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HARIVEE / 05-2023

EDITORIAL

Mega Textile Parks will help Indian Textile Sector but with mounting challenges

In the March 2023 Government of India announced seven Mega Textile Parks at estimated cost of Rs. 4,445 crore under the PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) scheme which are to be set up in the first phase. This scheme aims to streamline the textile value chain into one eco-system, taking in spinning, weaving and dyeing to printing and garment manufacturing. The scheme is expected to generate investment worth Rs. 70,000 crore and employment of as much as 20 lakh people. The PM MITRA Scheme is envisaged to be a unique initiative and differentiating factors are the emphasis on large scale production and provision of Plug-and-Play manufacturing centers.

Park is designed to attract investment from companies that are looking to scale up, and require integrated manufacturing facilities in one location. The parks will have plug-and-play manufacturing facilities and all the common amenities required for. The scheme will be implemented jointly by Central and State Government. Park will be set up in those states which have inherent strength in textile sector. The state will provide land and center will disburse Development Capital Fund of Rs. 500.00 in two tranches for each park.

The MSME Sector is said to control almost 80% of the textiles and apparels currently made in India. In addition, The Indian Textile and Clothing Units are more cotton-based. The industry has mixed views on the immediate impact of the huge investments that are expected to come into the parks in existing units.

However, with growing challenges such as The Global Geopolitical Situation, and overseas buyers exploring China as well as the other sourcing options, the past two years have seen notable shift in supply chain. Orders are transitioning to suppliers who are highly price competitive and have sustainable production processes. Some of the MSME players are in appetite to invest but they are in need of resources are hoping the government will combine the PLI scheme(ii) with PM MITRA. The Central and State Government have to encourage MSME units to invest in the PM MITRA parks, because India faces risk of missing out of the opportunity to become prime destination for textile production and exports.

IMF head sees global growth to dip below 3% for next five years

The International Monetary Fund expects global economic growth to dip below 3% in 2023 and to remain at around 3% for the next five years, Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said recently, flagging increased downside risks. That is the global lender's lowest medium-term growth forecast since 1990, and well below the average growth of 3.8% seen in the past two decades. Georgieva said strong monetary and fiscal policy actions to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine had prevented a much worse outcome in recent years, but growth prospects remained weak given persistently high inflation. Bank failures in Switzerland and the United States had exposed financial Vulnerabilities that increased the downside risks for the global economy, she added. "Despite surprisingly resilient labor markets and strong consumer demand, despite the uplift in China, we expect the world economy to grow less than 3% this year," she said in a speech ahead of spring meetings of the IMF and World Bank." Growth remains historically weak now and in the medium term." "With rising geopolitical tensions, with inflation still running high, a robust recovery remains elusive, and that harms the prospects of everyone, especially for the most vulnerable people and the most vulnerable countries," she said at an event hosted by Meridian House and Politico. Global growth dropped by almost half to 3.4% in 2022 following the shock of Russia's war in Ukraine from the 6.1% rebound seen in 2021. Georgieva said Indian and China would account for half of global growth in 2023, but about 90% of advanced economies would see a decline in their growth rate this year. Low-income countries, saddled by higher borrowing costs and weakening demand for their exports, would see per-capita income growth staying below that of emerging economies, she said. The IMF chief called on central banks to stay the course in the fight against inflation as long as financial pressures remained limitd, but to address financial stability risks when they emerge through appropriate provision of liquidity. Recent bank failures in Switzerland and the United States had exposed risk management failures at specific banks and supervisory lapses, she said. "The key is to carefully monitor risks in banks and non bank financial institutions, as well as weaknesses in sectors such as commercial real estate," she added. "Now is not the time for complacency." "Clearly downside risks have increased. We now see some of the risks in the financial sector more exposed," she said, adding that she had "full confidence" that central banks and other relevant institutions were very vigilant of the dangers. While policymakers had responded swiftly to recent stress in the sector, concerns remained about potential "hidden" vulnerabilities at banks and non-banks, she said. To boost the prospects for growth and productivity, Georgieva called for major step changes, including an estimated $1 trillion a year in spending on renewable energy, and moves to avoid the fragmentation of the global economy, which could shave as much as 7% off global gross domestic product. Technological decoupling could see some countries suffer losses of up to 12% of GDP, she said. ❐

China's export beats what estimated

China's exports unexpectedly rose in March as demand from most Asian countries and Europe improved and the nation's factories resumed production, boosting the economy's outlook and indicating global growth may be better than epected. Exports jumped 14.8% in US dollar terms last month from a year earlier, party driven by a uptick in shipments to south east Asian nations and resilient demand from South Korea and Europe. Economists had forecast a more than 7% fall, and the surprisingly strong result was the biggest divergence from expectations since at least 2018. Imports declined 1.4%, the customs admistration said recently in Beijing, leaving a trade surplus of $88.2 billion for the month. Over the past three years, booming export demand was a strong support for the world's second-largest economy, and helped compensate domestic spending caused by the country's housing maket slump and Covid Zero restrictions. Exports began to contract from late 2022 as demand from the US, the European Union and other countries all lost momentum. The rise in March was the first in six months. Economists said the surprisingly upbeat data suggests Covid disruptions to factories in late 2022 and early 2023 were more serious. ❐

If India, China were to become high-income nations, it well bring huge disruption in world economy : World Bank

World Bank Chief Economist Indermit Gill recently said if the large economies of China and India were to become high-income economies, it would bring a huge disturption to the world. This is because the US and other Western European nations have got to a certain stage of development and share in the world economy. "The world is not used to such transitions and there are 30 countries, which have reached high income since 1950, mostly tend to be small economies," he said. He was speaking at a webinar on 'Economic Growth in Middle-Income Countries' organised by Centre for Social and Economic Progress. He also highlighted the problems behind countries getting trapped, such as rising wages in the middle income countries, results in loss of labour-intensive sectors. These nations have trouble getting into more capital-intensive or more innovative sectors. "The other thing is that they actually got to the middle-income country just by accumulating a lot of things like a higher labour force participation rate, or higher capital and so on. But that growth model doesn't actually work, and they don't have another one, which allows them to switch to productivity, enhancing growth, innovations and others." he added. ❐

China to be top growth builder in next five years : IMF

China will be the top contributor to global growth over the next five years, with its share set to be double that of the US, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The nation's slice of global gross domestic product expansion is expected to represent 22.6% of total world growth through 2028, according to Bloomberg calculations using data the fund released in its World Economic Outlook released recently. India follows at 12.9%, while the US will contribute 11.3%. The emergency lender sees the world economy expanding about 3% over the next half decade as higher interest rates bite. The outlook over the next five years is the weakest in more than three decades, with the fund urging nations to avoid economic fragmentation caused by geopolitical tension and take steps to bolster productivity. In total, 75% of global growth is epected to be concentrated in 20 countries and over half in the top four : China, India, the US and Indonesia. While Group of Seven countries will comprise a smaller share, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom and France are seen among the top 10 contributors. Brazil, Russia, India and China, known by the acronym BRIC, are expected to add almost 40% of the world's growth through 2028. ❐

US, Ukraine allies mull total ban on export to Russia

Some of Ukraine's key allies including the US are considering moving closer to an outright ban on most exports to Russia, a potentially significant tightening of economic pressure on President Vladimir Putin over his war. Group of Seven officials are discussing the idea ahead of a leaders summit in Japan in May, according to people familiar with the matter ; and the aim would be to include European Union member states in the crackdown. The proposal is still being debated and could change, the people said. The approach being discussed by diplomatic envoys would flip the existing sanctions regime around, with all exports banned unless exempted, the people said. Under the current criteria all exports are allowed unless sanctioned. If G-7 leaders endorse the move at the summit, exactly what would be excluded would then have to be agreed, with medicines and agricultural products including food very likely to stay exempted, one of the people said. But there are potentially serious obstacles to implementation. To come into force in the EU, the new criteria would need to be adopted by all members, and that would set off a testy debate given the likely backlash from companies that still export goods to Russia, alongside the risk of retaliation by Moscow. If a near total embargo on exports is imposed, much of the remaining trade flows from these countries with Russia would evaporate. A spokesperson for the US Natiional Security Council declined to comment on the prospect of such a move. So far sanctions have almost halved the value of EU and G-7 exports to Russia, with limits on everything from electronics to luxury items. That still leaves $66 billion worth of goods from Europe, the US, Canada and Japan going in, according to the Geneva-based Trade Data Monitor. ■

INDIAN ECONOMY AND TRADE TRENDS

India emerges as a bright spot amid economic challenges

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal recently said India was in the 'bright spot' amid a series of economic challenges faced by many countries. The minister said some reports suggested that India was going to be the fastest growing economy in the coming times and had been able to consistently maintain high growth and meet the Covid-19 challenges efficiently. "Developed economies, particularly, are in the midst of high inflation, low growth, job losses. Many developing nations are facing foreign exchange crisis. Amidst all these challenges. India is the bright spot." Goyal said on the final day of the G20's first trade and investment working group in Mumbai. The trade and investment working group meeting, chaired by Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal over three days, aimed to address the challenges in area, such as trade, sustainability, building resilient supply chains, inclusive growth, and sustaining growth in years to come. The final day of the meeting saw deliberations over integrating the micro, small, and medium enterprises globally, building efficient logistics for trade, and leveraging digital infrastructure, which has been one of India's strengths over the past few years. "We aim to use technology in every sphere to serve the people of India in a big way. We are showcasing our developmental model to the rest of the world," Goyal said. Goyal also said the ongoing free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations with the United Kingdom (UK), Canada, and the European Union (EU) were going well. A launch date towards a trade agreement with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is also being discussed. Apart from that, India is in discussion with countries such as Israel and Bangladesh towards initiating FTA talks. The European Free Trade Association (EFTA), consisting of four nations — Iceland, Switzerland, Norway, Liechtensteain —ministers were also visiting India in April to explore FTA talks"... they (EFTA) have assured me that they will be coming with attractive proposals, in terms of opening up services and a deeper understanding of India's own concerns around our patent laws and the need to protect our domestic industry," he said. ❐

PM lauds land-mark progress in Indian exports to cross $750 billion mark

Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded the feat of India's exports crossng $750 billion, saying this is the spirit which will make the country" aatmanirbhar" (self-reliant) in the times to come. He was reacting to commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal's announcement that the country's merchandise and services exports are estimated to cross $760 billion in the current fiscal ending March 31. "I can say with great pride, happiness, and thanks to all your efforts that India has crossed in its 75th year of independence, $750 billion of exports," he said, adding the financial year is expected to end with a total exports (merchandise and services) of about $760 billion. ❐

EU may impose retaliatory tariffs on Indian goods

In what could potentially create trade tension between India and the European Union (EU). Brussels has threatened to impose retailatory tariffs on Indian goods if New Delhi doesn't abide by the World Trade Organization (WTO) ruling against its customs duties on electronic items like smartphones. In a written reply to a questionnaire an EU spokesperson said : "In the event there is an appeal to the non-functioning WTO Appellate body (i.e. an 'appeal into the void'), the EU has in place legistation (the Enforcement Regulation) that allows it to enforce its rights by imposing customs duties or other restrictions in response to an appeal into the void, should the EU decide to do so." On April 17, the Dispute Settlement Body, the second-highest adjudicating authority at the WTO, ruled that India's imposition of

tariffs on information and communication technology (ICT) products violated its zero-tariff commitment under the inforamtion Technology Agreement enforced by the multilateral trade body. ❐

