in Bharat's struggle for independence.

Keywards : Amrut Mahostav (Celebrating 75th anniversary), Azadi (freedom), charakha (simple spinning machine), khadi (handmade fabric), swadeshi (made in Bharat)

1. Introduction

This year we are celebrating 75th year of our freedom from British Rule i.e. 'Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav'. So, it is appropriate to focus on the contribution of Textiles in the freedom fight.

2. Tricolour, Swadeshi, Charakha and Khadi

If we see the words Tricolour, Swadeshi, Charakha, Khadi, (1) we feel the impact of textiles on movement of freedom.

Fig. 1 : Tricolour of Swadeshi

The national flag of every nation is the topmost pride of everybody and that flag itself is fabric and comes from Textiles and it was the fight between Union Jack (English flag) and Tricolour (Bharatiy flag) finally won by us in 1947.

With the flag wearing the 'Khadi' i.e. fabric produced with the Charakha yarns with own hand became a symbol of movement against Britishes.

The uniforms are always having impressions on mind, of honour, dignity, devotion etc. It is also related with textiles.

To become the true representative of countrymen, Gandhiji started wearing 'Pancha' i.e., half piece of dhoti and it also got the grade like an armature.

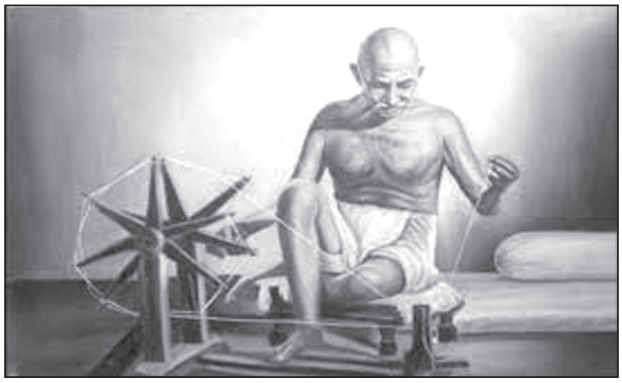

Fig 2 : Mahatma Gandhiji with Charakha

To make a serious impact on British economy, Gandhiji asked everybody to produce yarn. With this, he has also taken care of giving work to every hand. Because of this, everybody started feeling that, 'I am also a part of freedom fight'.

There was a practice to honour the great personalities with 'Garlands' and 'Bouquets' but after this 'Charakha Chalaoo' movement instead of using flowers the 'cotton slivers' were used to honour the personalities.

Fig. 3 : Cotton Slivers

CONTRIBUTION OF TEXTILES IN FREEDOM FIGHT OF BHARAT

So, observing these things everybody will understand the dominant role of Textiles in the of freedom fight.

The Tricolour, Charakha, Khadi, Sliver everything is from textiles.

3. Major events

Now we will study major events showing the impact of textiles on freedom fight.

A. Burning of foreign made clothings.

B. Gandhiji's attempt

C. The great Martyr Babu Genu from textiles who gave his life for 'Swadeshi fabric'.

A. Burning of foreign made clothings

In 1905, Veer Savarkar (2) was a student of Furgusan college, Pune. His age was 22 years. In those days, Lokmanya Tilak called for Bahishkar i.e., bycot the foreign made items.

Fig. 4 : First burning of foreign fabric by Veer Sawarkar

Being a patriotic and creative young leader, Savarkar arranged 'Holi' i.e., collective burning of foreign clothings near the bank of river 'Mula' in Pune. Lokmanya backed this event and the Editor of daily 'Kal', Mr. Shivarampant Paranjape participated in the event actively.

Hot speeches of young Savarkar and Editor Shivarampant Paranjape created the wave of swadeshi around. Thus, the textiles are closely related with freedom fight always.

B. Gandhiji's Attempt

Later on, Gandhiji conducted the same event again on 31st July 1921 in Mumbai, near Elfistan Mills, Parel and because of this the Swadeshi movement reached in every corner of the country.

Therefore, the clothing's became symbol of the Swadeshi. Thus 'the textiles' is closely related with Movement of Freedom always.

Fig. 5 : Gandhji's Swadeshi movement

C. The great Martyr Babu Genu from textiles who gave his life for 'Swadeshi fabric'

In Mumbai, Babu (3, 4) was working in B. T. Mills with his mother. He was originally from town Mhalunge Padwal in Pune district. Year 1926 was full of activities related with freedom fight. The Gandhi era was started. Babu Genu Said was patriot by nature. So, he joined Congress. His membership number was 8194. On 26th January 1930, he participated in the March for asking total freedom (Sampurna Swaraj). On that day, he was punished with imprisonment. He was again in prison during Gandhiji's 'Dandiyatra'.

Fig. 6 : Dadiyatra

Working in B.T. mills, he kept on participating various movements related with freedom responding to the calls of Gandhiji.

In 1930, Gandhiji asked people to use Swadeshi that is to bycot all foreign products. Foreign cloth and clothing's were a bigger part of agitation at that time. The British Government was forcing their products in market on big scale.

It was 12th December 1930, Babu and his team decided to block the roads of trucks carrying cloth manufactured in Manchester Mills. The cloth was transported from Mulaji Jetha Market to fort. So, Babu planned the activity at Kalabadevi road. All the activist (Satyagrahi) gathered there and stated

CONTRIBUTION OF TEXTILES IN FREEDOM FIGHT OF BHARAT

shouting slogans like 'Vande Mataram', 'Bharat Mata ki Jay'. All of them then dressed white 'Khadi' and the Gandhi caps also. Many of them were having tricolour of congress in their hands.

Fig. 7 : Martyr Babu Genu

The British officer named Fraser called police from Princess Street police station. The atmosphere was truly electrified and they saw the first truck coming there. The volunteer called Bhiva Dhondu Revankar came across the truck and stopped it but Police persons dragged him away and the truck was passed successfully on that road. For second truck, volunteer Nathu Mohite was forced away and the same story happened. Observing that failure Babu became angry and having Tricolour flag in hand, he came across the third truck and stopped it. Police persons tried hard to stretch him away but Babu was firm there. He was raising the Tricolour flag and shouting the slogans.

The British officer became angry and asked driver to drive the truck ahead. At that time, Babu laid his body on the road. Britisher became too angry and asked the driver to vacant driving seat and he himself occupied that. Observing his act everybody started shouting the slogans. The angry Britisher started the truck and pressed the accelerator. In fraction of moment, the truck passed over the body of Babu Genu and the blood was sprinkled around.

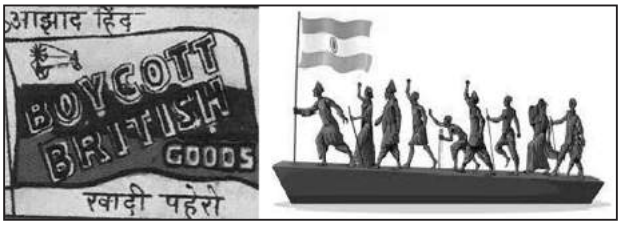

Fig. 8 : Volunteers in Swadeshi movement

Thus, the worker from Textile Mill gave his life for Textiles in Bharat. He was different from other Martyrs in freedom fight. All other Martyrs are in the cases of killing the Britishers but Babu Genu was only person who gave his life for textile in our country.

4. Conclusion

Observing the contributions of Gandhiji, Swadeshi movement, Charakha, Khadi, Savarkar's act of burning foreign clothing and Martyrdom of Textile mill worker, Babu Genu for Swadeshi cloth, we can conclude that textile field has a strong bond with freedom fighter and played dominant role.

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Raw jute rates decline 5-7% on estimated rise in production, good arrivals

Raw jute prices have dropped around 5-7 per cent over the June on the estimated rise in production and good arrivals. Prices are currently ruling at around ₹6,200 a quintal against ₹6,500 two month ago.

Jute output is estimated to be six-to-seven per cent higher at around 95 lakh bales in 2022-23 as against close to 90 lakh bales last year. This year's carryover stock is estimated to be about 19 lakh blaes against 5 lakh bales last year. The total availability is likely to be close to 114 lakh bales, as against 95 lakh bales last year.

According to Raghav Gupta, Chairman, Indian Jute Mills Association, the crop availability is good and all the mills have re-opened and running at good capacity. "Prices have seen a correction of around 5-7 per cent at the beginning of harvesting period. It is likely to come down further when arrivals start picking up," Gupta told recently.

Enthused by the highly remunerative prices of raw jute over the last two years, farmers have gone in for higher sowing covering close to 8 lakh hectare this year. However, inclement weather has prevailed in jute growing areas in June and July, with flooding in North Bengal and Assam and less rainfall in South Bengal affecting retting.

The quality of jute fibre is expected to deteriorate and production of TDN3 and TDN5 grades will likely increase to 75 per cent of the total produce and these grades can only be used for sacking manufacturing, an industry insider said.

The raw jute prices were close to ₹7,000-7,200 a quintal in April-May this year despite higher production of the fibre in 2021-22 due to low carryover stock. Accordingly, the Jute Commissioner, had, in a notification dated September 30, 2021, fixed the price of jute at ₹6,500 a quintal for 2021-22 till June 30, 2022 to rein in the prices. However, mills were finding it difficult to procure at these rates as market rates are much higher.

However, given the robust availability of raw jute this year, industrial production is estimated to increase to 13 lakh tonnes, compared to close to 12 lakh tonnes last year, as most mills have resumed operations. The industry will be able to supply anywhere between 34-36 lakh bales on government account, apart from meeting other domestic and export commitments. ■

Exhibitions bring right opportunity to showcase products

Rajesh Balkrishna Padalkar

Five seconds. Yes, five seconds is the maximum attention a regular visitor may give to your stall while walking in the aisle. One basically has these five seconds to convert the regular visitor into a potential lead. Exhibitions give you the right opportunity to showcase the actual look and feel of your products. The lesser-known brands can explore such events by building visually appealing stalls and displays.

It's the post pandemic era now. Most of the businesses and markets have opened and so are the exhibitions. Sales persons were waiting for the face-to-face experience with their clients and colleagues. Luckily the few exhibitions which happened in 2022 were a big hit as far as the foot falls were concerned. As we move ahead with few exhibition dates being announced, lets try to understand the important factors to be kept in mind regarding stall building and designs.

1. Booth space

The process of the success of your exhibition begins almost 6 to 10 months before when you book the space. One needs to have a clear-cut understanding of what "message" you want to convey to your potential clients. If you are going to have a machine displayed then definitely one needs at least 108 sq mts of space with two sides open. If it's only an information booth then anything between 27 sq mts to 54 sq mts can be booked. Most people forget that they would like to have at least one separate meeting room and add it at the last minute when it's too late. The design of the stall must not present a confused look at the last moment. If you know the space you are working with, the exhibition stall design will cater to that and you will be able to make full use of the available space. Otherwise, the stall will look cluttered and cramped. The visitors and the potential customers are sure to notice this fact. In short, the design of your stall must be attractive enough to get people's attention and expansive enough to convey what your business is all about. You stall design must be attractive enough to turn up customers towards your brand and make you stand out from your competitors.

2. Message and Product display

The second most important fact which needs to be frozen well in advance is the marketing message you want to inform. You need to know and attract your target audience who will later give you the ROI. The marketing strategy which might be in place in your company should be properly displayed on your stall. Your product display should reflect only one single idea – you are here to sell your product. Remember - The design must complement your product and not the other way round. People tend to get attracted to unique and attractive things. Only the unique stalls attract potential customers and generate potential leads. Therefore, planning for a perfect product display is the most important aspect of participating in an exhibition.

3. Position of the stall

Most companies want their stalls to be at the forefront of the entry gates. Remember, the exhibition organisers have the limited space of the entire hall at their disposal and have to accommodate all their clients. They generally go by the thumb rule that the larger stalls to be in front and others are clustered around them. Most organisers also go by the first come first serve basis. So, there are chances that almost more than 50% of the exhibitors will get space which they don't like. Here is not so important as to where your stall is in the hall, but what is more important is as to how good looking and unique your product is. So instead of worrying where your stall is, you need to focus on installing an effective stall which can assure the success of your brand at the exhibition. For this, you have to think and plan about every aspect, from the look of the exhibition stand to its set up.

4. Design and Graphics

Give your customers a great first impression. The stall should be a great resource to your sales team to communicate your product or service. Your stall design should be used as an invitation to your company. Using a uniquely simple design with normal fonts and colour scheme does the job. Most companies use their company logo colour for the stall design, which is a great idea. Complicated graphics with unreadable fonts and colours isn't great for the eyes. Always place important information at the top of the graphics and avoid have explanations in detail. In general, your graphics should have 60% images, 30% text and 10% white space.

Backlit logos and multiple display panels give your stall an eye-catching and modern look. Use of modern technology such as TV, Touch screens, Tablets and other interactive elements create an interest in the customers to spend more time on your stall. In recent times having a "selfie corner" is a great option with your company logo in the back ground. Having a mobile charging corner is another way of grabbing customer time on your booth.

5. Corporate branding and giveaways

On your booth, the sales team members representing your brand should dress according to your logo colour. If you are not sure what to wear, keep it professional and consistent among all members on the stall. Identifying the sales persons also becomes easy to the visitors if they are wearing a same colour uniformly. A name badge also helps during initial part of the communication. The sales team also needs to have their visiting cards printed in large numbers before the exhibitions. One more important factor of the success of your participation is the gift you give to the visitors. Focus should be on items that give your brand that extra mileage, rather than the traditional pens or keychains with your logo on it. A unique gift can leave the audience remembering you after the event. The perfect gift is one which the customer asks to give one more!

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■

Surat's Weavers experiencing difficulties over soaring import bills

With Prices of premium quality man-made fibre skyrocketing to ₹200 per kg in a span of just six months inflating import bills by ₹8 crore a day, thousands of weaving units in India's man-made fabric capital, Surat, are facing a working capital crisis.

In the past two month, the weaving industry has been hit by a hike of nearly ₹10 per kg on nylon yarn resulting in prices crossing the ₹200 per kg mark. Even prices of domestically manufactured yarn are soaring to new highs as the companies producing man-made yarns are also increasing prices in line with global trends.

"Prices of premium quality viscose denier yarn were range bound between ₹350 to ₹380 per kg six months ago but at present are hovering around ₹580 to ₹600 per kg which has increased the requirement of extra working capital for most of the MSME weaving units in Surat," says Vikas Koradia, owner of a weaving unit in Surat.

"Surat's textile industry has 25 to 30% dependence on imported filament yarn. Over the past seven months, international factors including ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, continuous increase in crude oil prices and recent surge in Covid-19 cases in China have resulted in a sharp rise in prices of different types premium quality polyester, filament and other types of man-made yarns," says Himanshu Bodawala, vice-president of South Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI), who also owns a weaving unit in Surat.

Additionally, the recent floods in China which led to water logging in country's coal mines also hit production of viscose filament yarn on account of power outages, Dharmesh Patel, president of the Surat Viscose Weavers Association said. He went on to add that China's inability to procure sufficient coal from Australia accentuated electricity problems for the yarn makers there. "Of the monthly consumption of nearly 7,000 tonnes of viscose filament yarn by Surat based weavers, nearly 50% is being imported, mostly from China," Patel said. He further added that the sharp depreciation of Indian rupee against the US dollar will add to the import bill of premium quality viscose filament yarn by at least 6-10%. ❐

Centre extends dead line of duty-free cotton imports to 31st October

The Centre has extended the window for duty-free imports of cotton by a month, amidst delayed monsoon in some of the growing regions. In a notification issued recently, the Centre has extended the deadline to import raw cotton until October 31, 2022, from the earlier deadline of September 30, 2022.

The decision comes as a relief for the textile and yarn industries, who would be able to source cheaper cotton for an extended period of one month.

Notably, the industry had been demanding duty-free import of cotton until December 31 amidst spiralling domestic prices. But the government seems to have also considered the interests of the growers, who would harvest the crop by end of October or early November.

India's cotton crop arrival starts around October-November. An extended window till December would have hampered the domestic prices and hurt the cotton farmers. But a moderate relaxation in the deadline until October 31 is likely to protect the interests of both the stakeholders - the industry and the farmers.