World Bank, ADB slash Indian growth forecasts for FY 24

The World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) reently slashed their economic growth forecasts for India for 2023-24 (FY 24) by 30 and 80 bps to 6.3 and 6.4 per cent respectively, citing risks to the outlook arising from both global and domestic factors. In its India Development Update, the World Bank said real GDP growth is expected to moderate from 6.9 per cent in FY 23 to 6.3 per cent in FY 24 because of global slowdown spillovers and slower consumption growth. "The lagged impact of monetary policy tightening, heightened growth uncertainty, and reduced current spending of the government are expected to constrain domestic demand in India in FY 24," it added. The ADB, on the other hand, in its latest Asian Development Outlook said if global conditions do not deteriorate as much as anticipated, higher global demand will likely spur growth in India. "However, any worsening of geopolitical tensions is likely to exert further downward pressure on global demand and increase uncertainty, tamping down India's growth rate and pushing up infaltion. Domestically, weather shocks to agricultural production including abnormal rainfall on higher temperatures, could spur food inflation, there by putting further pressure on the central bank to raise interest rates," it said. The World Bank cautioned that consumer spending by lower-income groups is expected to be hit in FY24 due to slower growth in their incomes. "This is consistent with labour market data indicating that over the past two years, jobs and earnings losses were higher among informal workers like those in casual-wage work, those with below-tertiary level education, and those in low-paying sectors most affected by the pandemic, such as retail and hospitality services, and construction," it said. The ADB is more optimistic on prospects of domestic consumption growth. "A robust labour market and rising consumer confidence are indicators or relatively strong growth in consumption in FY24 and FY25. Further, a higher tax rebate and a raised income threshold for tax exemption, announced in the most recent budget, may increase disposable income for the middle class, also boosting private consumption," it said. ❐

FY24 foreign trade may surpass $1.6 trn : Report

India's foreign trade is expected to cross the $1.6 trillion mark this fiscal despite global economic uncertainties, economic think tank GTRI said in a report. The Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said the $1.6 trillion would be about 48% of India's nominal GDP of $3.4 trillion for the fiscal year ending March 2023. The higher trade to-GDP ratio also speaks of high trade openness which the country practices, GTRI co-founder Ajay Srivastava said. According to their analysis of the data by the think tank, the growth rate in the exports of services would be higher than that of goods. Higher growth rate in services exports compared to the outbound shipments of goods has improved overall performance of India's exports, he said. India's overall exports of goods and services during April-March 2023 are estimated to reach $755 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 11.6% over the same period last year (April-March 2022). ❐

Forex Reserves move-over to Nine-month high

Foreign exchange reserves jumped to $584.76 billion for the week ended April 7, the highest in nine months, the Reserve Bank of India's statistical supplement showed recently. That is an increase of $6.3 billion from the previous week. Foreign currency assets rose by $4.7 billion during the reporting week to $514.4 billion, while gold reserves rose $1.4 billion to $46.6 billiion. Special drawing rights with the IMF rose $58 million to $18.45 billion, while India's reserve position with the IMF rose $13 million to $5.17 billion, data showed. ■

Poor testing of pashmina shawls still creates a problem

The Kashmir Chamber of Industries and Commerce (KCCI), a Valley-based traders' body, has raised the issue of confiscation and poor testing of pashmina shawls with the Union Minister for Forest, Environment and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav.

According to the body, there has been a growing seizure of shawl consignments by the Customs Department at international airports in the country.

"Exports of Kashmiri shawls will touch anywhere between ₹1,000 crore and ₹2,000 crore mark if the hurdles are removed. We apprised the Minister of the centuries-old cottage craft that has provided employment to tens of thousands of male and female artisans. We also discussed the product demand within and outside the country," Javid Ahmad Tenga, president of the KCCI, said. The hurdles Mr. Tenga talks about begin at the airport. Basic microscopes may detect banned *shahtoosh* guard hair (wool from the chiru goat or Tibetan antelope) in what are classified as pashmina shawls (wool from the pashmina goat). Pashmina wool has a thread width of 13 to 16 microns, while *shahtoosh* has a width below 11 microns (the diameter of human hair is 70 micron).

"The shawl is then sent for further testing to laboratories, either in Dehradun or Kolkata. We have to wait for months together to get a report. Many times, the reports are inconclusive. By the time, traders are questioned and even CBI raids are carried out on artisans involved in the weaving of these pashmina shawls," Tarip Dar, a Kashmiri exporter who owns the label Pashmkaar, said.

Mr. Tenga said the Ministry has promised to set up a DNA testing lab in Gurugram. "We are hopeful this will help in the fast processing of consignments at the customs department," he added. The KCCI also demanded installation of the latest pashmina testing machine in Srinagar as well in Delhi for simplification of the clearance at customs. The KCCI stressed the need for DNA testing and not basic microscopic testing.

According to official figures of the Kashmir handicrafts department, against ₹305 crore of shawl exports in 20018-19, before the Centre ended J&K's special constitutional position, exports dipped to ₹272 crore in 2019-2022, to ₹172 crore in 2020-2021, to ₹166 crore in 2021-2022.

The Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) says that 537 illegal imports of *shahtoosh* scarves have been spotted by the Switzerland authorities in the past five years, pointing at the continuous illegal trade.

Manufacturing of *shahtoosh* shawls was stopped in Kashmir since the ban was imposed in 2002 by the J&K government.

The move came after the chiru population showed a downward spiral in the 1980s. A senior official of the WTI put the number of chiru in 2003 between 200-500 in the trans-Himalayan deserts of Ladakh. However, the population of chiru has been stabilizing.

Traders are aware that shawls with *shahtoosh* fibre could be confiscated overseas for being a banned item and attract stricter actions than in India. They say only a miniscule section may be involved in illegal trade. However, contamination is a reality that the government needs to look into.

Mahmood Shah, director of the Handicrafts and Handloom in Kashmir, said contamination is a "high possibility" and needs to be looked into from a scientific perspective. "Both pashmina goat and chiru are inhabitants of Ladakh's high-altitude Changthang belt. There is a possibility of herders mixing pashmina and *shahtoosh* fibre, when these animals shed their coats seasonally. Two, once traders purchase pashmina wool with *shahtoosh* contamination for spinning, artisans can't make out the difference. So, contamination at source is a high probability," Mr. Shah said. ■

Govt. introduces quality control orders for technical textiles

The Ministry of Textiles recently unveiled two Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for 31 technical textile items, including 19 geo textile and 12 protective textile products.

Joint Secretary in the Ministry Rajeev Saxena told the media the QCO was the first technical regulation in the country for technical textile products.

Mandatory BIS marking for these products will come into effect 180 days immediately after the date of the publication of the orders in the gazette.

In the second phase, the Ministry plans to issue two more QCOs for 28 items that will cover 22 agro textile products and six medical textile items. ■

Cotton crop may hit lowest level since 2009-10

India's cotton crop is likely decline to the lowest levels in the last 14 years to 30.3 million bales (of 170/kg each) in 2022-23 crop year (July-June), because of a decline in output in key producing states of Maharashtra, Telangana, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh, the Cotton Association of India (CAI) said recently.

The country's cotton crop may hit the lowest levels since 2009-10, mainly on account of the impact of unfavourable weather conditions on the fibre crop last year, according to the trade body.

However, according to the agriculture ministry, the cotton production was estimated lowest at 28.04 Mb in 2018-19 crop year in the last decade.

The CAI has reduced cotton production prospects for Telangana (0.5 Mb), Maharashtra (0.3 Mb), Punjab (0.2 Mb) and Andhra Pradesh (0.05 Mb) for the current crop year. It has marginally increased crop estimates for Odisha.

The cotton production in the previous year was estimated at 30.7 MB.

The lower cotton production prosepcts will reduce exports in the current marketing years (October-September) and likely to result in higher domestic prices of fibre and push up the cost of production of textiles companies. According to the second advance estimate of crop production released for the current crop year by the agriculture ministry, the cotton production is estimated at 33.72 MB.

In terms of consumption, the trade body has projected higher cotton consumption at 33.04 MB in the current crop year, against 31.8 MB in 2021-22 crop year.

Cotton exports in the current season are likely to decline by 41% to 2.5 MB from 4.3 MB 2021-22 crop year.

The cotton imports, are likely to increase to 1.5 MB 2022-23 crop year from 1.4 MB in the previous year.

Lower production may bring down carry forward stocks at the end of 2022-23 marketing year (October-September) to 1.4 MB, the lowest in more than three decades, the trade body has said.

The estimate of cotton production followed the crop committee meeting of the CAI held recently. The meet was attended by 25 members representing various cotton growing regions of the country.

Since its introduction two decades ago, Bt cotton has led to a dramatic rise in India's cotton yield and thereby, production, but over the last two-three years, the yield has come down marginally.

As per agriculture ministry data, the cotton production rose from 8.62 million bales (of 170 kg each) in 2002-03 to 34.04 MB in 2021-22. ■

Cotton may hit ₹75,000/candy on tight supplies, spinners' demand

Cotton prices will likely touch ₹75,000 per candy by the middle of this year due to higher demand and lower crop output in the current season.

Atul Ganatra, President, the Cotton Association of India, said low cotton production with high consumption will soon change its status from a net exporter to an importer country.

Currently, the cotton prices trade around ₹62,500-63,000 per candy and are expected to rise further steadily with arrivals drying up. Ganatra believes that cotton prices could touch ₹70,00-75,000 per candy in June-July.

While global cotton prices are trading at a four-month low due to weak demand amid recessionary trend, Indian mills are experiencing robust demand due to higher consumption.

Last year, cotton export was at 42 lakh bales, but this year it may fall to about 30 lakh bales. However, given the high domestic prices it may even fall to 25 lakh bales.

Ajay Kumar, Director, Kedia Commodities, said spinning mills are currently running at 100 per cent capacity. The future of spinning mills looks promising as China and Bangladesh are slowing down, and demanding shifting to India, he said.

A section of cotton trade, however, feels that cotton prices could be hovering around current levels as arrivals this year are expected to continue during offseason months of May-July. "Farmers have held back stokcks this year and they will be slowly releasing them in the coming months. This should not pose any problem," said a trader, who did not wish to be identified. According to Rajkot-based Anand Popat, a cotton, yarn and cotton waste trader, arrivals are currently hovering nearly 1.5 lakh bales, though they were lower on account of rain in some regions. ■

There is a lot of confusion on CCPC's estimates

The Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption (CCPC), a body set up by the government comprising all textile industry stakeholders including farmers, has estimated cotton production for the current season to September at 337.23 lakh bales (of 170 kg each).

The projection of the CCPC, chaired by the Union Textiles Commissioner recently, is against the 341.91 lakh bales it estimated in November last year.

The estimate, coming on the heels of traders body Cotton Association of India (CAI) lowering the crop estimate to a 14-year low of 303 lakh bales, has led to confusion over the exact production of the natural fibre this season.

"There are various estimates of the cotton crop doing rounds, but the CCPC's estimate seems to reflect the reality," said a multinational company (MNC) trading source on the condition of anonymity.

"There is a lot of confusion over cotton crop estimates. Views are also different. In private MNCs have a different estimate of the crop making it difficult for the industry. If we compare the acreage of cotton and yield, the estimates do not match," said a Karnataka-based trader.

"The problem with crop estimates this year is that people have tended to go by the earlier practice of market arrivals. We are going through an unusual year when farmers have tended to hold back their produce. They had never done this before in Karnataka and Maharashtra," the MNC trading source said.

Buoyed by receiving record high prices of ₹12,000 a quintal last season, farmers tended to hold back expecting higher prices.

This year, farmers have not been able to get over ₹9,000 a quintal, though they are higher than the minimum support price of ₹6,080.

Currently, the modal price (the rate at which most trades take place) is hovering around ₹8,000.

Finding fault with some of the lower projections, a trader said. "It is one thing to go by arrivals till now and add the expected arrivals over the remaining period. It is another to estimate crop production taking area, yield and other factors into consideration.

"The confusion has been caused as some have tended to estimate the crop based on arrivals going by past precedents, but this time they have failed to take into account farmers' behaviour," the trader said.

The MNC trading source said currently, cotton arrivals in Maharashtra were over 50,000 bales. "People should have taken note of these arrivals, which is higher than usual while arriving at crop estimates," the source said.

According to data from Agmarknet, an arm of the Agriculture Ministry, cotton arrivals in the country during March 1-April 21 were 33.72 lakh bales against 22.45 lakh bales in the same period a year ago.

"If the agencies estimating cotton production were to allow market conditions to take control, we would not be witnessing such a confusion," said a sourthern-based textile industry expert.

CAI's estimate of a 14-year-low crop has pushed up cotton futures on MCX to ₹64,020 a candy (356 kg) for delivery in June.

Spot prices of Shankar-6 cotton, a benchmark for exports, are currently quoted at ₹63,000 a candy. Prices are up by over ₹2,500 few weeks back.

In the global market, cotton on the InterContinental Exchange, New York, for delivery in May is ruling at 79.05 cents a pound (₹51,350 a candy). ■

Rising arrival of cotton leads to fall in price

The International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) recently lowered its global price outlook for cotton compared with its projections in December 2022.

In its May outlook, ICAC has projected the season's average price forecast range between 96.1 cents and 111.3 cents, with a midpoint of 102.77 cents per pound. This is lower from the midpoint of 115 cents projected in December 2022.

Recently, ICAC data scientist Matthew Looney said Indian cotton deliveries were far behind historical levels for that point of the season and suspected that farmers were withholding their cotton in the hope of better prices.

This was reflected in the cotton prices in the domestic and international markets. Processed ginned cotton of benchmark 29 mm length was quoted at ₹68,500 per candy of (356 kg each) on December 2, 2022. However, as arrivals started picking up, prices started correcting and were last quoted at ₹61,800 of late.

ICE Cotton Futures quoted at 83.2 cents on December 2, 2022, while it is quoting at 81.34 cents now.

In its observations about whether Indian farmers' have started releasing the stocks, ICAC said, "Whether they saw the recent, slight stabilisation of prices and decided to take advantage, or whether they simply couldn't hold the cotton any longer, it's impossible to know. But whatever the reason, the pace of arrivals in India has surged in the April or so."

Meanwhile, raw cotton arrivals in Gujarat markets continued. At Rajkot APMC market in Saurashtra, arrivals were recorded at 110 tonnes with price quoting in the range of ₹7,500-₹8,300 per quintal. ■

You may bring a piece of Tamil Nadu's rich textile heritage in your home

Eagle-eyed textile and fashion enthusiasts might have noticed that Tamil Nadu was represented at the Dior show in Mumbai in March this year.

A model walked the runway wearing a dress featuring the famous Madras checks, a design that most of us would have seen and probably own either as a handkerchief or clothes.

Each pattern and weave that originated in Tamil Nadu has a long and interesting history, often intersecting with stories of trade and colonialism. Commercialisation of these textiles has widened the gap between weaver and consumer and a glossing over of the State's vibrant textile history.

Tamil Nadu, in the 1900s, produced painted cottons, muslins, emboridered clothes and rich saris and while most of us own these products today, we are unaware of their origin.

"The State's textile traditions are at risk of becoming museum additions and the focus should be on organising the industry and reviving and continuing the traditions," said Sreemathy Mohan, a textile enthusiast and researcher.

As consumers today, we have very little idea of the context of these textiles and their backgrounds. The Triplicane *Palasarakku Ela Paatu* is an announcement of the arrival of a ship laden with gifts and offerings dedicated to Vedavalli Thayar, the deity of Triplicane.

The *Paatu* serves as a catalogue of items aboard the ship and includes a prayer for the ship's safe arrival. Interestingly, it even thanks the colonial authorities of the time, thereby painting a rich scene of colonialism, trade and culture.

Arguably, the most popular and sought-after weave in Tamil Nadu is from Kancheepuram. According to a weaver from Kancheepurma who has been into weaving since he was 10 years old, a Kanjeevaram sari can last a 100 years if taken care of properly. Kanjeevaram saris stand out for the *korvai*, a technique that connects the contrast and colours between the body and border of a sari.

"Traditionally, executing the *korvai* requires two people at either end of a loom passing the shuttle deftly to each other," he said as he demonstrated the technique on a smaller loom requiring only one person. Saris with this design cost more than plain silk saris and could either consist of a stark contrast or a 'gopuram' design.

"There are duplicate Kanjeevarams in the market now that come from other parts of the State; but to an experienced eye, there is a clear difference in quality," said the weaver.

The Madras Checks that the Dior model wore has a history dating to the 16th Century.

Sreemathy, a textile enthusiast and researcher, shed light on the story behind the Real Madras Handkerchief at a talk hosted by Indian National trust for Arts and Cultural Heritage.

"It is a checked fabric that was exported from India to Africa beginning in the 16th Century, particularly to Benin and Nigeria, and was used by the Kalabari tribes in all their important rituals," she said. Today, it is known as 'Bleeding Madras' as the colours fade into each other on washing. Colonial merchants added the word, 'real', to the name to distinguish the handwoven cloth from imitations made in Europe.

Affinity towards Fibre and pigment

Kumbakonam, said Sreemathy, was famous for dyeing the silk procured from Calcutta, Bombay and Mysore and weavers there become experts in using mordants to create an affinity between the fibre and the pigment. Borders to the fabric had the pictures of animals and florals and the town became famous for a design called *pitambaram,* which was imported from Benaras.

A weaver from Tirunelveli who maintains a stall at the Co-optex National Handloom Expo this year proudly displayed the saris in his collection with the *cheddibutti* design, a plant-like motif with colourful flowers against a lighter shade. Four people work together for two days to make one sari and it is entirely made with hands. Making the *butta* alone needs two people, he said. "It is a hereditary skill and something my father taught me; for most of my life, this is what I have done," he said.

Sreemathy is a tome of trivia facts like the case of a jail carpet that ended up in Sotheby's auction house in London. It was commissioned in the Vellore jail in 1914 and the purchase documents for it were traced to Major-General William Burney Bannerman, a highly decorated surgeon-general in the Indian Medical Service. The 17-foot carpet draws inspiration from the classical Persian hunting carpets with animals and exotic birds.

This is just one of the many nuggets of history that our textiles convey.

According to weavers, the problem today lies in the lact of profit in the business and current generations preferring to work in a job that pays well and regularly.

Paneerselvam, a member of the Arignar Anna Silk Co-operative Society that has 2,000 members, says he followed in his father's footsteps, but his son chose to pursue engineering. Most weavers feel that their work is just looked upon as labour and not for the value they bring to the weave. "We are paid a fraction of the total cost a sari sells for us and that is probably why our numbers are dwindling," one weaver said. ■

UNCONVENTIONAL NATURAL FIBRE : SISAL FIBRE

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Abstract

This review paper provides a quick overview of sisal fibre, which is produced mostly through machine decortications and sourced from plant leaves. The Sisal fibre, it is obtained from a plant which is a kind of cactus. Sisal is a completely biodegradable natural fibre. It includes the manufacturing process, properties as well as application of Sisal fibre. Its fibre is too tough for textiles and fabrics, but it may be used to make traditional ropes, yarn, twine, and string, which can then be fashioned into mats, carpets, and a variety of crafts.

Keywords : Agavacea, Biodegradable, Cactus, Fibre, Natural, Sisal, Sustainability.

Introduction

One of thespecies of the Agave genus from the existing 300 species, which is a member of the Agavaceae family, is Agave sisalana, also known as Sisal. In around 24 tropical and subtropical nations in and South America and Central, Asia, Madagascar, and, East Africa sisal is grown for fibre. It is a xerophytic plant that is simple to grow. It is a typical natural fibre. The sisal plant has quick renewal cycles and grows untamed along hedges of field and in the railroad tracks. Sisal is the natural fibre the main source of sisal fibre is the plant's leaves, which are typically acquired through machine decortication. Sisal belongs to the agave family. Agave Sisalana is the species that is farmed commercially. The decorticated strands are typically creamy white, 80–120 cm long, diameter is 0.2-0.4 mm. They also have a shiny aspect. About 310,000 tonnes are produced worldwide. The biggest producer is Brazil, which is followed by China, Mexico, Tanzania, and Kenya. Sisal is typically harvested once a year, though it can be in two yearsharvested three times if the soil and environment allow it.

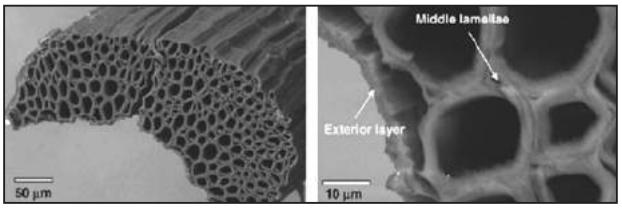
Rope and carpets are made from its fibres, but they are also found in commonplace items like paper goods, plaster, and even automobile parts. Sisal has gained popularity as more manufacturers switch to eco-friendly materials, and its range of applications has increased. Agave sisalana is a robust plant that may be used to make a wide range of goods since it is adaptable and sustainable. Sisal is frequently employed in the marine sector for lashing, mooring, and cargo handling. Surprisingly, it is also utilised as the flexible and lubricant fibre core of the steel wire cables used in elevators. Traditionally, sisal was the primary fibre used to make baler or agricultural twine. Although polypropylene has since surpassed this. It is used with fibreglass in composite materials for the automotive sector. Sisal fibre has also been used to create spa products, lumbar support belts, cat scratching posts, carpets, clothes, and disc buffers, slippers, among other items. For a softer hand, sisal can be used alone in carpets or in blends with wool and acrylic.[1-3]

Figure 1: Sisal Plant

1. Fibre structure

Multicellular sisal fibres are utilised in textile production. The fibre bundles are composed of 100–200 single cells per cross section, held together by natural gums. Single cells are polygonal in shape and have thick walls with a central lumen. Sisal fibres' cross section is neither round nor remarkably homogeneous in size. While the lumen can vary in size, it is often clearly defined. The fibre seems roughly cylindrical and is straight and uncrimped along its length. The surface of the fibre is covered in numerous knots and stripes, which proves that the bundle of fibres is made up of several single cells that are arranged in straight parallel lines. Physically, each fibre cell consists of four basic components: the lumen, the thick secondary wall, the secondary wall, and the primary wall. The microfibrils that make up the fibrils have a thickness of 20 m. The cellulose molecular chains that make up the microfibrils have a 0.7 m thickness and a few meterlengths. This fibrei.e. Sisal is relatively stiff and coarse. Sisal fibres don't have a high degree of crystallinity since they contain non-cellulosic

substances including pectins, hemicellulose, and water-soluble substances and do not have an ordered structure. Compared to ramie, jute, and kenaf, the degree of polymerization is around 4500 higher. Under standard textile yarn spinning conditions, sisal single cell fibres are too short to be spun; the bare minimum length needed is 25 to 30mm. The fibre length depends on how long the fresh leaves are and also on the processing circumstances. The length of the extracted fibres can become close to the length of the leaves under optimal circumstances. Fresh leaf length will vary according on the species, cultivation, and climate. [4-6,20]



(a) (b)

Figure 2 : Morphological Structure

(a) individual fibrous cells; (b) detail of middle lamellae

2. Chemical composition of Sisal fibre:

A sisal plant yields leavesabout 200–250, and each leaf has fibre bundles about1000–1200. Each fibre contains 8% dry matter, 87.25% water, 0.75% cuticle, and 4% fibre.