The cotton import duty was imposed at the rate of 11 per cent in February 2021, when prices of the fibre hovered at around ₹44,500 per candy (of 356 kg each).

But in April this year, the Centre had allowed duty-free imports after the historic run of domestic prices to record levels of ₹1 lakh per candy of ginned cotton on lower crop projections. The prices, however, have softened by about 10 per cent in the recent weeks, tracking global sentiment.

ICE Cotton Futures for the October contract were quoted at 101 US cents per pound (63,350 a candy) recently. The contract had hit a peak of 140 cents on May 17 amidst a global supply crunch of the fibre. India imports cotton from large growers such as Brazil, the US and Egypt. ❐

Delay in arrival of cotton import outside contracted period to be treated as breach of contract : ICA

The International Cotton Association (AC) has said any delay in the arrival of cotton imports outside the contracted period is a breach of contract and buyers could reverse the deal.

In a letter to Tamilnadu Spinning Mills Association (TASMA), the Chief Advisor K Venkatachalam, ICA Managing Director Bill Kingdon, said "invoice back" or reversing the deal is one of the remedies available to mills that have bought cotton from global seller. However,

the ICA official acknowledged that this may not often provide a suitable remedy to the buyer. He expressed surprise over allegations by TASMA that there was no protection in the trading rules for quality-related complaints, including weight differences.

"The rules for weighing are covered in Rule 214-218 of our ICA bylaws and rules (BL&R) - the terms for weight settlement are usually contained within the cotton contract," Kingdon said.

Kingdon was responding to Venkatachalam's letter to ICA saying some of the mills which had entered into import contracts have not received shipments to be delivered in March and April. "Some of our members had signed contracts with suppliers and shippers for delivery of cotton in March and April this year and they have reported that the deals have not been honoured. Though four months have lapsed in some cases, suppliers and shippers are not providing any satisfactory reply," Venkatachalam told ICA.

The ICA Managing Director said, if buyers cannot reach an agreement with the seller, they could apply for quality arbitration. "We believe that there is good protection for cotton buyers and sellers alike on all quality matters," he said.

Kingdon blamed global logistics companies for the poor performance behind the delay and default of cotton shipments to spinning mills in South India. The logistics firms were showing "no immediate sign of improving".

Sharing TASMA's concerns over delays and uncertainty in getting the consignments, the ICA official said changes to consignments and shipping date were hampering all as "we try to track cotton and communicate updates".

Recently, ICA asked its members to proactively communicate with the buyers about the delays and revised timings of shipments. Stating that carrying charges and delayed shipment were not part of the ICA BL&R, he said the association consistently encouraged its members to make provisions for these within their contracts. "The ICA encourages buyers to include remedies for late delivery into their contracts, if any delay to the shipment period is likely to significantly impede operations. We have been advising this approach to our members." Kingdon said.

The ICA has asked its members to communicate" openly and effectively throughout the contracte execution period." ❐

Spinning mill is Tamil Nadu facing defaults, delays since March

Cotton imports by a few spinning mills is Tamil Nadu are likely to result in trade disputes with the buyers yet to get delivery of consignments over the past few months.

Some of the mills which had to receive these imported cargoes in March and April have not got any response from the sellers over the delay, according to the Tamil Nadu Spinning Mills Association (TASMA). "Some of our members had signed contracts with suppliers and shippers for delivery of cotton in March and April this year and they have reported that the deals have not been honoured. Though four months have lapsed in some cases, suppliers and shippers are not providing any satisfactory reply," said K Venkatachalam, Chief Avisor, TASMA.

Cargoes due to be delivered during May-June have also missed the deadline, he told recently. In view of the suppliers' and shippers' silence, TASMA has taken up the issue with International Cotton Association (ICA).

Spinning mills in Tamil Nadu have entered into deals worth a total of ₹400 crores. "Our members have paid ₹60 crores as a 15 per cent advance has to be paid out of the total contract cost," he said.

Volatile price

ICA was yet to respond to a mail seeking clarification on the issue when the report was published. "The consignments have not reached the buyers due to congestion at ports. There is also container shortage as cotton is shipped in containers," said a trade source, now wishing to identify. Venkatachalam said the non-fulfilment of the contracts was a cause for concern as cotton prices were fluctuating sharply as also the value of currencies. Stating that prices, when the contracts were signed, were not valid anymore, he said the delay in getting the shipments was affecting mills' delivery of yarn to their buyers.

The TASMA advisor said mills would send a copy of their mail to ICA on the default by the suppliers and shippers and the contracts should be totally renegotiated on mutually agreed terms.

The trade source said the current situation in which cotton prices have dropped sharply could result in "a lot of trade disputes" this year. "Since the deals have not been executed, buyers will demand renegotiations at current global prices," the source said.

Venkatachalam told the ICA that the renegotiation of contracts should include compensation to his

association members for the inordinate delays in delivering cotton.

'One-sided' contracts

"This contracts have to be respected in letter and spirit by both the parties signing the contracts," he said. The TASMA advisor said currently contracts for imports were "onesided, favouring suppliers and shippers". Such deals are "devoid of any merits and expected ethics in business-related transactions", he said.

There were no clauses in the contract to tackle inordinate delays, he said, urging ICA to forward the contract format the TASMA could vet "suitably" and make modification to ensure a "win-win" situation for all.

Venkatachalam said some of the loopholes in the contracts were that when suppliers or shippers defaulted, they were liable to pay penalty with four per cent interest whereas in the case of buyers' default the interest was 18 per cent. "There are also problems of shortage in weight and the consignments not meeting quality norms. When questions are raised on these, there are no responses," he said.

On why mills should sign "one-sided" contracts, he said buyers had no choice in a "seller's market". "The sellers will cancel the contract if buyers do not sign them immediately and send it back. No negotiation is alowed," he said.

Trade sources said some mills had resorted to panic purchases when domestic prices headed towards 1,00,000 a candy (356 kg). Currently. Shankar-6 ginned cotton, the benchmark for exports, is quoted at ₹86,500 a candy Quality cotton costs higher.

In the terminal markets across the country, the net weighted average modal price of raw cotton (kapas) is ₹10,050 a quintal, down from the highs of ₹12,000 seen in May. ❐

Goods exports surge to $37.94b in June

India's good exports rose 16.78 per cent in June (year-on-year) to $37.94 billion, led by sectors that include petroleum products, electronic goods, gems and jewellery and ready-made garments, according to preliminary trade data released by the Commerce & Industry Ministry.

Trade deficit, however, expanded to a record ₹25.63 billion during the month, with imports increasing by a steep 51.02 per cent to $63.58 billion. Increase in imports was fuelled by items such as petroleum, gold, electronics, coal and chemicals.

Rise in exports in June was not spread across all major sectors, with some items such as engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, yarn, fabric and made-ups, and plastic and linoleum posting a decline.

Some exporters fear the slowdown in world economy, largely due to the Russia-Ukraine war, may have started dampening global trade.

"In the wake of negative spillover of the war, engineering goods export has been affected. This has reflected in the latest monthly trade data, with engineering exports declining 1.57 per cent year-on-year in June to $9.14 billion compared to $9.29 billion in June 2021," said Mahesh Desai, Chairman, EEPC India. Non-petroleum exports in June increased 5.53 per cent to $30.12 billion, which indicates that export growth in sectors other than petroleum has been moderate. Import of non-petroleum products registered a growth of 36.36 per cent to $42.84 billion in June 2022.

Goods export in April June increased 22.22 per cent to $116.77 billion, Import of goods in the first quarter rose 47.31 per cent to $187.02 billion. Trade deficit in the first quarter was $70.25 billion.

"Though the government has announced a slew of measures to support exports, there is a need to further push value-added exports, augment container manufacturing and develop an Indian shiping line of global repute," said A Sakthivel, President, FIEO.

Increasing the validity of RoSCTL and RoDTEP scrips (schemes for remission of input duties) to 24 months and linking transferability with realisation, extending RoDTEP to EOUs, SEZ, and Advance Authorisation and expanding usages of RoDTEP and RoSCTL scrips are some of the other demands made by FIEO. ❐

Global Apparel Cos ask Indian exporters to reduce price

Global apparel brands are negotiating hard with Indian exporters as cotton prices have fallen 15% and rupee has depreciated against the dollar favouring the latter. They have asked Indian

apparel exporters to supply garments at the pre-covid level prices.

The impending recessionary pressure in the US and Europe are forcing global brands to negotiate hard with Indian exporters, who have now started looking at other countries like Japan, Australia and Latin America for developing new markets for Indian apparels.

"Cotton prices have dropped by 15% from the high of Rs. 11 lakh per candy (356 kg). It will fall further in the coming months said Narendra Goenka, chairman, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC).

But the drop in cotton prices have prompted global brands to initiate hard negotiation in the price front. Raja M. Shanmugham, president, Tirupur Exporters Association (TEA) said "Global buyers now want garments at the pre-covid prices. For instance, the price of a product which we have sold at $7 this year due to high cotton prices, they are now asking to offer it at $5–the price at which we had sold in pre-covid times."

Since rupee has depreciated against dollar, foreign buyers are driving hard bargains to lower the prices of garments. On account of rising dollar index and economic worries, rupee weakened to a fresh record low of 79.41 against the US dollar on recently as investors continue to favour greenback as safe haven bet. In early morning deals, at the interbank foreign exchange, Indian rupee opened lower at 79.30 and went on to slide further, breaching its previous record low of 79.37 levels.

"Despite rupee weakening, we cannot give such a huge discount because cotton prices have not come down to the 2019 level. At best, we can offer a price which is 15% lesser than what we are offering now," said the TEA president.

The AEPC chairman said the recessionary trend in the US and Europe will impact the orders for Spring 2023 that are manufactured and shipped between October to March.

"We are expecting a decline of export orders up to 10 per cent for the Spring 2023, which will impact our second half of current financial year," said Goenka. ❐

Spinning Mills in TN may not sign cotton import deals with ICA members

Spinning mills in Tamil Nadu are unlikely to sing any new contract for importing cotton from sellers who are members of the International Cotton Association (ICA) as the terms and conditions are "one-sided", loaded against the buyers.

The development comes on the heels of TASMA taking up with ICA the issue of some of its member-mills, which had entered into contracts to import cotton, not receiving shipments even for deals that expired in March and April.

The ICA has termed any delay in the arrival of cotton imports outside the contracted period as "a breach of contract" and said buyers could reverse the deal.

The Tamilnadu Spinning Mills Association (TASMA), in a communication to its members on August 1, said mills should not sign the current text of contract that has been found to be "completely one-sided and not anyway balancing" the interest of buyers and sellers in a fair manner.

TASMA Chief Advisor K Venkatachalam said unless and until ICA comes forward to change its model draft by providing suitable provisions balancing the interest of sellers and buyers in case of default, mills were "advised" not to make any further orders with ICA members for cotton supply.

In a related development, the association—at a meeting of its members held on July 30—decided to put off by a week a move to blacklist sellers who had defaulted in cotton delivery. This was done to get a better feedback from its members, TASMA said in its communication.

The issue of default by the sellers, particularly ICA members, was discussed in detail TASMA member-mills again expressed the difficulties experienced by them to get the cotton on time despite their efforts.

The ICA, in a letter to TASMA, had said the buyers had the option of "invoice back" or reversing the deal. Buyers were now insisting on cancelling the conract and seeking refund of the advance they had paid for the deal.

"...the suppliers/shippers are not accepting to cancel the contracts, as the model text of contract, as provided by the ICA, as per their by-laws never go with the matter of cancellation of contracts on such defaults," TASMA told its members. However, since the members of TASMA are no way connected with the bylaws of the ICA, it would be a question of law if the rules were binding on the mills that are not ICA members.

The time-limit was sought to try and reach an amicable settlement with the suppliers or shippers. Many members favoured blacklisting of defaulting suppliers and shippers from dealing with their mills. ■

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ITAMMA's participation at ITM 2022, Istanbul, Turkey held from 14-18 June 2022

20 ITAMMA Members participate in ITM 2022, Istanbul, Turkey with the Support from MSME under IC-Scheme – says Purvik Panchal, President, ITAMMA

ITAMMA President Purvik Panchal said, " We take pride in being closely associated with ITM, and appreciate the remarkable progress made in the ITM exhibitions, both in its arrangements and it's response through increase in footfalls."

ITAMMA President, Mr. Purvik Panchal invited for Ribbon –Cutting Ceremony of ITM2022 inauguration

He added that "the efforts of ITAMMA Directorate in getting the support of Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India under IC scheme shall help our 20 member exhibitors in reducing their certain financial burden while participating at ITM 2022. And so this decision shall be recorded as the right decision at right time considering the challenging situation after Covid-19."

ITM 2022, the first major international textile machinery exhibition held in the world after a 3-year hiatus, hosted textile technology leaders

ITAMMA STALL attended by the President, Mr Purvik Panchal, Mr Bhavesh Patel, Hon'Treasurer along with Mr N D Mhatre, Director General (Tech)

in Istanbul for 5 days. ITM 2022- International Textile Machinery Exhibition was held at Tüyap Fair and Congress Center between 14-18 June,

President, Mr Purvik Panchal and Mr N D Mhatre, Director General (Tech) at the PUBLICATION DISPLAY CENTRE FOR PRESS

ITAMMA's participation at ITM 2022, Istanbul, Turkey held from 14-18 June 2022

organized by Teknik Fairs Inc. and Tüyap Tüm Fuarcılık Yapım Inc., in 12 halls on an area of 120,000 square meters. Which was attended by 1280 Exhibitors from 65 countries, with a footfall of 64,500 visitors from 102 countries (44% international and 56% domestic visitors).

ITAMMA MEMBER EXHIBITOR

The latest innovations in every field of textile from weaving, knitting, yarn, digital printing, finishing to denim were exhibited, recording a business volume of over 1.5 billion Euros in 5 days, as learnt from the reliable source.

Pride for ITAMMA - ITAMMA President, Mr. Purvik Panchal invited for Ribbon –Cutting Ceremony of ITM 2022 inauguration

ITAMMA MEMBER EXHIBITOR

ITAMMA exhibits at stall no. 406 B in Hall No. 4 it's promotional material and giving an opportunity to 7 of its members to participate under various competitive schemes under the Umbrella of ITAMMA Pavilion.

ITAMMA was invited to display it's Publications at Display Centre for PRESS

ITAMMA circulated about 500 copies of ITM 22 GUIDE having details of each member participant and the various useful information of the exhibition, map, Istanbul, etc. during the exhibition.

Mr Purvik Panchal, President ITAMMA offered Coffee table book of ITAMMA to Mr Necip Guney, Chairman of Organizer Board...during ITM 22...

About more than 20 ITAMMA members participated in ITM 2022 as Exhibitors who were interacted by the Directorate ITAMMA individually and explained the procedures of document submission to MSME while applying the Grants. (Photos of few members 6 to 9). Also about 5 new members got enrolled during the exhibition. ITAMMA President also offered ITAMMA Coffee Table Book to Mr Necip Guney, Chairman of Organizer Board...during ITM 22.

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Trützschler Group appoints in high profile job

Trützschler Group SE expands Board of Directors

The Trützschler Group SE has appointed Dr. Ulrich Schwenken and Heinrich Krull to its Board of Directors with effect from July 1, 2022. Dr. Schwenken will serve as Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Heinrich Krull will serve as Chief Operations Officer (COO).

Dr. Schwenken will assume responsibility for Development, Digitalization, IT and Corporate Communications. As a doctoral graduate specialized in engineering, he has many years of experience in automotive and mechanical applications. Since 2008, he has held various management positions in the areas of Service, Sales and Development at companies including Porsche AG and Volkswagen AG, where his responsibility covered a range of key topics such as digital transformation. Most recently, Dr. Schwenken served as CSO, CTO and CDO at Leistritz AG, and was responsible for the strategic focus on innovative growth areas.