Sisal leaves can be used to make three different types of fibres:

- Mechanical : Extracted from the leaf's margin. The shape of mechanical fibres is generally that of a thickened horseshoe, and they rarely split during the extraction processes. They have the greatest economic value.
- Ribbon : It depicts a cross-section of a sisal leaf and is associated with the conducting tissues. The ribbon fibres conducting tissue structure offers it mechanical strength. The longest, they can be easily divided longitudinally during processing compared to mechanical fibres.
- Xylem : These fibres, which are found next to ribbon fibres at the junction of vascular bundles, have an uneven form. Due to their thin-walled cell structure, these fibres are easily broken apart during the extraction process. [7][8][20][21][22]

Table 1 : Composition of Sisal fibre

Composition	(%)
Cellulose	55-65
Hemi-cellulose	10-15
Pectin	2-4
Lignin	10-20
Water soluble materials	1-4
Fat and wax	0.15-0.3
Ash	0.7-1.5

3. Identification of Sisal Fibre

Identification is done based on burning, appearance, chemical, physical tests and observation.

Table 2 : Identification of Sisal fibre

Name of fibre	Sisal
Fibre Type	Cellulose fibre
Flame reaction	May flair when burn
Color	Soft gray ash
After burn order	Burning paper or grass

4. Manufacturing Process

Manufacturing process of Sisal fibre include following stages:

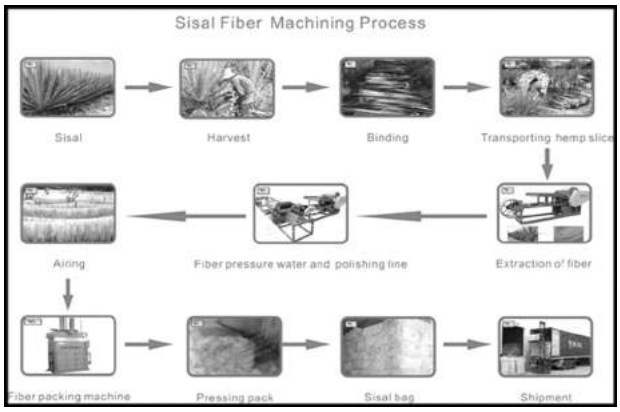


Figure 3 : Manufacturing process

4.1 Harvesting from plant

The "agave sisalana" species served as the foundation for the commercial production of sisal and was first introduced to East Africa in the late nineteenth century. This species is still grown in some areas, but the REA Vipingo estates employ a hybrid species almost exclusively which produces more fibre throughout the course of its life cycle, which normally lasts for around 10 years. Once a year sisal is normally collected, only if the environment and soil permit, In two yearsit can be harvested three times. To avoid any damage from the leaf's harsh, sharp tip, the workers who collect the plant's fresh leaves clip 10 mm from the leaf's tip. The plant is distinguished by its long, creamy-

white, and extremely robust leaves, which can reach a length of over one meter. Sisal is a resilient plant that can survive for fairly long periods of time during droughts and thrive in regions with little rainfall.The cutting should be done during the dry season to yield the most yield and highest percentage of fibre. Using a sizable knife with the appearance of a pruning knife, the leaves are cut closely to the stalk. With strips ripped from a leaf, the leaves should be knotted into bundles weighing approximately 50 pounds. The bundles can be brought to the road, stacked in convenient locations, loaded onto cars, delivered to the mill, stacked there, placed on the extractor's feeding table as necessary, and then opened. The machine receives the leaves one at a time. The fibre should be retrieved within 24 hours of being cut because, if not, the fibre's cut end would become discoloured. Agave Sisalana has been domesticated and grown all over the world, though its native Mexico is where it first appeared; some of the biggest producers include Brazil, Tanzania, and Kenya. Sisal for our assortment of carpets is grown in Tanzania from high-quality plantations. Long, green leaves of the plant are harvested for their fibres, which are then washed, dried in the sun, brushed, graded, and dumped on the estates. The agave plant develops 200 leaves during its productive life cycle, and each leaf has roughly 1,000 fibres. It's hardly surprising that the Agave Sisalana plant is utilized in so many goods given how quickly it grows and how fertile it is. Due of its eco-friendly attributes, sisal is another well-liked material. Most of the waste produced by the plant during harvest and processing is organic waste, and the remaining portions are used to make bioenergy, animal feed, and fertilizer. The plant waste from our Tanzanian plantations is fed to local cattle and used to power rural communities. Since sisal can be produced from all parts of the plant, it is a fantastic renewable resource. [6][11][15]

4.2 Extraction of fibre

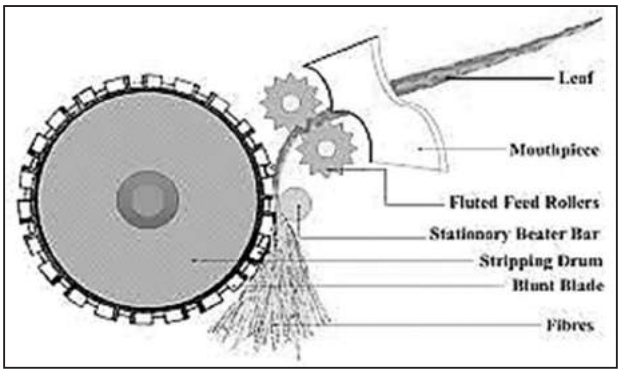


Figure 4 : Decortication process

Retting followed by scraping and mechanically employing decorticators, between rollers and the mechanical scraper the leavesare crushed in which the leaf is crushed, are processing techniques used to extract sisal fibres. Following extraction, the fibres are extensively washed in water to get rid of wastes like sticky solids, leaf juices, and chlorophyll. Fresh leaves without tips are decorated, then water washed, then bound, then cleaned, then dried, and then cleaned once more. Sisal fibre is created through a process called decortication, with rotating wheel equipped with blunt knives the leaves are beaten and pounced into fibres. Water removes the remaining leaf components. Before being dried in the sun or with hot air, decorated fibres are washed. Close to the head cuts are made to the lower and older leaves. knotted into bundles, stacked onto tiny flat carriages, and transported to the factory by tiny narrow-gauge railroads that cover the entire country. The bundles are dropped onto the feed tables in the factory by endless carriers that transport them up to the machine platforms. The machine's grasp chains are fed with the leaves there, one by tiny one. These never-ending chains transport the leaves to the scraper wheels, where the fibre is instantly retrieved and cleaned mechanically.

4.3 Cutting

The water is squeezed out of leaves that have been chopped at the base, transferred to the factory, and rolled before the other machine tissues are scraped away from the fibre.

4.4 Fibre washing and Airing (Drying)

The fibre is first cleaned and dried in the sun before then can be dyed directly. The same chains then transport the cleaned fibre to additional attendants, who are mostly boys, who secure it and arrange it into piles. The garbage is collected in a dump car underneath the machine platform, and as the car fills, it is transported over the same train to the dump pile. The wet fibre is then spread out over low frames that have stretched galvanized iron wires in the yard to dry in the sun. The fibre just needs to be kept and bagged after it has fully dried before it is ready for sale. [9][11]

5. Properties of Sisal fibre

Sisal fibre is extremely durable, requires little maintenance, and experiences little wear and tear. It is recyclable and biodegradable. Sisal fibres are extracted from the outer leaf skin by removing the interior pulp. It is available in twill, herringbone,

and plaid patterns. Sisal fibre is antistatic, does not attract or collect dust, and does not readily absorb water or moisture. Then, of all natural fibres, fine texture offers the most diverse range of dyed colours and is the easiest to dye. It has excellent sound and impact absorption properties. Its leaves can be treated with natural borax to increase fire resistance.

5.1 Chemical Properties

a) Treatment with Alkali

Removes and dissolves some of the non-cellulosic components such as pectin, hemicellulose and water-soluble substances but does not affect fibre.

b) Acid Resistance

Fibre gets decompose in acid

c) Water Resistance

Good water resistance.Sea water shows higher resistance to sea water then the fresh water.

5.2 Physical Properties

Bundles of Sisal fibre are more robust and resilient than other leaf and Bast fibres because they contain more lignin than other fibres. The highest modulus of comparable elongation is found in sisal fibre, which it shares with jute and pineapple fibres. The stiffness and strength of plant fibre depends on the spiral angle and the cellulose content that is created by the bands of microfibrils in inner secondary cell wall with the fibre axis. Along its length, sisal fibre has different tensile properties. Tensile strength and modulus are low in the lower half, while they are high in the middle and moderate at the tip. With fibre length the Young's modulus increases, tensile strength and % elongation at break drop. [3,8-10,12-14,21,22]

Table 3 : Physical Properties

Properties	Value
Fibre structure	Multicellular bundle of polygonal hollow sub-fibres
Fibre length	30mm
Finer diameter	0.10-0.13mm
Density	1.33-1.45 g/cm^3
Tensile Strength	31-221N/mm^2
Specific gravity	0.73
Moisture absorption	11%
Elongation at break	2.2-2.9%
Shape	Straight
Colour	Creamy white

6. Uses and application

Sisal fibre gradation

Sisal is graded and used in industries in 3 Grade

1. Lower -Hemicellulose and cellulose used in paper industries are in high quantity.
2. Medium –Ropes are made from medium grade in cordage industries, twine and baler (ropes and wines are used in agricultural, General industrial and marine use)
3. Higher –Carpet industry uses the yarns converted from fibre after the treatment. [8,16-19].

Industrial Area	Grade	Applications
Cordage industry	Low	Ropes, a baler, and a binder's twine.
Paper industry	Low	In the paper industry, lower quality sisal fibre is used to make paper.
Agriculture	Medium	Fertilizer and animal feed are made from juice, leaf fragments, and crushed parenchymatous tissue particles. Binders' twine, bale binding twine, and various agro-textile materials are also made from it.
Geotextiles	Medium	As a natural component sandwiched between layers of polyester. Used for packaging, tying, and gardening.
Automobile Industry	Medium	Used to reduce fuel consumption in car doors, panels, package holders, ceilings, wheel wells, consoles, skid plates, and other places.
Construction Industry	Medium	Short sisal fibre is used in the production of high-quality sofas, wadding mats, and other pulp-constructing materials.
Buildtech	Medium	Used to reduce abrasion equipment costs and, as a result, retooling costs.
Floor covering	High	Sisal fibre of higher quality is used to make carpet, mattresses, rugs, and wall covering.

Conclusion

Based on the information provided above about the Sisal fibre, it can be concluded that fibres can be manufactured using the harvesting process as above. Fibres can be extracted using the process of decortication. According to industries they are classified into 3 grades which are considered for manufacturing product. They also have great potential for application in various fields and in composites. This fibre is cellulosic and biodegradable and can be used for making sustainable biodegradable composite material.

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BUYING BEHAVIOUR OF FEMALES OF JAIPUR CITY TOWARDS SLOW FASHION

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Abstract

In recent years, a few designs for sustainable concept have emerged related to recycling, repurposing, upcycling materials which are helping to slow the flow of waste in fashion industry. Slow fashion garments, in contrast, are time-consuming, handmade, good quality, costly and creative. The selection for slow fashion apparel is done by choosing materials which have lesser chemicals effects by dyes, less usage of resources, minimal or zero waste, and minimum impact on the environment. The product full lifecycle takes into account from the designing, sourcing, and production processes and take into account the people involved in it and all who are being affected by it, from the nature to the workforces and societies where it's produced, to the customers who purchase it. Sustainability and conscious consumption within slow fashion comprise characteristics that help to identify eco-design, eco-fashion and green fashion. The research objective of the study was to examine the knowledge and buying behaviour of consumer of Jaipur concerning the acceptance towards slow fashion in comparison to fast fashion. This research was conducted based on a self-structured questionnaire. The results of a survey were administered to a sample of hundred female consumers of Jaipur under the age group of 22 – 45 years. Convenient sampling was done to get an adequate result. The outcome of the result revealed that consumers are aware about slow fashion but to a certain extent only.

Keywords : Clothing consumption, consumer behaviour, fast fashion. sustainability, slow fashion.