The new members of the Board of Directors of Trützschler Group SE : Dr. Ulrich Schwenken, CEO Trützschler Group SE (left); Heinrich Krull, COO Trützschler Group SE (right)

Mr. Krull joined Trützschler Group SE in September 2020. As a graduate engineer for production engineering and management with international experience in mechanical and production site engineering, he has comprehensive expertise related to operations. He also has extensive experience of production technologies, including in-depth knowledge of Lean Management methods and expertise in post-merger integration. As COO, he will be responsible for the areas of Production, Purchasing and Logistics, Quality Assurance as well as Supply Chain.

"We are delighted to welcome Dr. Schwenken and Mr. Krull to the Board of Directors. Both will bring diverse expertise to strengthen the development of the company for future growth. We wish them great success in their new tasks," says Dr. Roland Münch, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Trützschler Group SE.

Until his scheduled retirement at the end of 2022, Dr. Dirk Burger will act as Co-CEO to Dr. Schwenken.

The responsibilities of the Board of Directors of Trützschler Group SE as of July 1, 2022 are as follows: Dr. Ulrich Schwenken (CEO) is responsible for Development, Digitalization, IT and Corporate Communications; Dr. Dirk Burger will take over the role of Co-CEO to Dr. Schwenken until the end of 2022; Dr. Ralf Napiwotzki (CFO) is responsible for Finance and Controlling, Human Resources, Legal and Compliance; Alexander Stampfer (CSO) is responsible for Sales, Marketing and Service; Heinrich Krull (COO) is responsible for Production, Purchasing and Logistics, Quality Assurance as well as Supply Chain.

About Trützschler

The Trützschler Group SE is a German textile machinery manufacturer headquartered in Mönchengladbach, Germany. The company is divided into four business units: Spinning, Nonwovens, Man-Made Fibers, and Card Clothing. Trützschler machines, installations and accessories are produced and developed in ten locations worldwide. This includes four factories in Germany (Dülmen, Egelsbach, Mönchengladbach, Neubulach), as well as sites in China (Jiaxing and Shanghai), India (Ahmedabad), the USA (Charlotte), Brazil (Curitiba) and Switzerland (Winterthur). Service companies in Turkey, Mexico, Uzbekistan and Vietnam and service centers in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Indonesia provide customer proximity in key regions for the textile processing industry. For more information visit: www.truetzschler.com.

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❐

CORPORATE NEWS

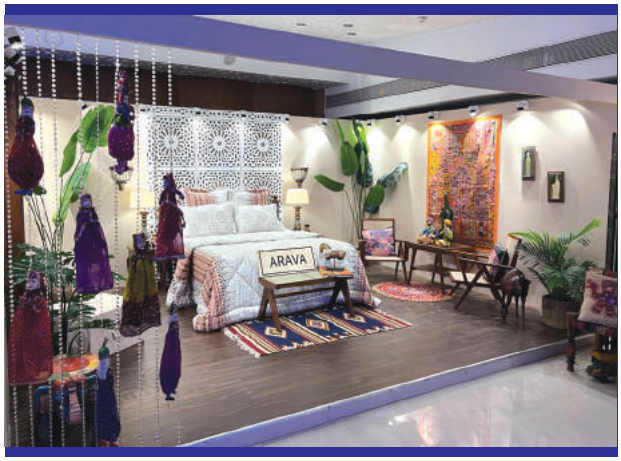
Birla Century announced launch of new home bedding ethnic collection 'Virasat' that aims to retain India's artistic legacy

After a stellar entry into the home bedding segment with the launch of Hill & Glade earlier this year, Birla Century's home division has announced the launch of Virasat – a collection that aims to celebrate textiles and crafts of India.

Inspired by the artistic culture and rich legacy of Indian textiles, Birla Century, a division of Century Textiles & Industries Ltd aims to foray into the international markets with Virasat and is excited to add this premium concept its growing home furnishing segment which represents Indian ethnic trends, regional colour palettes, and innovative artistry of the country.

Unveiling the collection at a high-profile distributor meet, Mr R.K. Dalmia, Sr. President & Wholetime Director shared the company's vision to highlight the country's ethnic uniqueness and take the pride of Indian artistry to the world. "Virasat gets its inspiration from India's handcrafting strengths and is a tribute to the genius artistry of our master weavers and Indian artisans. We are working hand-in-hand with Artisans from across the country and believe that the power and potential of this thriving and creative workforce is rare and makes India a 'manufacturing hub of artistry' that needs to be shared the world."

With the festive buying season just around the corner, the company believes this was the perfect time to launch a collection that celebrates India's festivities, its cultures, and art and crafts. These bedsheets will be a significant representation of India's royal culture and are designed to the highest Birla standards. The uniqueness in Virasat collection is that every design will have wonderful story and sentiment behind it, of the culture it represents.



The launch collection covers three distinct themes representing the royal heritage of Rajasthan: Nilakshi; Karigari from the Rann of Kutch and the historic significance of henna: Mehak that paints a beautiful memory in every Indian household. With Nilakshi, Virasat brings the enchanting city of Jaipur's art of blue pottery and combines it with textiles to create bedding art pieces that reflect comfort, serenity and elegance that the pink city is celebrated for. With Karigari of Kutch, Birla Century's Virasat gives an ethic touch to exclusively crafted bedsheets with the signature effect of colourful embroideries with mirrors, figurines and designs influenced by the city; while its Mehak Mehendi collection brings the sacred power of mehendi designs in home textiles with intricate patterned bed-sheets.

Speaking at the launch of Virasat in Mumbai, Mr Ashish Mehrishi, CMO (Home Textiles & Apparel Fabrics), Birla Century added: "Birla Century is committed to bringing innovations in the home-living sector. We strongly believe in our purpose of celebrating Indian artisans along with Birla's momentous journey in the country by merging our quality offerings from Birla Century with the ethnic diversity of the country. Indian consumers lean on design intricacies and want a sense of belonging to the cultures they represent. With our extensive network of distributors spread across India and overseas, the goal is to ensure every consumer carries a piece of India as 'Virasat' wherever they go. It surely is a collection like no other!"

Altogether, Virasat presents over 250 ethnic designs keeping the contemporary Indian consumer in mind while also making it the perfect launchpad for International markets where consumers that are enchanted by India's regal arts. The Virasat Collection looks to offer its consumers a selection

of three more unique themes next season that will expand its ethnic home bedding section. The collection brings a special range of festive packaging that makes it novel for both Indian and global buyers. "Virasat represents the Birla Legacy, a legacy that we have inherited from the generational art forms and remarkable crafts of the country and aim to take this to the world." concluded Mehrishi.

About the company

Birla Century is a Division of Century Textiles & Industries Limited in 2009 incorporated a state-of-the-art, vertically integrated plant, (A Division of CTIL) was set up at Jhagadia, Bharuch. Processing 41 million meters annually. Birla Century produces a wide range of premium textiles, from bottom weights & suiting to finer fabrics, household linen etc, curated with innovation, function, and sustainability. Birla Century's USP is the customization we offer to our clients in terms of the weave, design and texture of products. We have an extensive network of distributors and dealers in India and abroad. Our focus is on making products of excellent and consistent quality sustainably; and thereby adding value by offering a variety of weaves, designs and finishes innovating continuously. Our goal at each step is to make sure that we deliver the best we can to our customers who instil their trust on Birla and it's legacy and simultaneously make sure to add value to the industry of textiles with whatever capacity we can.

Every product from Birla Century is curated with innovation and sustainability, with a strong customer centric approach that never compromises on quality. The organization has a zero-compromise approach which means every process is supported with state-of-the-art machinery which has been sourced from the best manufacturers around the world.

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R CITY Mall, iconic shopping centre in Mumbai celebrated Pride Yoga Day on 20th June 2022 in association with Bollywood actor Jacqueline Fernandez's YOLO Foundation

While the entire month of June is celebrated as 'Pride Month' to mark the LGBTQIA+ movement for equal rights and opportunity, International Yoga Day is celebrated in June too. Bringing both these occasions together, R CITY mall - Mumbai's iconic shopping and entertainment destination -

hosted the 'Pride Yoga Day' on 20th of June 2022 in association with Bollywood actor Jacqueline Fernandez's YOLO Foundation.

The 'Pride Yoga Day' aimed to support the LGBTQIA+ community and promote their social inclusion while raising awareness about the value of Yoga, positivity and their overall holistic

wellness. LGBTQ people as a group do not often discuss mental health and may be unaware of mental health concerns. This community also has higher rates of drug, alcohol, and cigarette use.

Hosted by comedian and writer Madhvendra Singh, the event kick-started with a panel discussion that included remarkable personalities like Varun Singhal, a certified Yoga teacher who has set up India's first LGBTQ-friendly retreat in North Goa; Zoya Thomas Lobo, who has beaten the odds to become the country's first trans photojournalist; Johann Arora, an awarded celebrity artist, Make-up and Yoga Instructor and Salma Khan, the first-ever third-sex person to be appointed to the Lok Adalat (DLSA) in Mumbai and the founder of the Kinnar Maa Trust.

In addition to the panel discussion, Johann Arora and Jacqueline Fernandez conducted a Yoga session, followed by a stand-up act by Madhvendra Singh. After this, the floor was open for an open mic wherein members of the LGBTQIA+ community shared their life stories and expressed gratitude for their social inclusion.

About R CITY Mall

Since 2009, R-CITY Mall, the flagship retail venture of Runwal Developers Pvt. Ltd. has been welcoming visitors as Mumbai's biggest shopping and leisure destination. Nestled in the heart of the central suburbs, it extends across 1.2 million square feet of retail space, home to 300+ Indian and International brands across Fashion, Food, Beverage and Entertainment. The mall boasts of a 24,000 sq. ft. courtyard - the perfect venue for city level

events like musical gigs, stand-up performances, food fests and more. It's also the largest recreation hub of the city with over 9 entertainment centres including India's first and largest indoor theme park - Kidzania and various new age experiential brands in entertainment and leisure along with 14 anchor brands to give visitors a truly international shopping experience. With a balanced offering of the best in shopping, entertainment and food, R CITY provides an engaging and unforgettable experience to its shoppers and visitors.

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Top circular knitting and braiding machine manufacturer Ranga Yogeshwar presents third Top 100 award to Mayer & Cie.

Albstadt-based Mayer & Cie. has been named a Top 100 award-winner for the third time as one of Germany's most innovative small and mid-range businesses. The jury made special mention of the circular knitting and braiding machine manufacturer's innovative processes. At the centre of the family firm's further digital development is on the aim to boost its customers' productivity. Last Friday, members of the Mayer & Cie. management received the award from the science journalist Ranga Yogeshwar at the SMB summit in Frankfurt am Main.

Benjamin Mayer (left) and Sebastian Mayer (right) are receiving the award from Ranga Yogeshwar in Frankfurt

Claim to leadership a deliberate decision

"We are delighted to receive the Top 100 award for the third time this year," said Sebastian Mayer, Chief Digital Officer and member of the Mayer & Cie. management. "2019 and 2020, characterised by a slump in demand and the pandemic, were not easy years for our company. Yet we deliberately worked on improving our processes in order to hit the ground running once the market recovered. We thank all of our employees for supporting this development and driving the change forward."

Progress is digital for SMBs too

For some time now, the focus of development work at Mayer & Cie. has been on lean management in assembly processes, on optimisation of aftersales service, including setting up an online shop for spare parts, and on product lifecycle management, or PLM, which stands for a concept of seamless integration of all the information that arises during a product's lifecycle.

A clean data structure is the basis for these measures. Sebastian Mayer likes to call it the "digital backbone". "Basically, what it means is that all product data is processed in he same database and all information is available only once and can be downloaded immediately," he explains.

Boosting the customer's productivity

Customer benefit is the sense and purpose of Mayer & Cie.'s digital development work. "Our aim is to boost the productivity of customers who work with our circular knitting machines," as Sebastian Mayer puts it. Their main point of access to the company's development work is the "knitlink" IIoT platform, where machine data is to be recorded and evaluated. Spare parts sales is then automated via the online shop and support is available from the platform round the clock. In future, a 3D model of every machine – a kind of digital twin – is to be available on "knitlink".

Mayer & Cie. in award-winning company

In all, 436 companies, including about ten per cent from machinery and plant engineering, competed for the Top 100 seal of innovation this year. Nearly 300 were successful and were congratulated in person by Ranga Yogeshwar at the SMB summit. He noted that the award winners set a role model example. "Innovators are thought leaders; they are always pioneers too," said Yogeshwar, who mentors the competition. "They put their products to the test and ask themselves what an ecological society and a

climate-oriented world will require of them. And they check the opportunities and challenges that increasing digitisation will bring for forms of cooperation, social relationships and, with them, for employee retention."

About Mayer & Cie.

Mayer & Cie. (MCT) is a leading international manufacturer of circular knitting machines. The company offers the entire range of machines required for making modern textiles. Fabrics for home textiles, sportswear, nightwear and swimwear, seat covers, underwear and technical uses are made on MCT knitting machines. Furthermore, Mayer & Cie. regularly develops new approaches underlining its leadership in technology.

Since 2019, Mayer & Cie. has augmented its portfolio by braiding machines which produce sheathings for hydraulic tubes used in aviation, automotive industry as well as in further, very specific fields of applications.

Founded in 1905, Mayer & Cie. generated sales of EUR 103 million in 2021 with about 450 employees worldwide, according to preliminary figures. In addition to its headquarters in Albstadt, Germany, where around 350 people work, and subsidiaries in China and the Czech Republic, sales partners for circular knitting and braiding machines in around 80 countries represent Mayer & Cie.

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Organisers of Gartex Texprocess India join hands with Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan to expand the fair's Fabrics & Trims segment

In a bid to showcase Gujarat's strength in fabric, cotton and natural based fabrics, the region's nodal textile trade body Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan has signed up for Gartex Texprocess India 2022 – the leading International Trade Fair for Textile and Garment Manufacturing. Over 75 brands representing fabric manufacturers and suppliers are expected to join the Delhi edition alongside exhibitors of Gartex Texprocess India this August, expanding the fabrics supply chain showcase at this key business event to present the best of Indian fabrics.

Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt Ltd and MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd have announced their association with FABEXA, an arm of Ahmedabad's nodal textile trade body Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan for the Delhi edition of Gartex Texprocess India 2022. The alliance aims to expand the fabrics supply chain showcase while providing a strong business push to Gujarat's growing textile and apparel sector.

Gujarat, known for its textile industry, is the largest producer of cotton in India with nearly 30% of cotton and 56% denim of the country's total production. Situated at the heart of the textile producing state, the rapid growth of the textile industry has given Ahmedabad its popular name 'Manchester of the East'. Representing the city's textile traders, the association with Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan will thus bring the best of Indian fabrics at the show.

"We are glad to join hands with Messe Frankfurt India and MEX Exhibitions. Bringing garment and apparel machinery manufacturers together with fabric manufacturers will have a dual advantage as it will not only open business opportunities for our members but also pave the way for developing infrastructure and modernising technology to make the State's textile industry competitive both in domestic and international markets," shared Mr Gaurang Bhagat, President, Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan.

"We have found strong partners in Messe Frankfurt India and MEX Exhibitions and are confident in their vision for the industry," added Mr Babulal Sonigra, Chairman, Fabexa, Committee, Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan.

As one of the most trusted textile and garment machinery exhibitions in the country, Gartex Texprocess India offers the industry a platform to bring forth industry innovations, hold creative and collaborative discussions with potential buyers and leverage the textile industry's strong professional network. Through its focused segments of Denim Show, Fabrics & Trims Show and the co-located Screen Print India, the platform will present a combined showcase of textiles and garment machineries, fabrics and accessories, digital and screen-printing technologies as well as denim innovations from 4 – 6 August 2022 at Pragati Maidan, in New Delhi.

(L – R) Ms Himani Gulati, Director, MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd, Mr Babulal Sonigra, Chairman, Fabexa Committee, Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan, Mr Raj Manek, Executive Director and Board Member, Messe Frankfurt Asia Holdings Ltd, Mr Gaurang Bhagat, President, Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan, Mr Gaurav Juneja, Director, MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd.