1. Introduction

In a country like India with the population over 136.64 crores can make a difference in contributing in preserving our ecosystem globally for the coming generations. Consumerism is one of the highly influential characters in any business which is inspired to examine methodically, the consumers of Jaipur, Rajasthan in terms of adaptiveness towards slow fashion and sustainable practices. The study will help us to understand consumers' current psyche regarding clothing behaviour, its consumption pattern and disposal pattern which will, directly and indirectly, help the fashion makers, designers, and industries to analyse the market trend so as to make an investment related to slow fashion and varied sustainable practices. Besides, the result of disposal behaviour will also inspire the state government to take action for collecting garments through textile bins, the industries and the local designers to improve their take back of worn-out clothes or by giving post purchase services.

Consumer awareness in terms of clothing and fashion has become crucial due to various reasons like the 'Who made my Clothes' campaign by Copenhagen has driven the consumers and the sellers to keep this fact very transparent. Knowledge and a story behind each garment are making consumers a conscious consumer. Large selling fast fashion brands like H&M and Zara have been implemented to enlighten the consumers about their products and other details like what they are made of? Where has it been made? and who made it? After the Rana Plaza collapse consumers have been acting consciously while selecting the products especially the fast fashion brands. Brand ethics have become very important for consumers. But the conscious consumer is not limited to the fact of conscious buying only. It is also related to other factors like consumer awareness regarding the disposal behaviour, mend and wear concept and collaborative consumption.

2. Review of Literature

India is one of the fastest budding industry and has large consumer market and in recent time it is driven by increased number of family members in earning which automatically increases the incomes of family and expanding the opportunities. The stakeholders should gain a better understanding of Indian consumers in designing business models that are appealing to and convenient for the consumers and at the same time can deliver environmental benefits while minimizing unintended consequences. The resultant data would be helpful for resale-focused on start-ups, retailing, re-manufacturing, and other enabling organizations that are a part of this (Gajjar & Shah, 2021).

Turunen & Halme(2020), have described in their study that the data provided to consumers on sustainability issues and their solutions are not at all appropriate and proposed an alternate method to communicate product related information to the consumers. The researchers have proposed the SoG (shades of green) instrument as an alternative

to communication and are accepted by the World Commission on Environment and Development. The SoG instrument works upon two main pointers on which they rely: firstly, it depends on both the social and environmental dimensions embedded in economic value creation. Secondly, the instrument divides sustainability practices between different levels depending on their impact. Based on this work the researcher has developed three level assessment instruments for evaluating the sustainability of the products. In SoG light green refers to minimum integration, minimum green refers to advanced integration, dark green refers to the most sustainable level and brown refers to the products who do not qualify at all. The researchers have conducted pilot and product tests through SoG where the instrument was piloted with a webstore specializing for sustainable fashion and an interactive workshop was conducted with consumers and with company representatives. The data was valuable by receiving direct evaluation and feedback from sustainability-oriented consumers. In the consumer workshop, most important interest towards a simplifying instrument for sustainability-oriented navigation in fashion context was clearly visible. While, the interactive workshop with the company representatives indicated the analysed product does not always meet the same level of both environmental and social sustainability. Additional workshops directed the need to show the "brown" that is not a sustainable level visually so as to prevent consumers interpreting the light green as low performance. And in the third phase, 14 textiles and fashion companies were involved in testing their own product. The result indicated inadequacies of current sustainability communication to consumers and by offering simple but comprehensive information about products' sustainability features the consumers can be well educated. The Shades of Green instrument is an uncomplicated tool not only for consumer communication, but also showing to companies how to move onward in providing crystal clear, arranged information about their products' sustainability features.

Minda(2020), has illuminated that giving knowledge about slow fashion in relation to benefits of environment would affect consumers' perception and buying behaviour towards adoption of slow fashion products. The theory of planned behaviour was applied to understand young consumers' psychographic behaviour based on shopping values, environmental values, and knowledge of fast fashion & slow fashion. Therefore, an educational module was prepared to examine before and after behaviour of young consumers and their purchase intentions toward slow fashion products. The educational module was correlated to impact of fast fashion to environment and benefits of slow fashion which proved beneficial in knowledge.

3. Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study were :

1. To study consumer awareness about slow fashion in terms of clothing.

2. To study the buying behaviour of females about slow fashion towards clothing

Limitations

The limitation of the study was based on questionnaire surveys on the consumers in Jaipur, Rajasthan. Moreover, the respondents for the study were chosen based on gender, that only female respondents falling under the age group of 22 - 45 years either student or employed.

4. Material and Methods

4.1 Locale of the Study

The locale of the study was Jaipur. For the research only female consumers were selected, falling under the age group of 22 - 45 years, with occupation either students or employed.

4.2 Sample Size

The sample size for the study was 100 females and those were selected based on education and employment.

4.3 Sampling Technique

A convenience sampling method was used consisting of females with basic education and employment. The females of Jaipur were the respondents falling under the age group of 22 - 45 years. Data for the study were collected through a self-structured questionnaire shared as google doc online to 100 females with an intention to determine the slow fashion consciousness among them.

4.4 Data Analysis

The collected data was analyzed to know about the buying behaviour of girls towards slow fashion. The data collected through the questionnaire were entered in an excel sheet by assigning numerals to responses and were analysed based on the tabulation, Data was analysed through frequency distribution and percentage.

5 Result & Discussion

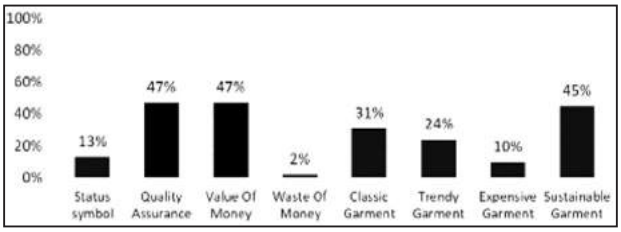

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Figure 5.1: Meaning of the term slow fashion by the consumers

Figure 5.1 revealed the varied meaning of slow fashion by the consumers where 47% of the respondents meant it as quality assurance and value for money followed by 44% as sustainable garment, 31% as classic garment, 24% as trendy garment, 13% as a status symbol, 10% as expensive garment and the least number of respondents that is 2% as waste of money. Hence, a majority of respondents considered slow fashion as quality assurance and value for money which is an important criterion for sustainability. Furthermore, it can be concluded that slow fashion garments are handmade, takes time and use creative talent to produce. For the best quality of the product, the garments are priced higher which automatically have an impact for value and quality. The tremendous quality assurance that a slow fashion garment gives is it can last longer even for a lifetime.

The result is in accordance with the findings of Soutar and Sweeney (2001), in which the researcher describes 'consequently, the perceived value scale was based on four dimensions, quality, price, emotional value and social value, with quality and price being seen as subcomponents. Similarly, according to Lopez, et.al. (2021) it can be revealed that society is changing towards the circular economy and sustainable development. It further emphasizes on how slow fashion items as products with high added value contribute to change of the environment and maintain the ecosystem which is the need of the hour.

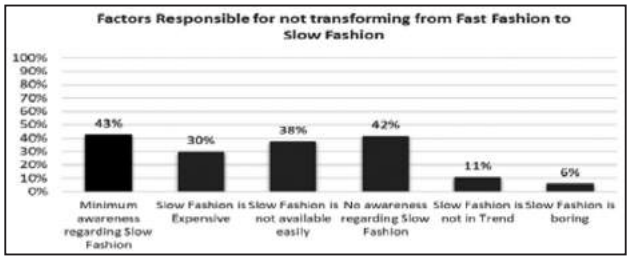

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Figure 5.2: Factors responsible for a consumer has not transformed their buying habits from fast fashion to slow fashion

Figure 5.2 revealed that 43% of the respondents have not transformed their buying habit due to minimum awareness regarding slow fashion followed with 42% of the respondents mentioned that they are unaware of slow fashion, 38% indicated that slow fashion garments are not easily available in the market, 30% considered that slow fashion garments are very expensive, 11% of the respondents have revealed that slow fashion is not in trend and the least number of the respondent that is 6% indicated that slow fashion is boring for them as they can't wear the same garments for years. Further from the above result, majority of respondents indicated that there is a minimum awareness regarding slow fashion as a result they have not transformed their buying habits. Besides, it can be concluded that while slow fashion is talked about, it is still in its early days as the definition of slow fashion is ambiguous at the moment.

The result is in accordance with the findings of the Minda(2020), in which it was depicted that fifty percent of the respondents are not aware about the concept of slow fashion and rest fifty percent of the respondents have clarity about slow fashion.

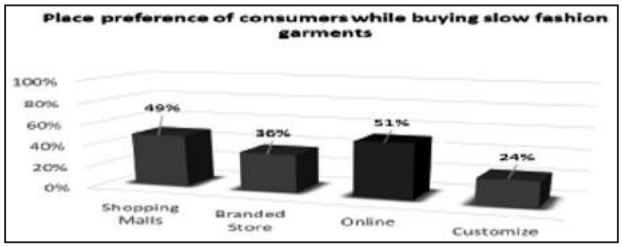

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Figure 5.3: Preference of consumers while buying fashion garments

Figure 5.3 depicts that the majority (52%) of the respondents, prefer buying fashion garments online. Forty Nine percent prefer shopping malls as their buying destination, 36% prefer buying from branded stores and the least number of respondents (24%) prefers customised garments. Hence, it can be concluded that online shopping has become an important part of their lives. The reason behind is convenience, time-saving, everything under one roof, discounted price on MRP and few descriptions about the garment motivates the consumers to buy slow fashion garments online. For example, H&M has launched sustainability which sells sustainable garments both in-store and over online portals as well.

The result is in accordance with the findings of the Sarkar & Das, (2016), where it can be revealed

that majority of people nowadays prefer shopping online, as the products get delivered to home hassle free with the facility to shop all-round the day. Online shoppers find the crowded high streets and markets too stressful and convenience shopping appears to be a big attraction to them.

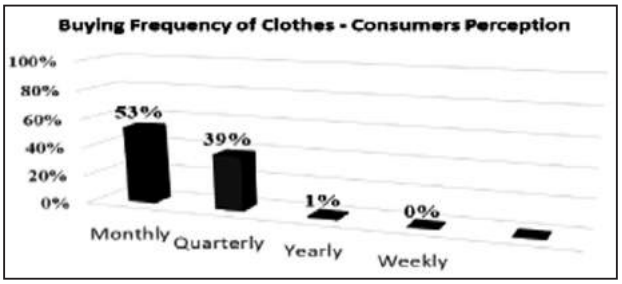

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Figure 5.4: Frequency of Buying clothes by the consumers

Figure 5.4 reveals that 53% of respondents buy clothes on a monthly basis, 39% of respondents buy clothes on a quarterly basis and 1% of respondents buy clothes on yearly basis. Therefore, it can be concluded that most of the respondents choose to buy new clothes once in a month which is a sign of fast-fashion consumerism.

Thus, in accordance with the findings of (Gajjar & Shah, 2021).it can be reported that 50% of the respondents buy clothes "Once every few months,". Similarly, study had been done where it has been reported that 36.5% of respondents purchased apparel every month(Lopez,,et.al, 2021).

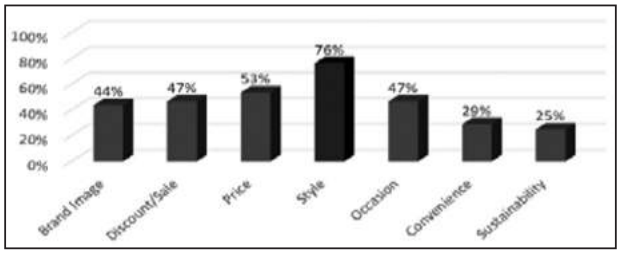

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Figure 5.5: Factors influencing the consumers to buy clothes from specific brands or shops

Figure 5.5 depicted that 76% of respondents are influenced by the style of the apparel, 53% are influenced by price, 47% are influenced by occasion and sale/discount over the MRP, 44% of the respondents are influenced by the brand image, 29% are influenced with convenience and only 25% are influenced by sustainability factor. Further, it can be concluded that style plays a major role in influencing the consumers as style being the most obvious visual element of the garment which creates the initial impact on consumers before any other details are noticed.