"Fabrics are the pivot around which the entire garment manufacturing industry spins and as fashion evolves, innovations and variety in every aspect of garmenting increases which makes the 'Fabrics & Trims Show' is a much-needed segment on the showfloor. This development is another important example of Gartex Texprocess India's commitment to partnering with leaders in the industry and our objective of creating collaborative and growth opportunities within the sector. We are proud to combine strengths with Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan and confident that this partnership will provide a scalable platform and strong business boost to fabric players," shared Mr Raj Manek, Executive Director and Board Member, Messe Frankfurt Asia Holdings Ltd.

Adding to this, Mr Gaurav Juneja, Director, MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd shared: "As Gartex Texprocess India continues to grow, we are excited to be partnering with an industry-leading body such as FABEXA and believe that together we can highlight India's strength in fabrics and instil further confidence in the business-effectiveness of the platform. We look forward to a successful collaboration and bringing the sector together once again – in a big way."

The overwhelming response to the Mumbai launch and intense business activity signify a huge demand even in the current market scenario and over 75% exhibitors have already confirmed their bookings for the Delhi edition. The announcement has further garnered positive reactions from the industry with strong support from fabric players. "This is a significant step as it will allow fabric manufactures from Gujarat to expand their networks and showcase alongside distinguished companies from the apparel, denim, garment machinery and printing technology side, thus bringing the material, creative and technology value chain on to a one-stop selling and sourcing platform," said Mr Bharat Tekwani, Managing Director, Shree Mahadev TexFab Pvt Ltd, while Mr Amish Shah, Director, Shaswat Textiles Pvt Ltd added: "We are delighted with the announcement of this joint co-operation which we believe will greatly benefit our industry and excited to exhibit in New Delhi!"

Together, the flagship combination of Gartex Texprocess India, Screen print India, Denim Show and Fabrics & Trims Show will present a grand showcase covering the apparel textiles and technology chain and provide an opportune framework for networking and business sourcing.

For more information, please contact :
www.gartexindia.com ❐

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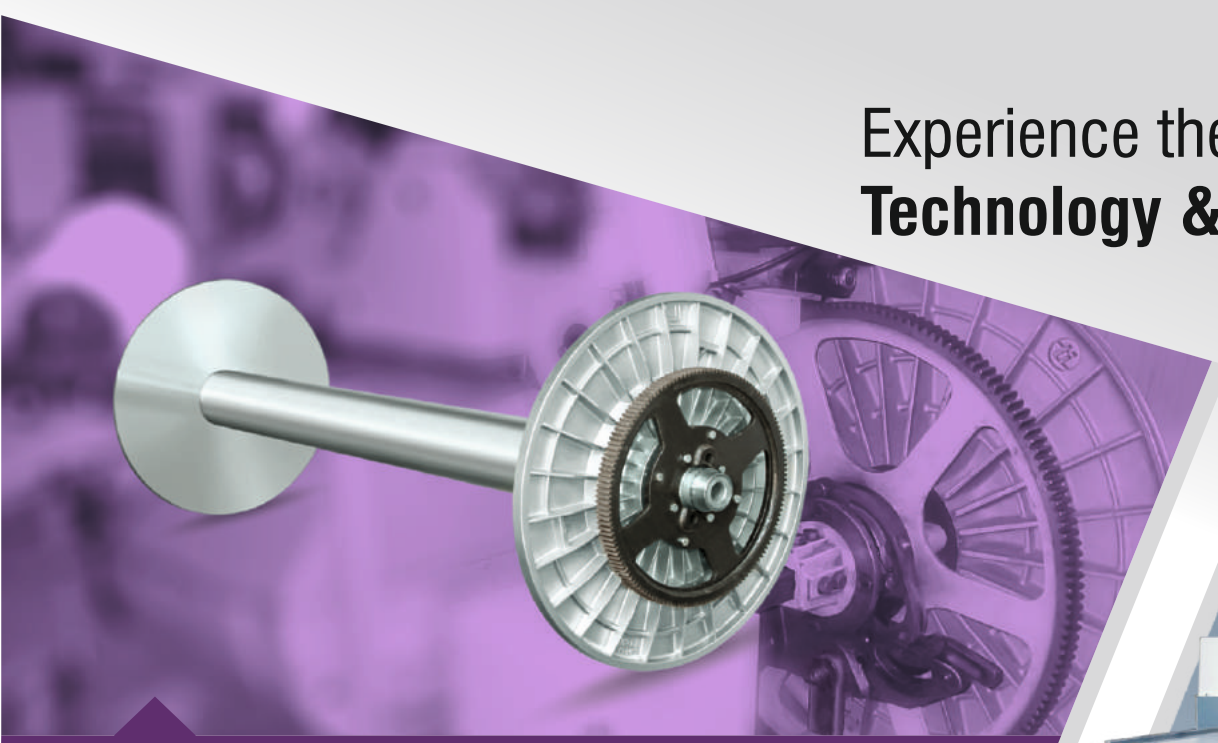

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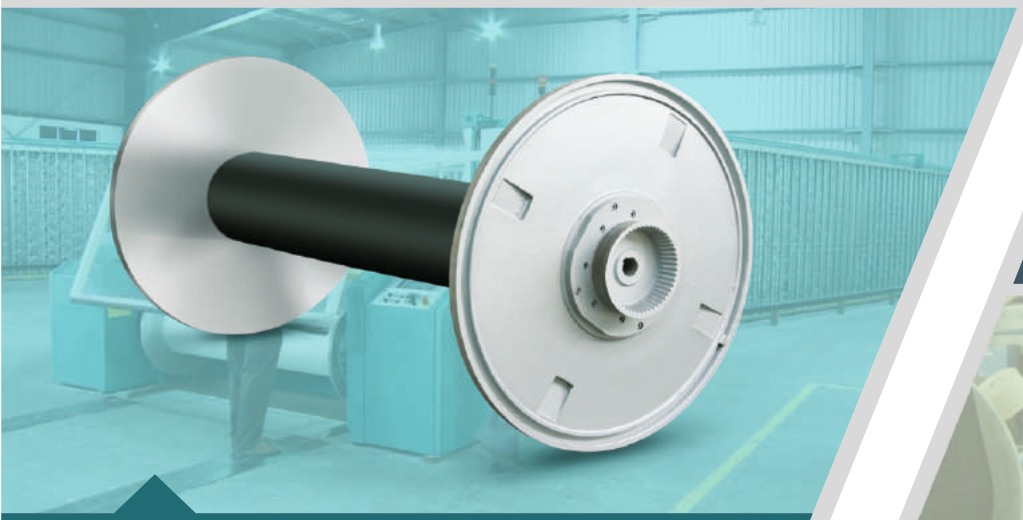

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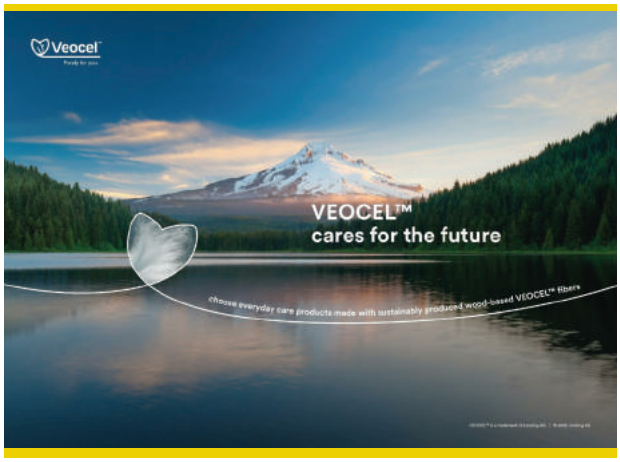
VEOCEL™ brand joins environmental advocates to make larger definition of "care"

- VEOCEL™'s first global brand ambassador to motivate millennials and Gen Z to explore the real meaning of "care"
- In partnership with VEOCEL™'s longtime partner, One Tree Planted, the social media community can help support global reforestation efforts worldwide

Lenzing's VEOCEL™ brand today announces the launch of "VEOCEL™ cares for the future" initiative, which will kickstart globally and regionally on June 5th, World Environment Day 2022. As the start of a dedicated consumer education and engagement program, the "cares for the future" campaign will feature a series of tailored activities in Europe, the U.S. and Asia. Aimed at inspiring and engaging communities to care for the environment, the initiative will utilize social media channels and content to inspire, educate, and empower consumers to play a bigger role in caring for the planet and building a better future for the next generations.



"At VEOCEL™, our care transcends boundaries, from our children and families to the wider community, our environment and our planet," said Monique Buch, Vice President of Global Nonwovens Business, Lenzing AG. "Our new global campaign is all about broadening what care means at each stage of one's life – from couples to newlyweds and young parents. We hope that our collaboration with environmental advocates will empower consumers from different parts of the world to join us in caring for the environment and sharing their stories to inspire others. Every action counts towards building a better future."

Show your care and protect nature

In Asia, well-known environmental activist and singer Chet Lam will kickstart the campaign with a specially curated "#IDo Pledge" which represents a life-long commitment to caring for nature and protecting the environment for future generations. This social media initiative will feature young influencers across Asia who are experiencing key milestones in their lives, from getting married to having children, across China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Indonesia, and Thailand, who want to empower their generation to care for the future.

"Music can be found everywhere in nature, it's magical. Keeping the music alive is the key. I am conscious of the products I purchase, and I always keep nature in mind. This is why I am proud to be supporting VEOCEL™'s campaign, because they care for nature. Together we do what's right, naturally," said Chet.

Global brand ambassador to motivate change

The VEOCEL™ brand's first global brand ambassador, @valerialipovetsky, is a public figure, business owner and mother of three. She will take her 1.9 million Instagram followers on an educational journey with VEOCEL™ to discover how to live more sustainably and learn how the boundless love she has for her children drives her care for the future.

Demonstrate your love for the planet

Across the U.S. and Europe, environmentally-driven influencers Eva Klaus, Müge Boz, and Heather Goodman, will kick off the #sharehowyoucare challenge and encourage their followers to comment real life examples of how they care for the environment. To join the challenge and win a chance to a luxury forest hotel stay, visit the influencers' social media accounts to find out more.

The "VEOCEL™ cares for the future" initiative is conducted in collaboration with VEOCEL™'s longtime partner, One Tree Planted, where social media users all over the world will be able to contribute to global reforestation efforts and enable positive change for the planet by commenting on the influencers' posts.

"Caring for the environment also transcends to caring for future generations. Later this year, the "VEOCEL™ cares for the future" campaign will be dedicated to the development of educational content and school programs around sustainable lifestyle knowledge targeted at children," added Monique. For more details about upcoming "cares for the future" campaign initiatives, please stay tuned to VEOCEL™'s social media channels.

CORPORATE NEWS

About VEOCEL™

VEOCEL™ is Lenzing Group's flagship specialty nonwovens brand. Derived from renewable raw material wood, VEOCEL™ provides natural care every day, and is committed to driving industry standards around sustainability and comfort in the nonwovens sector. The VEOCEL™ product portfolio features VEOCEL™ Lyocell fibers and VEOCEL™ Specialty Viscose fibers that are tailored for sustainable lifestyles and help to maintain environmental balance by being fully integrated into nature's cycle. All VEOCEL™ branded fibers are certified clean and safe, biodegradable from botanic origin and manufactured in an environmentally responsible production process. They are derived from sustainable wood sources coming from sustainably managed forests, following the stringent guidelines of the Lenzing Wood and Pulp Policy. Carbon neutral VEOCEL™ Lyocell fibers were introduced by Lenzing in June 2021 as a solution for nonwovens industry partners and brands to reduce climate impact through the use of fibers with a net-zero carbon footprint. The VEOCEL™ brand is categorized into four branded offerings including VEOCEL™ Beauty, VEOCEL™ Body, VEOCEL™ Intimate and VEOCEL™ Surface and its fibers are used in baby care, beauty and body care, intimate care and surface cleaning products. All standard VEOCEL™ fibers are certified compostable and biodegradable under industrial, home, soil, fresh water and marine conditions, enabling them to break down safely into raw materials and fully revert into nature.

About the Lenzing Group

The Lenzing Group stands for ecologically responsible production of specialty fibers made from the renewable raw material wood. As an innovation leader, Lenzing is a partner of global textile and nonwoven manufacturers and drives many new technological developments. The Lenzing Group's high-quality fibers form the basis for a variety of textile applications ranging from elegant clothing to versatile denims and high-performance sports clothing. Due to their consistent high quality, their biodegradability and compostability Lenzing fibers are also highly suitable for hygiene products and agricultural applications. The business model of the Lenzing Group goes far beyond that of a traditional fiber producer. Together with its customers and partners, Lenzing develops innovative products along the value chain, creating added value for consumers. The Lenzing Group strives for the efficient utilization and processing of all raw materials and offers solutions to help redirect the textile sector towards a closed-loop economy. In order to reduce the speed of global warming and to accomplish the targets of the Paris Climate Agreement and the "Green Deal" of the EU Commission, Lenzing has a clear vision: namely to make a zero-carbon future come true.

Key Facts & Figures Lenzing Group 2021

Revenue : EUR 2.19 bn

Nominal capacity : 1,145,000 tonnes

Number of employees (headcount) : 7,958

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BASANT participation at TEXFAIR 2022, Coimbatore with introduction of latest product development

BASANT FIBERTEK participated in TEXFAIR 2022, Coimbatore taking up a prominent location to welcome clients after a long hiatus due to the pandemic. The purpose was to brief them of the latest developments and offerings by the company, understand the customers' process-related issues and challenges and offer suitable solutions. The company was pleased to introduce its latest product developments for Open-End Spinning, Fiber Opening in Beaters and Cards, and for Waste Recycling . It has always been the endeavour of Basant to constantly innovate better solutions for achieving more opening with rupturing fibers.

In Open-End Spinning, BASANT's Opening Rollers and Rotors have proven to achieve superior performance at a much lower cost, primarily due to several innovations in product design and hard coatings. In five years since start of commercial production at the new highly automated manufacturing facility, the company has been able to make a significant presence in

this market, both in India and overseas. There was a tremendous response for these products at the exhibition and many valuable enquiries were received that will provide a quantum jump to our business in this segment.

In Pin Rollers for Beaters and Cards, BASANT introduced several innovative pinned patterns to suit different fiber mixings and shared results of past installations with senior technical personnel who visited from several Spinning Mills. BASANT takes the responsibility end-to-end - starting from audit of the process to design of the custom solution to supply, erection and optimisation of machine settings and finally achieving the desired improvement in waste reduction, production increase and quality. In a recent case, the Mill could increase daily production by 10 tons only by installing Basant Pin Rollers!

In Waste Recycling, the company introduced new designs of Pinned lags and Cylinders that provided the twin benefits of long life and better opening without rupture which keeping costs low. The combination of superior quality and economy has made the company a international market leader in this segment, with 90% of production exported annually.

The company took the opportunity to also meet clients from the Worsted Spinning and Linen Spinning segments and offer products suited to their requirements. The hallmark of BASANT over the decades of market leadership has been that of offering superior value to clients through high performance, fail-safe products, innovative upgrades and economical pricing backed up with reliable service.

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Liva Fabrics ask for discusion on few relevant themes

Topic : How digital printing has revolutionized the fashion industry

The future of fashion is all about the customization of prints and colors. Tie together digital printing, artificial intelligence, and robotics a ensures higher quality, more unique designs at scale, a greater variety of rich in color, and more. It's literally possible to take a picture on your iPhone today and print it onto a textile at photo-realistic quality straight away. The cost performance for small production runs also means looks can be created on a scale of one – rather than thousands. That means personalized designs for individual customers on-demand on the one hand, as well as an ability to print just in time.

Talk Points :

- How Technology has changed the game of the fashion industry?
- Technology enables the fashion industry to become more sustainable?
- What are the important factors to consider while digital printing?

Topic: The dynamism of Fabrics: how sustainable fabrics are changing the game of the Fashion Industry

Viscose fibers – also known under the name rayon – are manmade cellulosic fibers. Cellulose – extracted from wood (wood pulp) – reacts with 18% caustic soda to give alkali cellulose, which is treated with carbon disulfide after the so-called preripening (breakdown of the cellulose molecules into smaller units), the white alkali cellulose changing into orange-yellow cellulose xanthogenate. Diluted caustic soda dissolves the xanthogenate into a syrup mass, the spinning solution or viscose, after which this method of operation has been named. Pumped through the holes of the shower-like spinnerets (5000–250000 holes) into a flowing spinning bath, which contains diluted sulfuric acid, sodium sulfate, and zinc sulfate, the viscose coagulates into fine white filaments of pure cellulose. Viscose fibers have nearly the same physiological properties but poorer physical properties than cotton.

Talk Points :

- How fibers viscose brings the versatility to fabrics
- What are the key blends of viscose that makes the fabric more fluid
- How sustainability and fashion go hand in hand for viscose fabrics\
- Adoption and growth of stylishly sustainable fashion in India

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The textile industry has undergone exciting technological transformation, driven by ground-breaking innovations. This transformation is showcased at the ITMA innovation launchpad held every four years.

Since the first exhibition that took place in 1951 in Lille to its upcoming edition in Milan next year, ITMA will host yet another global gathering of textile industrialists. The showcase displaying world-class solutions will be supported by an exciting series of activities that spotlight innovation.

Here's a quick glimpse of the offerings :

- Discover game changing solutions @ Start-Up Valley
- Explore cutting-edge R&D projects @ Research and Innovation Lab
- Hear from ITMA Award winners and finalists, and industry speakers @ Innovator Xchange
- Watch selected videos by ITMA 2023 exhibitors @ Innovation Video Showcase
- Learn about win-win collaborative efforts by ITMA exhibitors and their customers recognised @ ITMA Sustainable Innovation Award

Expert insights

Brought to you by CEMATEX

Digital Printing, Sustainable by Nature

"The industry needs to face it: when printing on textile, whether the process is digital or not, chemicals are used. On top of that, the printed product in most cases still must be steamed and washed. Therefore, the ecological footprint of textile printing will never be zero," shares Jos Notermans, Product Manager Digital Printing, SPGPrints. Get insights on what can be done to reduce the ecological footprint of textile printing.

Fresh Read from ITMA Blog

When Kristian Blummenfelt won the Men's Triathlon Gold Medal at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, it was a proud moment for UCMTF, the association of the French textile equipment manufacturers. The Skinsuit worn by Kristian was a highly technical all-in-one "tri-suits" designed and developed by Trimtex and supported by the innovative technologies from two French companies, Payen and Alliance Machine Textile. Christian Guinet, Secretary General of UCMTF, shares more about the two companies that played a part in the extraordinary journey of Kristian Blummenfelt claiming the Olympic Gold behind the scenes.

Book Your Accommodation

Make planning your trip hassle-free as MiCodmc Group – the official travel agent for ITMA 2023 takes care of all your hospitality requirements.

Enjoy special rates for extended stays or large groups. For more details, email itma2023@micodmc.it.

Join ITMAnetwork

Invite your colleagues and friends from the industry to join the ITMAnetwork so that they can enjoy a host of benefits such as :

- Be the first to receive news on ITMA event updates and customised content.
- Keep abreast of latest trends in the global textile & garment industry.

For further information, please contact : marcom@itma.com ❐

ITMA ASIA + CITME 2022

20-24 November 2022

National Exhibition and Convention Center

Shanghai, China

Accelerate Business Growth at Asia's Leading Platform for Textile Machinery

Combining the strengths of the established ITMA and CITME brands. ITMA ASIA + CITME is returning to Shanghai for its 8th edition. Industry buyers can source advanced manufacturing technologies from some 950 exhibitors and glean first-hand insights on the latest trends at the region's biggest textiie and garment technology showcase.

Online Visitor Registration is now open !

Pre-register and pay online to save 40% on visitor badge rates.

Type of Badge	Early Bird Rates* (29 Jun - 19 Nov)	Onsite Rates (20-24 Nove 2022)
5 - Day	RMB 60	RMB 100
1 - Day	RMB 30	RMB 50

Print your badge before going to the exhibition venue to avoid onsite queues. For more details, please visit www.itmaasia.com

Important

Under the Covid-19 guidelines issued by the Chinese government and Shanghai Convention and Exhibition Industries Association (SCEIA), all attendees are to register with full name as stated in travel document or national identity card.

Comprehensive showcase of the latest technologies

Source conveniently as exhibits are classified by product sectors.

Spinning	Winding	Nonwovens
Weaving	Knitting	Embroidery
Braiding	Finishing	Printing & Inks
Garment Making	Testing	Logistics
Recycling	Software	Colourants & Chemicals
Plant Ops Equipment	Services	Research & Innovation

Boost your competitive edge with technologies from leading textile machinery manufacturers.

Plan your visit to ITMA ASIA + CITME 2022!

For further information, please contact :
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ITM 2022

With presence of 1280 textile companies and 64500 visitors from 102 countries ITM 2022 made record sales and brought Textile Technology Leaders together

Over 1.5 Billion Euros in Business Volume in 5 Days

ITM 2022, the first major international textile machinery exhibition held in the world after a 3-year hiatus, hosted textile technology leaders in Istanbul for 5 days. Record sales were achieved at the ITM 2022 Exhibition, where the latest innovations in every field of textile from weaving, knitting, yarn, digital printing, finishing to denim were exhibited and world launches were performed. The ITM 2022 Exhibition, where a business volume of over 1.5 billion Euros was created in 5 days, accelerated the Turkish and world economy.

Organized by the partnership of Teknik Fairs Inc. and Tüyap Tüm Fuarcılık Yapım Inc., ITM 2022-International Textile Machinery Exhibition was held at Tüyap Fair and Congress Center between 14-18 June. The ITM 2022 Exhibition, which was organized in 12 halls on an area of 120,000 square meters, broke records with both exhibitors, visitors and machinery sales. ITM 2022 Exhibition, attended by 1280 companies and company representatives from 65 countries, was visited by 64,500 people from 102 countries, consisting of 44% international and 56% domestic visitors. At the exhibition, where companies sold machinery worth million Euros, a business volume of over 1.5 billion Euros was created.

Turkey Became the World's Supply Center at the ITM 2022 Exhibition

The successful sales graph achieved at the ITM 2022 Exhibition proved that the difficulties experienced due to the pandemic for the last 3 years have been left behind. Turkey has become a supply center for European, Middle Eastern and African countries, especially with the disruption of the supply chain in Far East countries, including China. The profile of the professional visitors visiting the ITM 2022 Exhibition revealed that in the new world order that has shifted after the pandemic, the trade network has also changed hands and new players have appeared on the scene. The fact that manufacturers from all over the world such as Andorra, Angola, Honduras, Peru, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Brazil, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Egypt, Iran, and Oman purchased a large number of machinery and signed strong collaborations at the ITM 2022 Exhibition has proven this.

Satisfied Exhibitors of ITM 2022 Reserved to Enlarge Their Stands for ITM 2024

The ITM Exhibition, which was eagerly awaited by the textile technology leaders, also pleased the participating companies with the number of

visitors and performed machinery sales amounting to millions of Euros. Many company officials, who stated that they have achieved a sales graphic far above their expectations starting from the very first day of the ITM 2022 Exhibition and that they have hosted visitors from all over the world, decided to enlarge their stands at the ITM 2024 Exhibition. During the exhibition, companies visited the registration application points and applied for ITM 2024 participation.

ITM 2022: Go to Address for World Launches

Pursuing the usual as to keep the pulse of the sector this year similar to the previous years, ITM 2022 has turned into a textile feast with the participation of hundreds of manufacturers who developed technologies in their field, and the visits of global investors and commercial delegations. Many companies, which focus on product development and new productions under pandemic conditions, had the opportunity to introduce their products to their customers for the first time in 3 years at the ITM 2022 Exhibition. Company owners, managers, employees and sector representatives visiting the exhibition had the opportunity to see the latest technological innovations for the first time and witnessed their world launches.

Thousands of Visitors from 102 Countries from Seychelles to Andorra

Due to Istanbul's ease of transportation and the absence of visa requirements, ITM 2022 Exhibition hosted thousands of visitors from all over the world. 64,500 people from 102 countries, including Turkey, visited the ITM 2022 Exhibition to see the latest innovations in textile technologies. The countries where the visitors come to the ITM 2022 Exhibition are as follows: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Korea, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand , Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Northern Cyprus Turkish Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, America, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Yemen.

Next Meeting is on 4-8 June 2024

The next meeting of the ITM and HIGHTEX Exhibitions, which bring together the world's textile technology leaders, will be held in Istanbul between 4-8 June 2024.

For further information, please contact :
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India ITME announced their 11th Edition to be held in Noida

India ITME Society has announced its 11th edition of the textile exhibition which will be held at the India Exposition Mart Ltd, Noida, from December 8th to the 13th, 2022.

There will be 15 halls in a total area of 2,35,000 sq mtrs, making it the largest in this industry segment.

This event is expected to host more than 1800 exhibitors in 22 Chapters and is expected to have over 1,50,000 visitors over the 6 days period.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENT:

- Developing India as a textile and textile engineered sourcing destination
- Encouraging investments in India for textile machinery manufacturing, therein supporting government initiatives to develop India as a 'manufacturing hub' for textile engineering
- Encouraging new market developments to generate new custom leads from 2nd tier and rural markets for manufacturers
- Facilitating connect to agents, dealers, distributors for overseas markets as well as the domestic market for the manufacturers

India ITME 2022 will offer unmatched business opportunities to the exhibitors as the Indian textiles industry is set for strong growth, buoyed by vast domestic consumption as well as export demand. It will open windows to various business verticals in the form of leads, contacts and enquiries on a huge-scale massive platform.

Participation from 91 countries and 22 chapters, has made Indian ITME a one stop platform for engineering and technical solutions, technology for the textile industry, servicing the whole of the Indian textile industry and building India brand.

About India ITME Society

India ITME creates an avenue for students to explore placement opportunities with multinational companies functioning globally. It is not only about Textile & Textile Engineering, but ITME functions as a culturally conscious organization promoting all aspects of India as a traditionally rich nation.

The road ahead shall be as challenging, as unpredictable, but India ITME Society shall continue to pursue and strengthen its capabilities to lead the Textile Industry & Textile Engineering to further heights through its ambitious and unique initiatives. Humility of Action, Integrity of Purpose and transparency of Conduct will be the key traits driving India ITME Society's growth and journey forward.

For further information, please contact :
India ITME Society
at +91-22-4972 4603 / 2202 0032 ❐

Textile Secretary Shri Upendra Prasad Singh inaugurated the seventh edition of Gartex Texprocess India in New Delhi

Making a grand opening in its northern base, Gartex Texprocess India New Delhi 2022 was inaugurated eminent dignitaries including Shri Upendra Prasad Singh, Secretary - Ministry of Textiles, Government of India and Mr Sunil Sethi, Chairman, Fashion Design Council of India. As a high-value business platform, the trade fair hosts 200 plus exhibitors with over 1,000 products and machinery from varied sectors.

Opening doors to innovative product showcases and opportunity to engage with more than 200 companies from garment and textile machinery, fabrics, accessories, and allied industries, the seventh edition of Gartex Texprocess India is up and running at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The three-day exhibition was inaugurated by chief dignitaries from the ministry and trade bodies, including:

- Shri Upendra Prasad Singh (IAS), Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India
- Shri Hasmukh Patel, Member of Parliament & Textile Consultative Committee
- Mr Sharad Jaipuria, President, Denim Manufacturers Association & CMD, Ginni International Ltd

- Mr Babulal Sonigra, Ex-Chairman, Fabexa Committee, Maskati Cloth Market Mahajan
- Mr Jang Gyoo Lim, Director, Hysoung India Pvt Ltd (Creora)
- Mr Sunil Sethi, Chairman, Fashion Design Council of India
- Mr Aamir Akhtar, Group CEO, Jindwal Worldwide
- Mr Akhilesh Rathi, Director, Bhaskar Denim
- Ms Himani Gulati, Director, MEX Exhibitions
- Mr Gagandeep Singh, Secretary General, Denim Manufacturers Association (DMA)
- Mr Kantilal Sanghvi, Vice President, Maskati Cloth Market Association
- Mr Nareshkumar Sharma, Secretary, Maskati Cloth Market Association
- Mr Amish Rajendrabhai Shah, Chairman, Fabexa
- Mr Abhinav Arya, Director, Fabcare
- Mr Vimlesh Arora, Director JN Arora & Co
- Mr Keshav, Director, Baba Textile Machinery
- Mr Deepak Choudhary, Director, Aura Technologies
- Mr Winston Pereira, General Manager, Messe Frankfurt Trade

Addressing the industry post-inauguration, Shri Upendra Prasad Singh (IAS), Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, stated: "The Indian government is working towards upscaling size and scale of textile industry through policies such as the mega textile park which is aimed at solving the problem of fragmented value chain as well as size and scale. Sustainability and circularity in the textile ecosystem also needs to be developed. We are also focusing on incentivising textile machine manufacturing to encourage foreign manufacturers to build textile machinery within India."

Also part of the inauguration panel, Shri Hasmukh Patel, Member of Parliament & Textile Consultative Committee acknowledged Gartex Texprocess India as a crucial contributor to the growth vision of the Indian textile and garment industry: "The Indian Textile and Garment Industry aspires to augment its exports within the next ten years and a platform like Gartex Texprocess India will play the role of an enabler in this ambitious journey. I am optimistic this exhibition will continue to accentuate the best manufacturing techniques in the industry and empower our local manufacturers to meet international benchmarks of quality and quantity that are required for exports."

"I also laud the organisers for their tie up with FABEXA, the nodal arm of Maskati Cloth Mahajan which has allowed numerous fabric manufacturers from the Gujarat region to showcase their expertise in the collocated Fabrics & Trims Show." Shri Hasmukh Patel added.

A legendary veteran of the Indian fashion industry – Mr Sunil Sethi, Chairman, Fashion Design Council of India (FDCI), who was also part of the inauguration panel, stated: "The need of the hour is innovation. The collaboration between textile, garment and screen printing verticals will make Gartex Texprocess India even more successful and help companies showcase their new developments and capabilities before customers."

Following a successful commencement of Gartex Texprocess India New Delhi 2022, the organisers – MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd and Messe

Frankfurt India shared a joint statement: "Gartex Texprocess India has experienced 42% growth in exhibitor participation in this edition. We would like to extend our utmost gratitude to the Ministry of Textiles for their strong support as well as our partners and supporting associations for their continued co-operation."

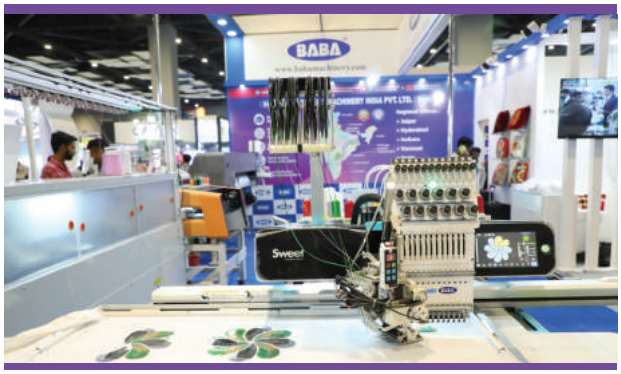
Collocated alongside Denim Show, Fabrics & Trims Show and Screen Print India, Gartex Texprocess India New Delhi 2022 displays over 1,000 products and manufacturing technologies in garment and textile, denim, fabrics and screen printing, including :

- **TS 1800 Digital Thread Dyeing System by Orange-O-Tec.** can dye thread in millions of colours on demand precisely on single and multiple spools due to its sustainable waterless technology
- **Bullmer Procut 1800 by Mehala** is a highly-precise automatic cutter for large volume of apparel with operator-friendly handling and menu navigation, easy-to-program, and a high cost-performance ratio benefits
- **SureColor SC-F530 Desktop Dye-Sublimation Textile Printer** by Epson is ease of use, highly-productive and efficient, ideal for small-volume clothing and custom merchandise
- **JETVARNISH 3DS with iFOIL S** by **Konica Minolta** allows users to execute Hot Foil Stamping in house, at high speeds with virtually no set up, eliminates the need for films and dies
- **Copperhead Pro Mini™** by **DCC** is versatile, compact and all-electric automatic screen printing press which consumes less power and delivers extremely high production speeds without the usage of compressed air.