The result is in accordance with the study that describes criteria used by consumers for fashion selection include style, colour which is usually the first aspect of a garment and style that include lines, silhouette and details (Frings, 1994).

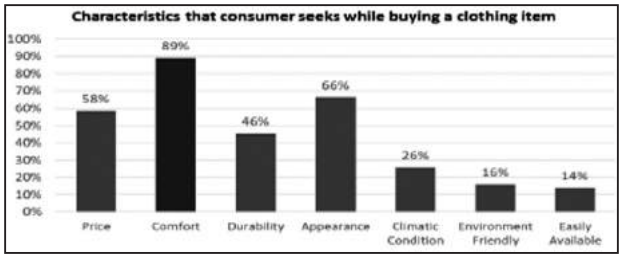

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Figure 5.6: Characteristics that the consumer seeks while buying a clothing item

Figure 5.6 reveals that 89% of the respondents consider comfort while buying clothes, 66% considers appearance, 58% considers price as the factor, 46% considers durability in clothing, 26% considers climatic condition, 16% considers environmentally friendly garments whereas 14% of the respondents consider buying clothes which are easily available. Therefore, it is concluded that the majority (89%) of respondents, consider comfort as buying characteristics. Furthermore, comfort in clothing is one of the major factors that consumer needs in garments and has been more noticeable especially in today's scenario in respect to aesthetic characteristics.

The result is in accordance with the study where the researcher found that comfort has been acknowledged as one of the key qualities for customer's satisfaction on apparel products in all markets. Hence, inferred that most of the respondents have considered comfort as the characteristic that they pursue while buying clothes(Sanand, 2016).

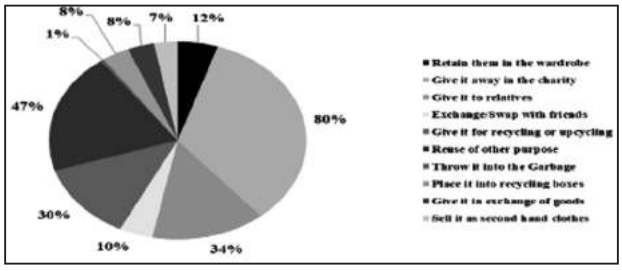

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Figure 5.7: Disposal behaviour of consumers towards unused clothes

Figure 5.7 reveals 80% of respondents dispose their clothes by giving it to the charity followed with 47% of respondents reuse it for other purposes, 34% give it to their relatives, 30% give it for recycling or upcycling, 12% retain their clothes in their wardrobe for a longer period of time, 10% exchange or swap clothes with their friends, 8% of the respondents place it into recycling bins and give it in exchange of household goods and the least number of respondents that is 7% sell it to second hand clothes. Consequently, the maximum number of respondents give their clothes to the charity. That being the case, the clothes are sometimes exported to the under developed countries, given into the prison for the inmates and some are taken by the poor people on the street.

The result is in accordance with the findings in which it has been found in that the interviewees were more familiar with disposing of their old clothes by giving it away to charity(Bianchi & Birtwistle, 2010). Similarly, it has also been conveyed in the study about giving clothes to different organisation and welfare bodies will help in reducing the burden of the people who are in need maintaining the sustainable environment; and will also help in managing the space at disposal places and helping in maintain pollution issues.

5. Conclusion

Consumers awareness regarding slow fashion on the basis of the results can be concluded that minimum of the respondents are aware about slow fashion however, they understands the value of the slow fashion garment. Few of the consumers have started contributing towards conscious consumption though existence of fast fashion among the consumers is still evident due to minimum awareness regarding slow fashion and fast fashion will continue for some more years. Consequently, implementation of circular business and circular consumerism is highly required particularly in clothing industries as it is the second polluting industry in the world. In order to save our depleting resources, enhance societal living and for a growing and steady economy, transforming into circularity is the only way. Hence, People should care for our planet, society, and economy to design a beautiful future for the coming generation.

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MARKER EFFICIENCY A DIMINUTIVE

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Abstract

At present all the apparel industries are focusing strictly on controlling their cost and to the continuation of their success. In the final garment cost 50 to 60% cost is contained only by the fabric. So to save maximum amount of fabric is very essential. Which offers increase inprofitability, Productivity and the growth of the industry. The marker plan and the marker efficiency are responsible factors which helps to decide the amount of fabric to be purchase. Sometime the marker efficiency dependson width of the fabric to be cut, fabric and pattern designs, the repeat size of the pattern and the problems with respect to the shade variation. By utilizing the total amount of fabric available the industry can achieve higher profitability through which industry can achieve the goal. This paper contains the brief introduction about the marker planning and its requirements, marker efficiency, the factors affecting on marker efficiency, the methods of marker planning and the popular softwares used for marking on apparel industries.

Keywords : Fabric planning, Fabric utilization, Marker efficiency, Marker plan Optimization.

1. Introduction

Marker planning is one of the most important pre-production steps of garment production because manufacturing a garment, with high-quality fabric at minimum cost and minimum quantity is essential. The quality of the fabric plays a very crucial role throughout the garment manufacturing process. Cost and quantity of the fabric used the are directly contribute to increasing the profit margin. Nowadays many garment industries control their costs throughout their production process to survive and increase their profitability. So, minimization of fabric while cutting and better utilization of total fabric cutting of the garment is an essential process before making of the garments which reduce the production cost. A marker and marker efficiency plays an important role in the proper utilization of fabric. Amarker is a piece of rectangular-shaped paper on which a diagram of the precise arrangement of the pieces of garment patterns having specific style and all the sizes are arranged so that fabric wastage would be minimum[1]. The shorter dimension of the marker is known as the width of that marker and the longer dimension of the marker is known as the length of that marker. Marker planning is a process of arranging the patterns on the fabric layers to achieve the highest marker efficiency which utilizes maximum fabric percentage. Efficient marker making is important because in any garment industry raw material cost contains 50% to 60% of the total cost[2]. The fabric consumption depends on how the pieces of the patterns are tightly placed with each other on the lay of the fabric to be cut. In the garment industry with the help of Computer Aided Designing software, a marker is prepared, which includes all sizes of the garment of specific style and all other information, which helps to sample as well as cutting department while marker making and cutting. The CAD system is also used in preproduction processes including garment designing, marker making, pattern preparation, pattern grading, and tight arrangement of patterns for labor intensifies. In previous years computer marker planning system was not adopted at that time, all markers are planned in order with full-size garment patterns. Nowadays this method is used by some companies and customized tailoring for the preparation of single garment marking. The manual marker-making method is very time-consuming and obtains more amount of fabric wastage nearly 13-15% while cutting, which adds more production cost to the final price of the garment. So, application of CAD software's in the garment industry increases productivity as well as profitability in the manufacturing of garments. Compared to manual marker making computer marker have five times more marking efficiency means it reduces the labor cost[3]. There is a lot of fabric wastage in the garment industry due to poor and inefficient marker planning and it adds to the production as well as profit loss of the industry. So, a highly efficient marker increases the overall profit of the industry by increasing fabric utilization[4]. The efficiency of the marker is inversely proportional to the consumption of fabric means, if marker efficiency is increased then consumption decreasesso a maximum efficient marker with more marker width results in minimum fabric consumption[1].

2. Marker Planning

Marker planning is a process of arranging the patterns on the fabric layers to achieve the highest marker efficiency which utilizes the maximum fabric percentage. On a marker initially, all largersizes of patterns are placed, after that remaining small-sized

patterns are placed in between the gaps of the large patterns, by doing so the planner can achieve higher marker efficiency. The main purpose of marker planning is to determine the most effective and efficient combination of all sizes and various shades for each order, which utilizes the maximum amount of fabric and equipment. The length of marker determines the length of the layer that will be spread[5]. Following figure number one shows marker planning own.

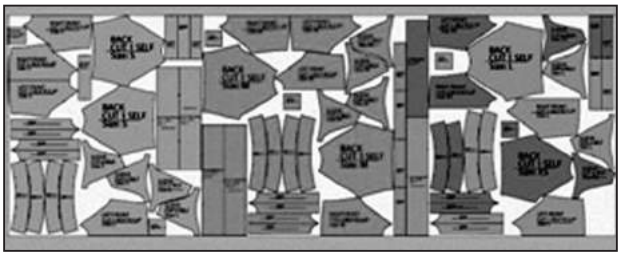

Figure 1 : Marker Planning[6]

3. Requirements of Marker Planning

All garment industries had always paid more attention to marker planning because it is very important for the cutting department, they cut the fabric which content cost which is almost half of the industries' turnover. If industries reduce the amount of fabric consumed by one garment, then it leads to an increase in profit percentage. So, the marker planner works more on the efficiency of the marker and the superior marker planning. Firstly marker planner locates the larger size of pattern pieces which looks more promising in the relationship with a smaller size of the pattern. And the remaining patterns are filled into the gaps so that the marker planner will achieve higher marker efficiency[7]. Marker planning is done with a concentration of the following requirements:

3.1 Alignment of pattern in relation to grain line of the fabric

In garment industries, all pattern pieces are placed on the basis of grain line. There are mainly three types of grain lines - Straight grain, cross grain and bias grain.

3.2 Symmetrical or Asymmetrical type of designs

Manytimes, symmetrical designs or the same type of design that lies only in one direction of the fabric are similar to the 'Either Way' design of the marker. These kinds of designs give the same appearance when the fabric is turned around at a 180-degree angle. So, while marker planning direction of the design or the symmetry of the design on either side of the fabric should be considered.

3.3 Design characteristics of the finished garment

The design characteristics of any garment like stripes, checks, plaids, cross-length patterns, or biased patterns should match the time of assembly of a garment. These design characteristics of the garment decide the quality and the final look of the garment. So, while marker planning the pattern pieces should be placed with respect to the design of stripes or checks must be matched at the time of sewing operation.

3.4 Quality in cutting

The majority of the time straight knife cutting machines are used to cut the fabric lays to cut straight line parts as well as parts which having curves at the edges. There should be some freedom given to the blade of the straight knife because at the time of cutting the curvy parts proper cutting of that parts should take place. If such free spaces are not there on the marker, then the quality of the garment will affect at the time of sewing operation.

3.5 Production planning

In the order sheet, buyer mention the order size with the size ratio of the garments. The standard size ratio of the garment is S:M:L:XL: XXL. Such size ratios are mentioned in the order sheet so that each size of garment from the total order quantity should be cleared for Production planning.

4. Methods of Marker Planning

In the garment industry type of marker and the method by which the marker is prepared are the most important things to be considered. Marker planner should know about all types of methods of marker planning. Garment industries follow mainly two methods of marker planning one is the Manual method and the second one is the computerized method. Manual marker planning was the oldest, most traditional, and very time-consuming process of marker planning as compared to computerized marker planning. The computerized method requires a high input cost but this method saves time and reduces fabric waste.

4.1 Manual Maker Planning

Figure 2 : Manual Marker Planning[8]

MARKER EFFICIENCY A DIMINUTIVE

Nowadays almost all garment industries use the computer-aided designing system for their marker planning, but some of the industries prefer the manual marker planning method for the complicated designs of the fabric. Manual marker planning is the oldest and most traditional method used in garment industries. In this method initially, all patterns are marked manually on a marker or directly onto the fabric with the help of pattern templates. After spreading and rearranging the patterns on the fabric marking is done on the marker with the help of pencil, pen, or fabric chalks. After that with the help of cutting machines as per the marking lays of the fabrics are cut. The quality of the marker depends on the efficiency and experience of the marker planner[9].