Demonstrating India's growing prowess in quality denim production, the Denim Show has featured top 25 denim mills bringing their latest denim products at the show, along with top denim manufacturers such as: Jindal Worldwide Ltd, Arvind Ltd, Raymond UCO Denim Ltd, LNJ Denim, Siyaram Silk Mills Ltd, Kanchan Group and my others.

In association with FABEXA, Fabrics & Trims Show has converged around 70 Gujarat-based fabric manufacturers under a special pavilion to demonstrate the region's local expertise in fabric, cotton and natural based fabrics. The exhibition is also set to host over 200 fabrics sourcing representatives during the remaining show days.

The organisers are also hosting an exclusive knowledge forum to impart in-depth insights on interesting industry topics, such as 'impact of content creation', 'trends AW 2023', 'reducing audit fatigue through SLCP', and 'Fashion Forward – Challenges, strategies and opportunities.'



Supported by the Ministry of Textiles as well as chief industry associations and trade bodies like The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI), Denim Manufacturers Association (DMA), Maskati Cloth Mahajan, Retailers Association of India (RAI) and the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC), Gartex Texprocess India New Delhi lends itself to be a highly productive and opportune platform to source the best manufacturing machineries and engage with top industry players throughout its two remaining days.

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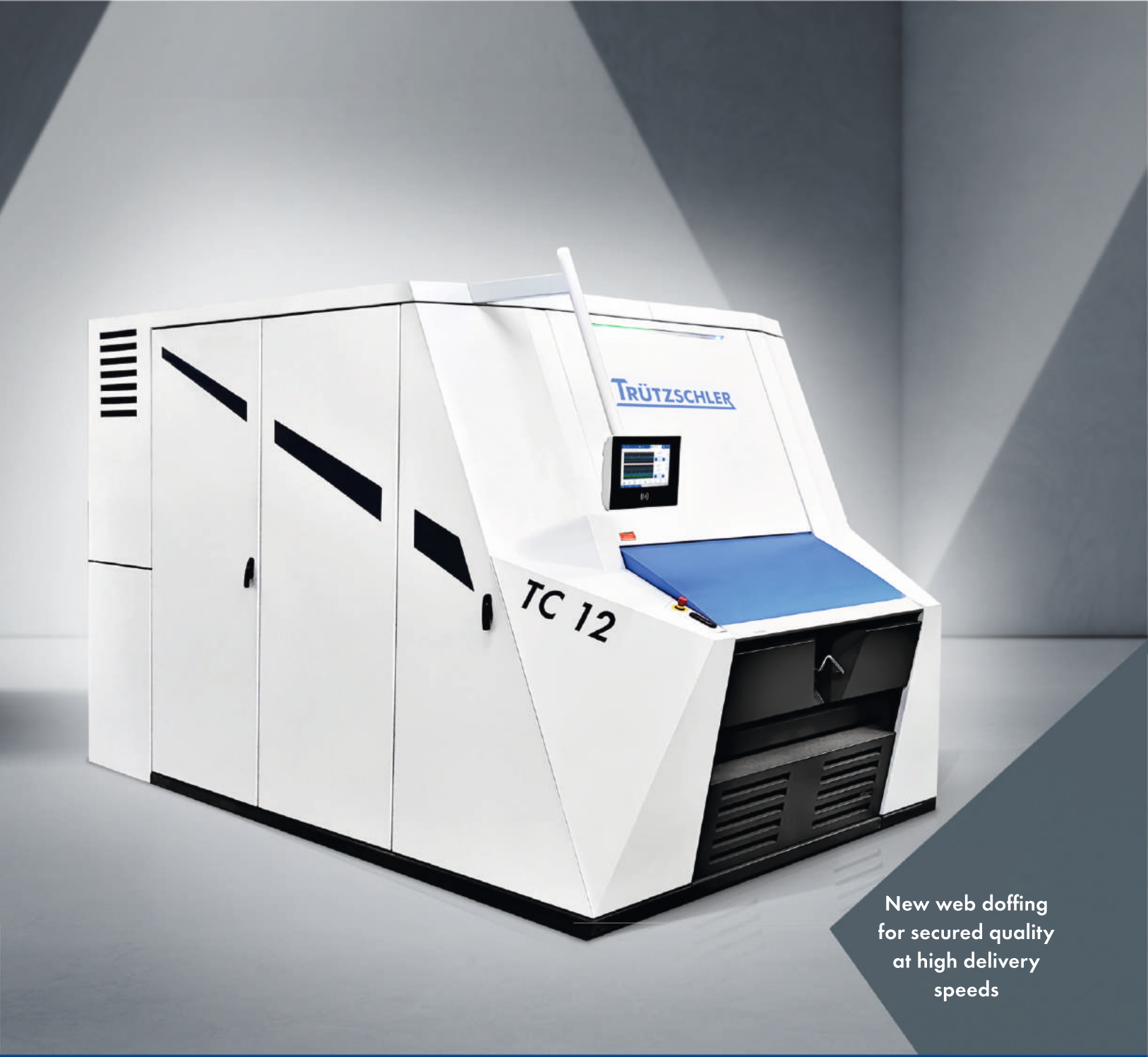

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Tentative Day-wise Program Schedule

DAY 1
8-12-2022
Thursday

- Exhibition & B2B Meetings
- Global Press Conference

DAY 2
9-12-2022
Friday

- Exhibition & B2B Meetings

DAY 3
10-12-2022
Saturday

- Exhibition & B2B Meetings
- CEO Meet
- Training cum Workshop
- DKTE Technical Seminar & Alumni Meet

DAY 4
11-12-2022
Sunday

- Exhibition & B2B Meetings
- Training cum Workshop
- Award Function

DAY 5
12-12-2022
Monday

- Exhibition & B2B Meetings
- Farewell & Valedictory Function

DAY 6
13-12-2022
Tuesday

- Conclusion of Exhibition

RSVP : itme@india-itme.com

Oerlikon

Oerlikon Barmag show cases innovations at the ACHEMA between 22 and 26 August 2022

Oerlikon Barmag – pays attention on eccentric screw pumps and pumps for shear-sensitive materials

Improved productivity and increased lifespan and tailored solutions also for the most demanding applications within the chemicals and plastics industries and in PUR applications – these are the convincing arguments with which Oerlikon Barmag is showcasing its precision metering pumps at this year's ACHEMA between August 22 and 26, 2022 in Frankfurt (Hall 8.0, Stand E4). The focus is on the new pump for shear-sensitive conveying media and the new eccentric screw pump.

Eccentric screw pumps – robust all-rounders convey any medium

The requirements for pumps are considerable, as the demand for customized solutions for increasingly complex processes is rising. This is particularly true for Oerlikon Barmag's new eccentric screw pump range. High wear-resistance, increased durability and robust operation – the new pump is tailormade for conveying highly-filled, high-viscosity and abrasive media, such as filled adhesives, filled silicones and filled casting compounds, for example. The is the multi-stage seal system, which considerably increases the pump's lifespan. The upstream shaft sealing ring protects the slide ring seal against excessively-fast wear caused by challenging media. In turn, the optimum alignment of the drive shaft – ball bearing-supported and centrally-guided through the shaft sealing ring – prevents any metal debris caused by friction and hence ensures considerably greater durability. Producers benefit from considerably greater productivity, as the pumps' maintenance intervals and hence machine downtimes are significantly reduced.

New pump for shear-sensitive materials

For increasingly complex customer-specific process solutions, Oerlikon Barmag is now expanding its GA series, developed especially for the challenging conveying of high-viscosity media, to include the GAB51F for shear-sensitive conveying media. The newly-developed pump with its viscosity range of max. 300 Pas is tailored to conveying high-viscosity, shear-sensitive materials such as adhesives and silicones, for example. "The shear forces impacting the medium within the pump are reduced to a minimum as a result of a specially geometry", explains Thorsten Wagener, Senior Sales Manager within the Pump Construction business unit. The material is conveyed through the pump in an as gentle and low-pulsation manner as possible and metered precisely at the outlet – ensuring it retains its characteristic properties.

The Oerlikon Barmag eccentric screw pump is used in such diverse sectors as the plastics industry, the automobile industry, the pharmaceuticals industry, food technology and in the generation of new energies

High-speed metering pump with sealed product space

The high-speed metering pump has been especially developed for metering poorly-lubricating media. Here, the main benefit is the sealed product space, which extends the pump's lifespan considerably. The space that comes into contact with the media is limited to the area around the gears. "As a result, the high-speed pump is particularly suited for applications in the chemicals industry, which frequently involve aggressive acids", comments Thorsten Wagener. The pump's external rolling bearings are externally lubricated, hence ensuring that the product being metered does not cause damage as a result of poor lubrication. In addition to its extended lifespan, a further benefit is the lower maintenance requirements.

GM series for low-viscosity media

The pumps in the GM and GA series provide precision metering with low-pulsation feeding of the conveying medium. The multi-stage GM pump conveys low-viscosity media (i.e. 250 bar, 100 mPas) even under high pressure and in the most challenging conditions. The square design from the proven GM series is the standard pump

for many metering tasks. The development of the multi-stage pump expands the applications range for the GM series considerably. The round 2-stage GM pump has been developed especially for use in high-pressure technology. It masters the particular challenge of conveying small throughputs with low viscosities. The pump is perfect for 0.05 through 20 cm^3/rev feed sizes and is excellently suited for use in high-pressure machines for PUR molded parts, foam slab stock, refrigeration unit insulations and sandwich panels, for example.

GA series pumps for high-viscosity media

The Oerlikon Barmag GA range has been especially developed for the challenging conveying of media with higher viscosities. The GA series pumps are available for conveying volumes of between 1.25 and -30 cm^3/rev (0.6-144 l/h). They have been designed for pressures of up to 200 bar, for viscosities of up to 1.500 Pas as well as for temperatures of up to max. 225 °C. With this range of pumps, Oerlikon Barmag offers its customers tailor-made solutions for many technical processes in which highprecision and even metering is of paramount importance.

The drum pump – conveying and metering using a single unit

With the drum pump, the Oerlikon Barmag pump specialists have created a pump designed specifically for conveying and metering high-viscosity materials such as adhesives, silicones and other highviscosity materials from drums and other large containers and for pressures of up to 250 bar. Its special features not only include the fact that it removes high-viscosity materials from the drum, but that it also meters the medium directly without any additional interim stops. "This simultaneously lowers the material costs and optimizes the production process", sums up Thorsten Wagener.

About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a global innovation powerhouse for surface engineering, polymer processing and additive manufacturing. Its solutions and comprehensive services, together with its advanced materials, improve and optimize the performance, function, design and sustainability of its customers' products and manufacturing processes in key industries. Oerlikon has been a technology pioneer for decades. All developments and activities have their origins in the passion for supporting customers in achieving their objectives and increasing sustainability. Headquartered in Pfäffikon, Switzerland, the group has two divisions: Surface Solutions and Polymer Processing Solutions. The group has a global footprint of more than 11,800 employees at 207 locations in 38 countries and generated sales of CHF 2.65 billion in 2021.

For further information: www.oerlikon.com

About the Oerlikon Polymer Processing Solutions division

With its Oerlikon Barmag, Oerlikon Neumag, Oerlikon Nonwoven and Oerlikon HRSflow brands, the Oerlikon Polymer Processing division focuses on manmade fibers plant engineering and flow control equipment solutions. Oerlikon is one of the leading providers of manmade fiber filament spinning systems, texturing machines, BCF systems, staple fiber systems and solutions for the production of nonwovens and – as a service provider – offers engineering solutions for the entire textile value added chain. Furthermore, Oerlikon offers a range of a high-precision flow control solutions. This currently includes a large selection of gear metering pumps for the textile and other sectors such as automobile construction, the chemical industry and the dyes and lacquers industry. With Oerlikon HRSflow, the division develops innovative hot runner systems for the polymer processing industry. In collaboration with Oerlikon Balzers, it offers highly-efficient, effective coating solutions from a single source.

As a future-oriented company, the research and development at this division of the Oerlikon Group is driven by energy efficiency and sustainable technologies (e-save). With its range of polycondensation and extrusion systems and their key components, the company caters to the entire manufacturing process – from the monomer all the way through to the textured yarn and other innovative polymer materials and applications. The product portfolio is rounded off with automation and Industrie 4.0 solutions.

The primary markets for the product portfolio of Oerlikon Barmag are in Asia, especially in China, India and Turkey, and – for those of Oerlikon Neumag and Oerlikon Nonwoven – in the USA, Asia, Turkey and Europe. Oerlikon HRSflow is, above all, active in the key automotive markets. These include Germany, China, Korea and Brazil. Worldwide, the division – with more

than 4,500 employees – has a presence in 120 countries with production, sales and distribution and service organizations. At the research and development centers in Remscheid, Neumünster (both Germany), San Polo di Piave/Treviso (Italy) and Suzhou (China), highly-qualified engineers, technologists and technicians develop innovative and technologically-leading products for tomorrow's world.

For further information: www.oerlikon.com/polymer-processing

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Itema S.p.A.

Itema exhibited the Itematech weaving solutions at Techtextil in Frankfurt, June 21st-24th

Itema, the leading Italian manufacturer of advanced weaving solutions, including weaving machines, spare parts, and integrated services, exhibited the most comprehensive weaving portfolio on the market to weave technical fabrics at Techtextil, from June 21st to 24th (Hall 12 - Booth A50) in Frankfurt, Germany.

In fact, always attentive to its Customers' needs and to market trends, in 2019 Itema set up Itematech with the aim to provide to technical fabrics producers a partner capable of satisfying their specific requirements by offering to its Customers cutting-edge technological innovations and customized solutions for technical fabrics and special applications.

Thanks to this forward-looking choice, Itematech offers nowadays the most complete weaving machines portfolio to weave technical fabrics, ranging from Negative and Positive rapier, to Monorapier for carbon fiber and fancy styles, Airjet and the legendary Projectile.

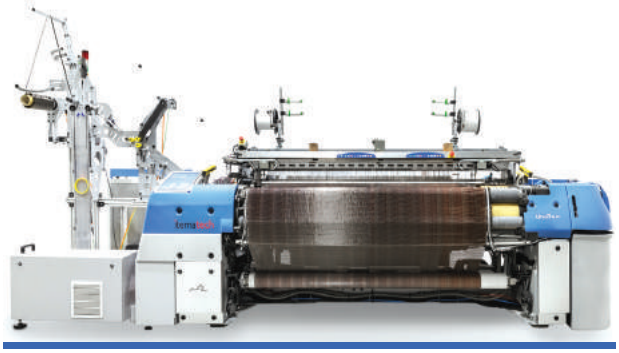
Itematech representatives will be on site to present in detail all the Itematech weaving solutions and the widest range of fabrics that it is possible to successfully weaving thanks to the Itematech technology.

Particularly, Techtextil is the perfect occasion to discover more about the new entries in the portfolio, that along with the rapier R9500-2, the airjet A9500-2 and the projectile P7300HP make up the range of Itematech weaving machines:

- Unirap, the Itematech Monorapier Weaving Machines, combines the advantages of a positive rapier weft insertion with the gentle yarns' treatment ensured by the free flight transfer, enabling complex and creative fabrics weaving with practically no limitations and maximum textile efficiency. UniRap is declined in two main machine versions, both reciprocally and easily upgradeable: UniRap P—designed to weave complex technical fabrics such as flat yarns up to 30mm—and UniRap G—mostly employed to weave specific technical textiles such as metallic or non-metallic (from carbon fiber to aramid and fiberglass) single threads up to 2mm in diameter. Ranging from refined lamè to high tenacity monofilament yarns, passing through bouclé yarns up to carbon, polyester and polypropylene tape, UniRap provides the possibility to weave sophisticated technical fabrics as well as innovative fashion styles.
- Hercules Negative and Positive Rapier Weaving Machine has been designed to excel in the weaving of technical textiles. One of a kind on the market, Hercules provides unbeatable textile flexibility thanks to its unique weft transfer system that enables the valuable possibility to easily and quickly switch from positive to negative rapiers, thus leading to unparalleled textile efficiency when handling the widest range

of weft yarns counts, from 10 up to 48,000 dtex, in single or multiple weft insertions configurations.