4.2 Computerized Maker Planning

For speedy growth, many garment industries adopted the various applications of computer technology, artificial intelligence, computer-aided manufacturing, and other software. Computerized marker planning provides control over the marker with different permutations and combinations of patterns, which provide the highest percentage of marker efficiency. For the preparation of marker and marker planning various kinds of software are used which provide features like automated marker nesting and grading, high-quality marker, solving the problems related to shade variations, calculating the marker efficiency and the fabric consumption as per the length and width available, visualize prints and the graphics of the patterns, which helps manufacturers for maximum material utilization, So the marker planning with the help of computer system increases accuracy, reduce the time required and provide control over the variables for the marker and other various features.

5. Marker Efficiency

Figure 3 : Computerized Marker Planning[10]

After consideration and completion of marker making and marker planning, marker efficiency is one of the important parameters to be concerned in the garment industry. The most efficient layout of pattern pieces with respect to a particular style and all sizes of the garment to be cut is known as marker planning and the ratio of the total area covered by the parts of the garment to the total area available in the market is called as marker efficiency which always expressed in terms of percentage. So,

$$\text{Marker Efficiency} = \frac{\text{Total area covered by the parts of the garment}}{\text{Total area of Marker}} \times 100$$

The success of a marker planner depends on the marker efficiency of the marker plan, so the marker planner should be highly skilled in the application field of computer-aided designing. The scale of salary of a marker planner truly depends on how they increase the marker efficiency. The marker plan and marker efficiency is depends on the type of software used to adapt the design and the various features available in it[11]. To maintain lower wastage of the fabric, marker planners have to increase the marker efficiency percentage over the available fabric. And in other cases, if the percentage of efficiency decrease then fabric wastage is more so, and the ultimate profit percentage will decrease. Thus, marker efficiency plays a very important role in any garment industry. The fabric cost of the garments is directly utilized by maximizing the marker efficiency of the fabric[12]. In some cases, total weight fabric with respect to an area of that marker: Measure the weight of fabric (one layer) of the total market area[13]. In this method instead of calculating the total weight of the pattern pieces, the marker planner can also calculate the weight of the waste remaining from the primary cutting from the fabric lay, and this weight is minus the total weight of the fabric consumed. So, from this total weight of the pattern pieces can be easily calculated. If the CAD system is available, then it directly calculates the area of pattern pieces from the given maker, that is, the fabric area consumed by the garment pieces. So, as per the length, the available marker planner calculates the total marker area by multiplying the marker length by the marker width. But in the manual method, it's very difficult to calculate the total surface area of fabric available and the area consumed by the pattern pieces.

6. Factors Affecting Marker Efficiency

Different key factors directly affect marker efficiency such assize of the garment, length and width of the marker, pattern engineering, fabric characteristics, method of marker planning, etc. There are a variety of problems that can be encountered while preparing the markers correctly, which are leads to reduce the marker efficiency. The factors that effects on marker makers from creating efficient markers are explained below.

6.1 Fabric Characteristics

The characteristics include different face and back surface characteristics, length-wise and cross-wise designs or patterns, also symmetrical or a symmetrical designs of the fabric motifs that affect the marker efficiency. Marker efficiency also depends upon the width of the fabric. All the fabric characteristics are frequently limited to the marker efficiency due to the arrangement of pattern pieces on the fabric becoming difficult. A special kind of marker has to be prepared for these kinds of fabrics and these types of fabric require some excess amount of fabric. In some of the garment industries for matching the strips and the plaid type of designs, some marker planner marks the directly on the marker so that it will match accurately. The exact placement and alignment of the pattern with the corresponding pieces are also important to create a visual look into the garment. The size and the length of the design also affect the marker efficiency, the smaller size of the design means greater efficiency of a marker, and if the length between the repeats is more or the size of the design is more there less marker efficiency.

6.2 Characteristics of Pattern Pieces

As similar as fabric characteristics the pattern characteristics also affect the marker efficiency. In the garment industry, fabric utilization increases as a variety of sizes are included on the same marker which contains smaller as well as larger sizes of patterns. As per the length and width of the marker and fabric, initially, larger patterns are placed on the marker and then small patterns are filled in between the gap available. The regular or normal type of shapes of the patterns can fit together tightly. Similarly, irregular type of pieces is different to interlock with other pieces.

6.3 Direction of Grain Line

Grain line and direction of grainline plays very important role in marker planning and it also effect on the overall marker efficiency. The direction of the grain, determines the placement of the pattern pieces. In woven fabric direction of the grain is considered with respect to the direction of the warp yarns and in the knitted fabrics the direction of grain is considered with respect to the wales. Marker planner can achieve more marker efficiency and produce better utilization of the fabric through grouping similar type of pattern pieces having same grain orientation. For example grouping of all straight grain pattern pieces or grouping pattern pieces having biased grain. Combining straight grain piece with several baise grain pieces, may not fit together and provides lesser marker efficiency which creates huge fabric waste. Marker having straight grain provides more efficiency percentage to the marker and higher utilization of fabric. Computer marker-making softwares lock the grain orientation of each piece unless an override function is used to adjust that pattern pieces. This can be done on a piece-by-piece basis.

6.4 Standards of Fabric Utilization

Firms often establish fabric utilization standards. Firms producing basics may strive for 90-97% utilization, while Fashion-firms could also be able to achieve only 80- 85%. It's important for firms to document material utilization and variances from the standards to analyze the improvements or factors that effects on fabric utilization. Better utilization is generally developed for basic styles of the garment because, optimum fabric widths are used consistently and more time is invested in cut planning and manipulating pattern pieces in the markers to reduce material wastage. Markers for basic styles are not used tocut at large volumes of pattern piece of goods and may be kept in file record and used repeatedly; thus, the time invested in improving utilization leads to greater savings. Markers for fashion styles and quick response strategies could also be used only once or for a limited number of spreads and few ply. Fashion garments are subject to constant changes in styling, materials and tight deadlines that limit the time available to develop efficient markers[13].

7. Softwares used for pattern making

The pattern making and designing softwares are widely used in fashion and apparel industries, which are available in variety of forms with several advanced techniques and services. The application of CAD system is an load several features and which is now supporting to the designing sectors.

Apparel industries adopting integration of CAD-CAM in their designing and product development processes. The features of CAD-CAM provide several benefits and advantages to the organization, through accelerating the large-scale production process of pattern making in the apparel industry. Creating a pattern marker is a main responsibility of pattern maker and to develop a drafted pattern with the specific shape at required sizes of the garment on a paper or on computer using softwares is an important task of the pattern maker. So that maximum amount of fabric can be saved in a roll form. The pattern and marker making by using software applications is a design development of technique that is done by computer aided softwares application[14]. The use of CAD-CAM applications and pattern making software offers, increasing time efficiency while pattern development, same time, offer higher maker efficiency percentage, effective and accurate design of a product, and save the material cost which includes cost of, paper or cardboards material and the cost of pattern files. Accumark, Tuka-Tech, Reach peace, optitex Lectra etc. these are widely used softwares and they provide best features.

8. Conclusion

Marker planning is one of the essential and cost saving process in apparel industries. So to consider all the factors which are affecting to the marker efficiency and fabric utilization are most important. From the total manufacturing cost of the garments 50 to 60% cost is only consumed by the fabric cost. Hence marker planner have primary responsibility to minimize the fabric waste by achieving maximum efficiency of the marker. Marker making is important requisite before starting the fabric cutting. All the apparel industries are focusing on reducing the fabric wastage to survive in existing marker through improving efficiency percentage, preventing fabric wastage generation.

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Cotton exports likely to decline to 19-year low

Cotton exports will likely decline to a 19-year low this season (October 2022-September 2023) on poor demand for importing nations in view of the economic slowdown in the US and Europe.

According to the US Department of Agriculture (USDA "Cotton : World Markets and Trade", Indian cotton exports are projected lower by 500,000 bales in April to 1.8 million (US bales of 227.72 kg or 23.05 lakh Indian bales of 170 kg), roughly equal to its import forecast.

"So far, only 9.5 lakh bales (170 kg have been exported since the beginning of the season in October. I see exports not exceeding 20 lakh bales," said Anand Popat, a Rajkot-based trade in cotton, yarn and cotton waste.

If Popat's estimates turn out to be true, then cotton shipments will drop to the lowest seen when Indian began planting genetically-modified cotton.

"Exports have historically exceeded imports by a significant margin, and the last time that imports exceeded exports was nearly 20 years ago," the USDA' report said. Data show that cotton exports in the 24-5 season were 1 lakh bales after which shipments from the country surged to top 100 lakh bales in early 2010s.

The Cotton Association of India, a body of traders, has estimated exports at 30 lakh bales against 43 lakh bales last season.

"Shipments of cotton this year have been minimal. Only Bangladesh seems to be buying some quantity. Other imports have not shown interest," said Ramanuj Das Boob, a sourcing agent for multinational companies in Karnataka's Raichur.

"One of the biggest drawbacks in exports this year is that China has not imported. It seems to be sourcing its needs locally. Even Bangladesh has imported less as it is facing foreign exchange problems," said Popat.

Prabhu Dhamodharan, Convenor, Indian Texpreneurs Federation, said demand for Indian cotton abroad may not pick up untill the second half of the current fiscal.

"Export demand for cotton will be muted this year. Capacity utilisation other textile manufacturing countries is at lower levels and will inch up only gradually and move towards a steady state of business status in H2 of FY24," he said.

The International Cotton Advisory Council (ICAC) said cotton arrivals in India had been delayed, resulting in its production estimates being lowered twice. It has currently lowered Indian cotton production projections to 305.88 lakh bales.

"The arrival numbers have been unusually low, possibly because farmers — who so recently enjoyed near-record-high prices — are holding onto their cotton in the hope that prices, which have dropped recently, start to trend upward again," the ICAC said.

This season, farmers have been parting with their produce slowly expecting better prices. Their expectations stemmed from the record prices of ₹12,000 a quintal they fetched last season for *kapas* (unprocessed cotton). ❐

Tirrupur exporters ask TN for policy-change in textile, seek better air link

Setting up of a kinitwear research institute in Tiruppur and a cargo terminal with international connectivity at Coimbatore airport, were some of the suggestions submitted by the Tiruppur Exporters' Association, as part of proposals to revise the Tamil Nadu Textile Policy 2019.

The association president KM Subramanian, in a meeting with the State Textiles Commissioiner, urged the State government to address issues such as housing for workers, increasing the overtime cap for apparel sector, upskilling workers, transportation subsidy to ferry workers to factories, bank Basel norms, and NPA classification.

He also urged the government to set up a permit for availing of the ATUF scheme subsidy, in addition to the State government capital subsidy.

The TEA has 1,213 exporting units located in the Tiruppur Cluster which provides direct employment to 6 lakh workers, 60 per cent of whom are women, besides indirect employment to two lakh workers.

Readymade garment exports from Tamil Nadu, comprising knitwear and wovens, stood at ₹38,00 crore in 2021-2022, accounting for 21 per cent of the total merchandise exports, is poised to touch ₹50,000 crore in the next two to three years.

"Considering the exports and movement of passengers from this region, we request the Tamil Nadu government to offer international carrier connections in Tiruppur," it said.

Construction of houses/labour dormitories in clusters like Tiruppur would remove one of the barriers to the permanent migration of labourers from their home villages to industrial clusters.

A project proposal to upskill the 50,000 existing workers in one year at an estimated ₹20.57 crore has been submitted to the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation. ❐

Goods exports touch $447bn in FY23, services to cross $320bn : Goyal

India's goods exports touched $447 billion till the last count for 2022-23 fiscal year against $422 billion in 2021-22, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal said recently.