- Maxiplus Negative and Positive Rapier Weaving Machine effective and flexible, it is the ideal technology to combine excellent machine performances with rapid return on investment. Capable to handle a wide range of yarns, the Maxiplus is an effective technology guaranteeing ease of use and weaving efficiency.



Trustable, skilled, and uniquely positioned in the market, Itematech is the ideal partner to identify the best weaving solution to weave the broadest range of technical textiles for applications such as Carpet Backing, Carbon Fibre, Heavy and Standard Coating Fabrics, Conveyor Belts and Filter Fabrics – including Bolting Cloth, Medical, Fiberglass, Agrotextile, Geotextile, Mesh Fabrics and many others.

Discover more about Itematech range of services and its unique technological offering to weave technical textiles by visiting Hall 12, Booth A50.

About Itema

Itema is a leading global provider of advanced weaving solutions, including best-in-class weaving machines, spare parts and integrated services. The Company is the only manufacturer in the world to provide the top three weft insertion technologies: rapier, air jet and projectile, with an ample product portfolio and a commitment to continuous innovation and technological advancement of its weaving machines.

Itema is the sole shareholder of Lamiflex, leading producer of advanced composite products and owns majority stakes of Schoch, manufacturer of textile industry accessories.

Sixty per cent of Itema is held by Gianni Radici's family heirs (the siblings Angelo, Maurizio, Paolo, Maria Grazia and Bruna). The remaining shares belong to the Arizzi and Torri families.

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For more information about Itema visit www.itemagroup.com
For more information about Itematech visit: www.itemagroup.com/en/products/technical-fabrics ❐

S.K. Associates

S.K. Associates are one of the leading manufacturer and supplier of many textile products in which few of them are listed below :

1. SKA spring loading for top arms.
2. Bobbin Holders.
3. Rotary filter to stationery filter conversion.
4. Pneumafil conversion for individual suction to common suction.
5. Compact spares for spinning.
6. New advanced fully automated smart plucker.

S.K. Associates are dealing with servicing of all ranges of Textile Electronic PCB's (Blow room to spinning) & specially we are undertaking servicing & providing spares for Vouk Draw Frame.

For more information about our New Advanced Fully Automated Smart Plucker suction as follows :

S.K. Associates have three models with 3 types of variants (V1, V2 & V3).

V1 – Basic Model with 8 safety sensors.

V2 – Along with Basic model features fitted with Water tank 40 liters capacity 2 Nos (RO water not required).

V3 – Along with V2 model features additionally 12 No Special sensors provided.

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY

Bale/Prodn Capacity

Model	Beater size	Cotton	Viscose	Polyester
		No. of Bales/Prodn Capacity in KGS		
SP 5.5	1600 MM	22/400-500	20/400-500	16/400-600
SP 6.5	2200 MM	36/500-700	34/500-700	26/600-800
SP 7.5	2800 MM	65/1200	62/1200	–

SALIENT FEATURES

SENSORS EQUIPED

A. Front carriage safety sensor - 2 nos.
B. Beater up and down detector- 2 nos.
C. Beater step down sensor - 1 no.
D. Beater level sensor - 4 nos.
E. Chain level sensor - 2 nos.
F. Water level sensor - 1 no.
G. Beater Door Safety sensor - 1 no.
H. Material level sensor - 2 nos.
I. BEATER RPM sensor - 1 no
J. Front panel sensor - 1 no.
K. Pressure switch - 1 no.
L. Air pressure meter - 1 no.

BALE CAPACITY

MODEL	Beater Size	COTTON	VISCOSE	POLYSTER
SP4.5	1400 mm	16	12	10
SP5.5	1600 mm	22	20	16
SP6.5	2200 mm	36	34	26
SP7.5	2800 mm	50	48	38

OUTPUT (KGS/HR)

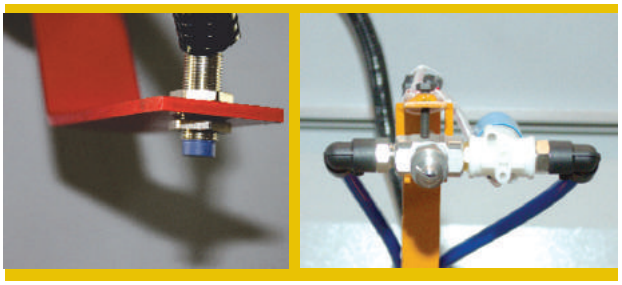
MODEL	COTTON	VISCOSE	POLYSTER
SP4.5	250-300	250-300	250-300
SP5.5	400-500	400-500	400-500
SP6.5	500-700	500-700	600-800
SP7.5	1200	1200	900-1100

ELECTRIC CONNECTION SLIP RING

We provide 12 rings which is specially designed, normally 8 rings are sufficient, we provide spare of 4 nos. In case of any emergency we can use the same.

ELECTRICAL PANEL

Siemens PLC equipped with 7" HMI display to facilitate all faults which will be displayed, user friendly, also energy meter is provided for knowing current consumption. Running, stoppage, movement of beater, rotation of beaters etc. will be displayed.



TRAVELING MOTOR

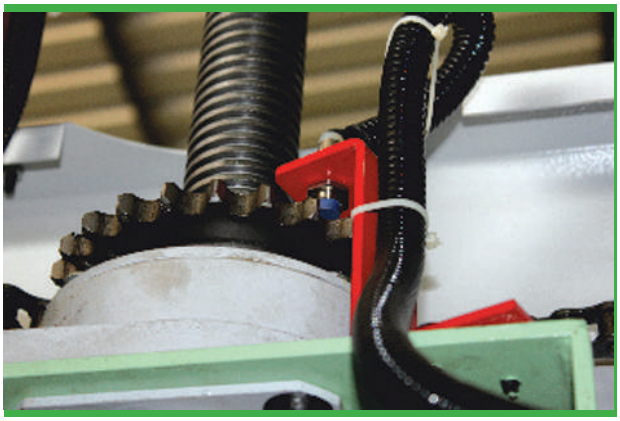
Provided 2 travelling gear motors for smooth and friction less running.

Spec for 1&2 Model 3

1- Main motor - 3.0 HP.
2- Travelling motor - 1.0 HP × 2 nos.
3- Up and down motor - 1.0 HP
4- Compressed air is required for spraying

Spec for Model 4

1- Main motor - 5.0 HP
2- Travelling motor - 1.0 HP × 2 nos.
3- Up and down motor - 1.5 HP
4- Compressed air is required for spraying



SPRAY TANK

Twin Spray tank is made up of Stainless steel with a capacity of 40 + 40 litres and the air jet nozzles can work with salt water also , No need for R. O. Water.

BEATER

Beater is dynamically balanced and the laser cut beater provides gentle rotation and avoid fibre ruptures.

Siemens inverter drive controls for main motor and carriage motor.

COMPARSION BETWEEN "SMART PLUCKER" and OTHER SUPPLIERS		
	SMART PLUCKER MODEL V2	OTHER SUPPLIERS
1	Double motor for carriage circular rotation with V.F.D. (avoid traverse slippage)	Single motor for carriage circular rotation (Slippage chances are there while traverse movement)
2	Machine is provided with 10 sensor to monitor all functions and for safety.	Only 8 sensors
3	Equipped with energy meter	Not fitted with energy meter.
4	Beater motor drive with V.F.D	A.C. Drive only
5	2 Nos.of water spray S.S. tanks in-built with 40+40 liters capacity, equipped with special nozzles to suit all types of water.	No tanks inbuilt, to be purchased at extra cost.
6	Construction of machine is of:- a. Inner frame width - 650 mm b. Carriage frame width - 135 mm c. Top frame width - 225 mm d. Total weight of Mc 500 kgs more than other suppliers	a. Inner frame width - 100 mm b. Carriage frame width - 90 mm c. Top frame width - 200 mm
7	Electric panel provided with SIEMENS smart P.L.C & Preface 7" Display.	Electric panel is of LOGO P.L.C.
8	Outer frame Sheet fitted with 3.0 mm sheet	Outer frame Sheet fitted with 1.6 mm sheet

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY

9	Machine can run with forward and reverse	This option is not available
10	Beater up& down movement fitted with face mount	Beater up & down movement fitted with foot mount
11	Beater Running Rpm will be 380 to 400 RPM only (Without affecting quality)	Beater Running Rpm will be 700 to 750 RPM
12	Beater fitted with butterfly type lags for gentle opening of fibers	Old china type
13	While running with any fiber level changes the beater automatically moves up, levels and will be back sensing previous level	Not available

COMPARSION BETWEEN "SMART PLUCKER" and OTHER SUPPLIERS		
	SMART PLUCKER MODEL V1	**OTHER SUPPLIERS**
1	Double motor for carriage circular rotation with V.F.D. (avoid traverse slippage)	Single motor for carriage circular rotation (Slippage chances are there while traverse movement)
2	Equipped with energy meter	Not fitted with energy meter.
3	Construction of machine is of : a. Inner frame width - 650 mm b. Carriage frame width - 135 mm c. Top frame width - 225 mm d. Total weight of Mc 500 kgs more than other suppliers	a. Inner frame width - 100 mm b. Carriage frame width - 90 mm c. Top frame width - 200 mm
4	Outer frame Sheet fitted with 3.0 mm sheet	Outer frame Sheet fitted with 1.6 mm sheet
5	Machine can run with forward and reverse	This option is not available
6	Beater up& down movement fitted with face mount	Beater up& down movement fitted with foot mount
7	Beater Running Rpm will be 380 to 400 RPM only (Without affecting quality)	Beater Running Rpm will be 700 to 750 RPM
8	Beater fitted with butterfly type lags for gentle opening of fibers	Old china type

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A.T.E. Enterprises Private Limited

SMIT's 2FAST rapier loom to produce special technical fabrics

Productive, efficient, versatile: SMIT's 2FAST is a complete package

An innovative and well-known weaving machine manufacturer from Italy, SMIT's rapier looms are reputed for their versatility, high

productivity, superior quality fabric production, and capability to handle a wide range of weft material and yarn counts. Other notable features of SMIT weaving machines include grippers which are easily adjustable and remain stable while weaving. SMIT rapier looms can be equipped with rapier weft insertion optimised for home textiles, garments, terry towels, and customised solutions to produce special technical fabrics.

SMIT's 2FAST rapier weaving machine

2FAST

FAST stands for Flexible Advanced Shuttleless Technology. SMIT's 2FAST is a high speed, shuttleless rapier loom that features free-flight rapier ribbon movement, which exchanges the weft at the centre. This enables 2FAST to operate at weft insertion speeds of up to 1650 metres/min, depending on the style and machine width. It is thus able to achieve the best fabric construction at the highest speed with the lowest stress for yarn – thanks to the longest beating time among machines of this kind.

SMIT's free flight system does not have ribbon guide hooks which ensures a 'clean shed'. Furthermore, the optimised shed geometry translates into perfect fabric construction. As a result, 2FAST can handle diverse fabric applications such as apparels, home textiles, and technical textiles.

2FAST is the most compact loom in the market today, with simple and low, strain-free access to the front of the loom. Additionally, the 'robust design' methodology employed by SMIT means a stiffer frame, which guarantees the longest machine life and the lowest spare parts consumption.

Technical specifications

- Width: 170 - 380 cm
- Suitable for dobby and jacquard
- Suitable for a wide range of yarn
- Weft selection: 8 - 12 colours
- Quick style change
- 2SAVE – weft saving device

Applications

- Classic shirting
- Linen fabrics
- Worsted suiting
- Saree and dress materials
- Home furnishings
- Woollen shawls and stoles
- Denim
- Terry towels
- Technical textiles

2FAST is a well proven machine with excellent performance demonstrated in several installations in Surat (India).

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Mimaki

Lights, Camera, Action! – See Mimaki in Motion at FESPA 2022

Mimaki's latest cutting-edge technologies for signand textile industries to be introduced at international tradeshow held from May 31st–June 3rd Berlin, Germany

Mimaki Europe, the leading manufacturer of inkjet printing and cutting technologies showcased its latest innovative technologies and connecting with customers at FESPA 2022 Global Printing Expo (May 31st – June 3rd Berlin, Germany). Following the success of FESPA 2021, the first major European tradeshow for Mimaki post-COVID-19, Mimaki returned asa gold sponsor for this landmark industry event. With a host of new solutions released this year, FESPA 2022 became the first opportunity for Mimaki to demonstrate these printers and cuttersat an international event and further explained the many benefits they offered sign and textile printing companies.

In the Spotlight

Standout technology on show included the new 330 series, consisting of the JV330-160, the CJV330-160 and the TS330-1600. Launched during the company's Global Innovation Days event, the 330 Series leverages Mimaki's cross-

platform strategy, to offer a high-end yet cost effective printing solution across several sectors. The eco-solvent inkjet printers, the JV330-160 and CJV330-160, boast innovative features such as the new media changer that allows three rolls of media to be loaded simultaneously, and the XY slitter, which provides in-line X-axis and Y-axis sheet-fed cutting. The TS330-1600, which made its international tradeshow debut at FESPA, is a sublimation printer with an improved take-up system and optional add-ons to further increase efficiency, including a 10kg ink tank supply unit and a mini jumbo roll unit.

Additionally, FESPA visitors have seen Mimaki's all new CG-AR cutting plotter, which goes above and beyond the current entry-level technology available in this area.

Urbanising FESPA 2022

In line with FESPA 2022's tagline, 'Experience print in motion', Mimaki's stand brought an exciting vibrancy to the show, by demonstrating real-world applications alongside the machines that created them. This year witnessed Mimaki's stand convey the streets of Berlin in its design, and urban inspired works by designers, including Nicky Nahafahik and Xavier Protano, all printed

using various Mimaki's printing technologies and displayed on the stand - allowing visitors experience Berlin from inside the Messe Berlin halls. Mimaki has also joined forces with Dutch designer Tessa Koops to create a selection of unique fashion items, after their successful collaborations in 2019.

Celebrating Customer Success

As a centrepiece of Mimaki's stand, the customer gallery returned to FESPA 2022, showcasing and celebrating customer samples and testimonials. There happened live demonstrations of Mimaki's latest technologies in dedicated sign, UV and textile application areas. The latest UV printers on display include the UJV100, and the JFX and UJF series. The acclaimed 3D printer, the 3DUJ-2207, also returned to FESPA this year to showcase the many high-quality, full-colour models, including figurines, scale models and prototypes, achievable with this cost-efficient, entry-level printer.

To answer questions about the applications and Mimaki technologies, hospitality and meeting areas provided space for one-to-one conversations with Mimaki experts.

"FESPA 2022 was, as always, a fantastic opportunity for anyone and everyone, interested or invested, in the world of sign and textile printing. This year we embraced FESPA's theme of motion by bringing the hustle and bustle of city life to FESPA visitors – through the vibrant, urban-inspired prints from designers and the cutting-edge technologies that printed them. This together with the customer success stories in the gallery, inspired and made for an invaluable experience for visitors,"commented Danna Drion, EMEA General Marketing Manager at Mimaki Europe.

About Mimaki

Mimaki is a leading manufacturer of wide-format inkjet printers and cutting machines for the sign/graphics, industrial and textile/apparel markets. Mimaki develops the complete product range for each group; hardware, software and the associated consumable items, such as inks and cutting blades. Mimaki excels in offering innovative, high quality and high reliability products, based upon its aqueous, latex, solvent and UV-curable inkjet technology. In order to meet a wide range of applications in the market, Mimaki pursues the development of advanced on-demand digital printing solutions. Mimaki Engineering Co. Ltd., (President: Kazuaki Ikeda) Nagano (Japan), is publicly listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, Inc.

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Gayatri Textile Machines

Customer satisfaction major inspiration of Gayatri Textile Machines

Our prime motto is satisfy customer in all respects. Only customer's satisfaction is our profit margin. Considering Quality, Prompt Delivery, Price & after Sales Service, we are getting good responses from India and International Market.

Continuous design development / modification are being made in our range of products by studying customer's exact requirement, hence our products are successfully competing with others and exporting regularly in textile global market.

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY

Last but not least, our entire expert technicians are working under one roof–Gayatri Textile Machines.

Cot Grinding Machine

Model GCGHY-200-25-AF

This machine has been sophistically designed and constructed to perform vibration free for high accuracy, high productivity, Superior operability with very less maintenance. Hydro – Pneumatically operated to grind R/F and S/F (Murata Airjet, Sussen, Rocos etc) Top rollers only on pneumatically operated Centrelss Grinding Attachment with 200 min. wide emery having surface finish/accuracy as per international standards. To load 75 to 80 Top rollers of R/F or S/F at a time in adjustable magazine which will come one by one for grinding automatically with auto feeding system which is controlled by digital LCD electronic timer to set grinding time. The machine is equipped with dust extraction unit.

You can use another side to grind longer rollers like Draw Frame, Comber etc are grinded between centre by the help of MT2 Dead Centre with 25mm wide emery and hydraulically operated table traverse motion. Also we have made a provision that we have provided system for 200mm. wide emery attachment with hydro pneumatically operated Centreless Grinding attachment suitable to grind all kinds of R/F & S/F top rollers as an optional.

Net/Gross weight : 1400/1800 & 250/450 kgs
Size of cage L × W × H : 180 × 150 × 165 cm
Size of cage L × W × H : 180 × 85 × 160 cm

Ultra Violet Treatment Machine

The most advanced environment friendly and world wide accepted treatment for irradiation of all types of cots like Ring Frame, Speed Frame, Draw Frame, Comber, etc. Designed totally maintenance free to reduce lapping on buffed top rollers in spinning department. During treatment ultra violet rays improve the surface finish and control roller lapping to save costly rubber cots from damage ensuring consistency of yarn costly rubber cots from damage ensuring consistency of yarn quality and increased productivity, having 2KW, 1400 Volts, U.V. Lamp. For uniform treatment roller rotating system is provided. Treatment time is 6-8 minutes per batch for 35 top rollers of R/F and 20 of S/F. Loading and unloading of top roller is manual, safe and easy. Complete operation is controlled by auto reset timer.

Net/Gross weight : 450/650 kgs.

Size of cage L × W × H : 150 × 95 × 170 cm

Hydraulic Cots Mounting & De-mounting Machine

Machine is designed to mount & demount all types of longer top rollers like Comber, RSB

Draw Frame "ALUCORE" cots etc. by horizontal attachment with roller guide, Stroke adjustment will be as per cots length. Separate Vertical attachment is provided for Ring Frame, Speed Frame & O/E & texturizing cots (Plane, PVC, Easyfit, Alucore) for more productivity. Hydraulic Power Pack is provided to operate both attachment at a time with 2HP, 3 Phase electric motor. Working pressure can be adjustable.

Net/Gross weight : 350/550 kgs.

Size of cage L × W × H : 195 × 105 × 120 cms

Spindle Lubricating Machine

Lubrication machine is designed with 2 separate guns — flushing & oiling guns for perfect flushing/clearning & oiling of spindle bolster for longer life of bearing, having trolley wheel to move one place to another place.

Due to zero leakage, there is no oil around the bolster which also ensures no fly and fluff accumulation, thus keeping the spindle/ring frame neat and clean.

Model	3 Tanks	2 Tanks

Flushing Tank	20 Ltrs	20 Ltrs
Oiling Tank	12 Ltrs	12 Ltrs
Topping Tank	10 Ltrs	—
Electric Motors	0.5 HP, 1440 RPM Single Phase	
Weight Net/Gross Kgs	110/230	100/220
Size of Case	125L × 60W × 110H cms.	

Flushing Gun (Clearning Gun)

Fitted with S.S. nozzle assmebly, which cleans the bolster from neck bearing to footstep bearing

and the dirty oil will be sucked out efficiently which will go to the flushing oil tank duly filtered twice by micro filter.

Lubricating Gun (Oiling Gun)

Equipped with adjustable S.S. dual nozzle assembly and easily adjustable auto oil level gauge system to maintain automatic oil level uniformly with no overflow or leakage at all. The same gun can be used for oil topping facility.

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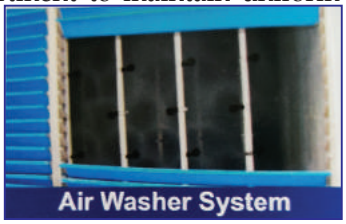
Manvi Textile Air Engineering Pvt. Ltd.

Air Washer System

The systems are design considering all heat load in the department and required RH can be maintained with air washer system. The supply and return air system is design considering the heat load in the department to maintain uniform condition throughout the department. The system is designed in such a manner that whole department is maintained with positive pressure which leads to the better elimination of fly and dust from the department. Return air system is also designed with return air grill and slit arrangement with specific negative pressure which cleans the department as well as take out the heat produced by the motors effectively.


Air Washer System

It shall consist of inlet louvers, spray piping & water eliminator with required hot deep galvanized fixtures.

Water Eliminator

Various range of water eliminator are designed for horizontal air flow & complete elimination of free water particle. We manufacture different type of eliminator leaf.

- Reduced pressure drop.
- Low maintenance cost.
- Less capital cost prolonged life.
- Higher efficiency of separation.

Inlet Louvers

PVC hollow 'Z' type louvers are desinged & arranged in such way that air sucked through form a air curtain equally all over the width of air washer & help to achieve more saturation efficiency.

Screw Compactor

Compactor is used to separate textile waste such as fibers or dust from a conveying air flow. Screw conveys & compact the waste and expel the material through waste outlet. They are use in automatic waste removal system to separate dusty fibrous waste from air. It compacts the waste and expel through spring loaded diaphragm into waste container. Highly efficient fibre removal ensures continuous operation of waste removal plant and ultimately optimal production output of the connected textile machinery.

Operation

The conveying air enters throug the inlet nozzle

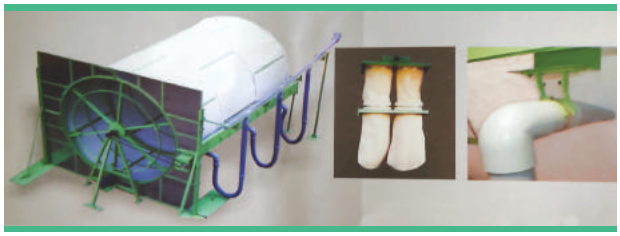
- Into the conical perforated cone. The fibre material is deposited on the interior side of the cone. The air flows through the perforated cone.
- To an after filtration. The delivery screw shaft.
- Conveys compated fibre material.
- And is supplied via the outlet. To the bottom in a waste container.
- Via spring plate diphragm.

It mainly consist of

- Air inlet nozzle
- Air outlet nozzle
- Screw shaft
- Conical perforated cone
- Spring plate diaphragm
- Waste outlet
- Geared motor

Rotary Air Filter

1. Rotary Air Filter shall have rotating drum made of steel grid mesh with suitable mounting frames, driven by a geared motor at low rpm.
2. It is designed to provide large filtration ara.
3. It is handling high volume of air laden with fiber & dust returning along with return air from department.



4. Drum shall be covered with a suitable filter media as per the application, pressure drop and dust level. The fluff, fiber & dust shall be arrested on the surface of the filter media covering the rotating drum surface & it will be sucked by suction nozzle arrangement with to & fro motion connected to flexible suction hose. This arrangement shall continuously clean the fluff & dust arrested on filter media & collect in separate collection bag. Suction fan with collection unit shall be house in separate room adjoining the filter room.
5. Low pressure drop is maintained due to High pressure cyclone fan which is designed to work effectively to remove not only the fluff collected on the surface of filter media but also the dust arrested in pores of filter media. This in terms lead to uniform flow of return air at constant high pressure to remove continuously fluff and dust from department so as to maintain clean department.
6. The clean air is then either re-circulated or exhausted into the atmosphere.

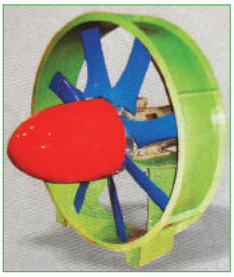
Axial Flow Fan

Size : 900 mm to 1800 mm.
Capacity : 15,000 CFM to 1,15,000 CFM.
Pressure : Upto 80 mm WG.

Fan casing is made from heavy gauge steel with adjustable bolted type base support frame.

1. Fan blades are designed with latest aerodynamic software & achieve efficiency upto 85%.

SCIENCE IN INDUSTRY



2. Static & dynamic balanced to ISO grade.
3. Bell mouth inlet & outlet cone increases system efficiency by 5 to 6%.
4. Nose fairing or spinners reduces static or resistance by 5 to 7%.
5. Saves power compare to any other manufacturer & gives better pressure.

Damper

1. Extruded aluminum damper aerofoil designed blades gives low pressure drop & offer power saving.
2. Linkage & gear system used for the smooth operation.
3. Ideal for automatic control operation.

Automatic Control System

1. Ease of operation and efficiency.
2. PLC base Automation system.
3. Extremely sensitive dry bulb and wet bulb temperature sensors to compute temperature and RH accurately.
4. Motorized dampers and motorized water flow control valve to maintain the desired RH.
5. Our central monitoring system to control parameters right from your computer.
6. Temperature is controlled by opening and closing of fresh air, return air and exhaust air dampers automatically with the help of actuators. Humidity is controlled by operating by pass dampers.

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Global Texparts Company

Brief Profile

We started manufacturing plastic Bobbins for spinning industry during the 1970s and have been expanding it ever since by adopting new manufacturing technologies & advanced raw materials.

Enriched with long experience, Management has in-depth knowledge of Product Application, Raw Materials & Production Techniques. This unique combination of experience and know-how is making the company a leader, in the segment.

"Perfection in Product Quality and Human Touch in Relationships."

This is the guiding principle at Navall. We have also redesigned our production process to ensure minimal damage to the environment.

Our bobbins have narrow tolerance. We have wide range of bobbins to suit every machine, different type of yarn, and for specialised applications like steaming, core-spun yarn, dyeing, etc.

Simplex Bobbins

- Made of High-Quality ABS and PP.
- Strong Impact, Bright Gloss & attractive colors.
- Better performance and long serviceable life.

- Improved top design with bush and without tilt - for smooth holding during auto doffing.
- Uni-directional sticking band for quick fixing of sliver in automatic machines during startup.
- Available for LMW, Rieter, Zinser, Toyoda, Howa, Electrojet, Marzolli, Chinese make, etc.

Ring Frame Tubes

- Superior performance at spindle speed of over 25,000 rpm.
- Better Eccentricity and so less power consumption.
- Made from Special Polycarbonate and other Engineering Polymers + Bush + Steel Ring.
- Tough surface with microgrooves.
- Suitable for Manual, Auto doffing, and also Link winding.

- Special tube for Lycra yarn and High Twist yarns.
- Light weight tubes for more yarn content and power saving.
- Available for LMW, Rieter, Zinser, Toyoda, Howa, Marzoli, Chinese make, etc.

Winding Cones & Tubes

- Made of High Impact Material.
- Full range for Cone winding, Cheese winding, TFO winding, OE machines.
- With perfect centering, they can run at very high speed without damaging bearings and drums.

- Different surfaces to suit yarn quality-knurling/plain/grooves/step.
- Available in various types - 3° 30', 4° 20', 5° 57', 9° 15, Bull nose, Cut nose.
- Available for Schlafhorst, Murata, Savio, Rieter, SSM, Peass, etc.

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❐

Agma Products

A House of R& D in spinning

Half Lea Roving CSP

Roving TM is playing an important role in yarn quality and Ring frame performance. Roving TM Should not be too high or too low.

When we visited more than 200 mills in all over India for Installation of our AGMA Cradles, we struggled much in many mills to bring R/F performance to normal (existing level) because of too high or too low Roving TM, due to different makes of speed frames and different theories in keeping Roving TM.

We had seen Roving TM from 1.16 to 1.55 in 100% cotton, carded or combed for the counts range -20s to 60s.

Then we decided to find some system for fixing Roving TM suitable for all cradles, such that

1) Roving m/c production should not be affected.
2) Roving should not create any creel draft or breaks.
3) Top rolls and aprons should not worn out quickly.(Groove formation).
4) To produce good quality yarn with less IPI & Classimat Faults with the spinning parameters of
   a) Bottom Roller setting - 42.5/60 mm or 44/60 mm &
   b) Break draft - 1.136
5) To maintain R/F Performance.
6) For winding m/c performance also.

Practically, to maintain yarn CSP in spinning, we used to adjust spinning TPI according to fiber quality parameters.

By applying same method, we have arrived Half Lea Roving CSP method (after long studies) to maintain CSP range (25- 30) for all mixings (whatever fiber quality, Fiber length, micronaire, SFC and strength). This method can be applied for all makes & gauges of cradle.

PROCEDURE FOR CHECKING HALF LEA ROVING CSP

1) Take 5 nos of roving bobbins (Bobbin Size - ¼ to ½ size) and remove outside one layer of roving bobbin, before making Half Lea.
2) Make 1/2 lea (40 rounds – 60 yds) from each bobbin by using wrapping reel m/c.You may operate wrapping reel m/c electrically or by hand with constant speed.
3) Check Hank of roving, then, check 1/2 lea roving strength in lbs in lea strength m/c.
4) To get CSP, multiply Avg Hank with Avg strength in lbs.

If, 1/2 lea roving CSP is in the range of 25 to 30, it will be better for quality improvement and performance in Ring frame with bottom roll setting 42.5/60 mm in P3-1 Top Arm 42.0 or 42.5 or 44/60 mm in SKF and TEXPART top arms and with break draft of 1.136 for any makes of cradle.

- If roving CSP is more than 30, which leads to
  a) Undraft in spg
  b) Long thick place in yarn
  c) Aprons & cots worn out quickly
  d) Lifting Top Arm to reduce undraft &
  e) Fibre ruptures in spinning drafting.
- If roving CSP is less than 25, which leads to
  a) more end breakages in spg
  b) IPI will be more
  c) more Long thin in yarn &
  d) Yarn CSP also will be less.

Please maintain 1/2 lea roving CSP in the range of 25 to 30, by adjusting Roving TPI, for any mixing (Whatever may be fiber length, micronair and SFC) of 100% Cotton (carded or Combed) & P/C.

We have applied this system in our customer mills for the past 3 years which is running successfully in more than 75% of our customer, where we applied.

Nowadays, Mill Technicians are checking Half Lea Roving CSP once in 2 days and whenever lot change in mixing and maintaining CSP Range to maintain yarn quality, R/F performance and yarn CSP.

This range (25-30) is recommended upto count 60's and may be modified by Mill technician suitable for their machine & humidification condition and other reason for achieving good quality of yarn and machinery performance.

If you fix one range that should be maintained daily, for all mixing, by adjusting Roving TPI, if Half Lea Roving CSP goes out of range.

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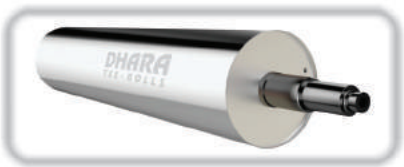

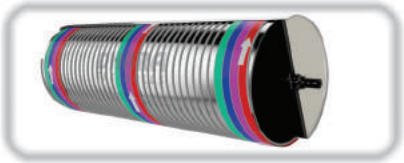

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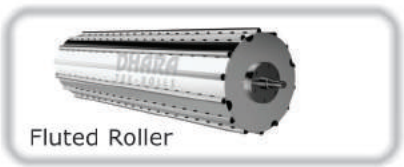
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