The final export and import data for 2022-23 has been released by mid April. At present, the ministry is in the process of collating the data. The trade data for goods comes with a lag of about 15 days and in the case of services data, it is 45 days.

Goyal said services exports are estimated to cross $320 billion in 2022-23.

Growth in merchandise goods would be around 6% for the last fiscal, he said, adding that it has grown from "$422 billion to $447 billion at last count (as the) final numbers are still awaited".

He said the country's exports are growing despite global challenges such as rise in raw material prices, restrictions in exports of certain products like wheat and Russia-Ukraine war.

"The final numbers (exports of goods and services will be closer to $765 billion ... I would not be surprised if we actually go up to $772 billion which we figured while drawing the road map for $2 trillion of exports by 2030," the minister said.

If the data reaches $772 billion, Goyal said, "then, I will probably reset the $2 trillion target also."

Speaking at an event, he also said that the express delivery services sector had huge potential for growth in India.

"To bridge the cost in logistics, we need to look at scale, efficiency and the building blocks through technology," he added.

Going by the strong foundation which the government is building in terms of high expenditure for developing modern infrastructure, internationalisation of trade, free trade agreements and growth in exports of goods and services, the economy may reach $35-40 trillion by 2047, he added. ❐

UP Govt mulls to boost exports of handloom, brassware and carpet

Uttar Pradesh, which is targetting to double merchandise exports to ₹3 trillion in the near future, is looking to boost exports of handloom, carpets and brassware from the land-locked state.

Varanasi, Bhadohi Mirzapur and Moradabad are patently identified with the production and export of handloom, carpets and brassware, respectively. About a dozen UP cities figure in the list of 43 centres of export excellence in India as identified by the Narendra Modi government. These include Moradabad, Varnasi, Bhadohi, Malihabad, Kanpur, Agra, Firozabad, Mirazpur and Noida, among others.

UP Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta 'Nandi' said UP has large potential to emerge as a major export hub in India. "We are committed to developing UP as an export hub and the state government is standing firmly with exporters and entrepreneurs in this regard."

Meanwhile, a senior UP government official said the notified export oriented areas will have priority access to export promotion corpus under the flagship Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme. "We have increased merchandise exports from ₹89,000 crore to ₹1.57 trillion over the span of 5-6 years. Now we are targetting to hit the exports volume figure of ₹3 trillion," he added.

UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is laying emphasis on exporting traditional products under the one district one product scheme by improving upon the 'Ease of Doing Business' matrix.

With the establishment of dry ports and opening of a water route between Varanasi and Haldia, the government has made new vistas of investment, the official noted. Besides, the state is working on faster implementation of investment projects totalling almost ₹35 trillion netted at the recent UP Global Investors Summit (GIS) 2023.

While UP is targeting to become a $1-trillion economy, it is looking to build upon its strength of expressways and slew of international airport projects. Moreover, the UP government has introduced the concept of dry ports via the UP Warehousing and Logistics Policy 2022 to ease transportation of export cargo to sea ports.

A dry port is an inland port where customs formalities between the exporter and the importer are completed before containers are dispatched to ports. ❐

Goods exports surge 6%, imports 16.5% this fiscal

India's goods exports declined for the second successive month in March, falling a sharp 13.9% to $38.38 billion, while imports dipped 7.9% to $58.11 billion.

Total goods exports in 2022-23 rose 6.03% to $447.46 billion, while the import bill surged by a steeper 16.5% to $714 billion.

The goods trade deficit rose almost 40% to over $266 billion in 2022-23, compared to $190 billion in 2021-22. However, using estimates for services exports during March for which final data will only be available in May, the Commerce and Industry Ministry pegged the total trade deficit for the year at $122 billion, 46% higher than the $83.5 billion gap in 2021-22.

"Despite the global headwinds, we have surpassed our 2022-23 target of $750 billion dollars to hit $770.18 billion, which is $94 billion higher than last year's record exports," Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said, using services exports estimates combined with the actual numbers for goods exports. "Services exports have grown 13.84% to an estimated $322.72 billion," he added.

India's uptick in outbound shipments was largely led by petroleum, up 27% to $94.5 billion, followed by electronics goods that rose 7.9% to $23.6 billion.

The other three of India's top five export items registered insignificant growth: rice (up 1.5%), chemicals (1%), and drugs and pharmaceuticals (0.8%). Petroleum exports now account for 21.1% of total exports, up from 16% in 2021-22.

Engineering goods, India's mainstay in goods exports in recent years, shrank 5.1% to $107 billion, brigning down their share in total exports from 26.6% to 23.9%.

Non-oil exports, in fact, contracted 0.5%, and if electronics exports were excluded too, goods shipments were 2.8% lower than 2021-22, which economists called a red flag. ❐

Bangladesh garment units at fire risk as mercury picks up

Bangladesh's garment factories, a key source of foreign exchange for the South Asian nation, face the heightened risk of fires as summer temperatures soar, an industry lobby group warned.

The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, the main industry body in the world's No. 2 exporter after China, issued 11 instructions to its 4,500 members over the weekend. These include powering off all machinery at night, including lights, fans, electric irons and boilers.

Factories were asked to keep the entry and exits free for movement and ensure all gates and passages are open during working hours.

"As garment factories use machinery and electric tools, there are risks of fire. Cautionary measures can avert disasters and save lives," the association's president Faruque Hassan said in a letter. The body also called for factory owners to establish security cameras on the premises to prevent any act of sabotage.

Fires engulfed thousands of shops at two markets in the capital Dhaka over the first two weeks of April. A severe heat wave, with temperatures touching 42 degrees Celsius (107.6 Fahrenheit), is sweeping parts of Bangladesh and is likely to continue, according to the Met Office. Similar higher than usual summer temperatures are also forecast across many parts of neighboring India through June.

The garment industry contributes about 10% to Bangladesh's GDP and employs more than 4 million people. It also accounts for more than 8% of the country's exports and supplies products to global chains, including H&M, Adidas, Wal-Mart Inc. and GAP.

The safety hazards faced by the country's garment factory workers were laid bare when a

commercial building called Rana Plaza collapsed in 2013 killing 1,133 workers and injuring thousands more. Since then Bangladesh has put in place new workplace safety regulations.

However, most factories have minimal cooling in place for workers on the floor. Most are cooled by ceiling fans and air-conditioning is rare.

"While Bangladesh has progressed significantly in fire and factory safety since the Rana Plaza disaster, the country is way behind in occupational health," said Babul Akhter, general secretary of the Bangladesh Garment and Industrial Workers Federation. "Factories are not adequately equipped to keep indoor temperatures low."

The fire hazard warning comes as high commodity costs, stoked by Rusia's war in Ukraine, have increased Bangladesh's import bill and widened its trade deficit. This in turn has weakened the local currency and hurt its foreign exchange reserves. The market fires prompted PM Sheikh Hasina to order an investigation into whether the main opposition group, Banglandesh Nationalist Party, and its Islamist ally were behind the incidents. ❐

SIMA urges duty-free import of cotton this year, too

The Southern India Mills Association (SIMA), the apex body of textile mills in the south, has urged Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to allow duty-free cotton imports to ensure raw material security, and avoid stoppage of production and fall in cotton textile exports.

SIMA president Ravi Sam, in a statement, said the Centre should follow the same policy it has announced last year when it permitted duty-free imports during April-October.

He said 40 per cent of the cotton produced in the country is yet to arrive in markets, and farmers and traders were holding back stocks in anticipation of a hike in the natural fibre's prices.

Textile exports fall

"The industry has begun to face shortage of cotton and the uncertainty (over raw material) continues," the SIMA president said.

The current situation has led to cotton textile exports declining by 23 per cent compared with last year, and the need to procure raw material at an "internationally" competitive price.

Quoting export data, Sam said yarn exports during April-January of the previous fiscal declined to 485 million kg compared with 1,185 million kg during the same period in 2021-22.

Pointing out that the Centre had imposed an 11 per cent customs duty on cotton imports in 2021, he said the objective was to protect the livelihood of cotton growers.

Fibre more costly

Though the natural fibre's prices increased, only traders and multinational companies seem to benefit. This has also affected the competitiveness of the Indian textile industry, Sam said.

The area under cotton increased to 130 lakh hectares this season to September from 124 lakh hectares last season but the production is estimated to be 320 lakh bales (170 kg).

Even out of this, only 80 per cent is of quality and the rest can not be used for manufacturing high-value products. About 30 lakh bales are expected to be exported and if imports are not made duty-free the industry could face a raw material shortage, the SIMA president said.

Indian cotton is currently 15 per cent more expensive than global cotton and the textile industry has lost several export orders due to this. Two-thirds of the cotton produced in the country is exported as value-added textile products, providing employment to 11 million people.

Though India could import 3 lakh bales of cotton duty-free from Australia under the Indo-Australia free trade pact, traders Down Under are seeking a premium. This further affected the textile industry's competitiveness.

Sam said ample availability of cotton and stable prices are essential for the industry to recover from the current sluggishness and achieve sustained growth. ■

Masse Frankfurt India & MEX Exhibition to host Gartex Texprocess India's Mumbai Exhibition

A one-stop selling and sourcing platform with excellent quality for textile and garment production on display at one of India's largest textile shows

Gartex Texprocess India's Mumbai edition, jointly organised by Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt Ltd and MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd, will present exciting prospects on the show floor. Alongside will be focused co-located Denim Show and featured zone on Screen Print India – Textile providing the opportunity to evaluate and tap new markets in building connections with the global industry.

With the participation of over 125 companies, Gartex Texprocess India 2023 will offer the industry a platform to bring forward industry innovations, hold collaborative discussions and leverage the textile industry's strong professional networkin textile and garment manufacturing. The trade fair will also act as an insight into garment & apparel production that involves many processing steps, beginning with the idea or design concept and ending with a finished product.

Innovation in garments and apparel machinery has encouraged textile producers worldwide to enhance their equipment in terms of automation, quality, productivity, energy consumption, sustainability and flexibility to meet their customer's needs. Environment-friendly products in today's competitive market are helping the garment industry to introduce modern ideas which are capable of high-efficient production. Today, more items of higher quality can be produced with less labour and running costs because of modern high-performance machinery and logical operating methods. Updated textile machines provide features such as high-speed performance, easy maintenance, high efficiency and increased accuracy making India a major player in the global textile and garment industry.

As one of the most trusted textile and garment machinery exhibitions in the country, Mr Raj Manek, Executive Director and Board Member, Messe Frankfurt Asia Holdings Ltd said: "Gartex Texprocess India is a premier platform showcasing revolutionary advancements with innovative products and technologies, defining latest trends in the industry through the co-located Denim Show and Screen Print India – Textile. The exhibition highlights the rapid technological changes, leading brands with the latest technological offerings in screen printing, digital sublimation and textile printing to potential business visitors. We will also see CEOs, senior industry representatives, ministries and departments of the central & state governments, user industries and specialists converge under one roof. We are grateful to have been consistently supported and trusted by the government bodies, industry and supporting associations."

Recognising the potential impact of Gartex Texprocess India, Mr Gaurav Juneja, Director, MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd stated, "Gartex Texprocess India is a great platform that has been instrumental in unifying various stakeholders within the garment and textile manufacturing supply chain. India has shown that it is innovative and self-reliant when it comes to the textile and garment sector. Gartex Texprocess India will showcase the value-added benefits of Indian products on the show floors, with the support of industry associations, we intend to bring strong value to our trade fair for lucrative business engagements of the industry."

The Mumbai edition of GartexTexprocesswill see top brands such as IIGM, E.H Turel, Balaji Sewing Machines, True Colour, Jaysynth, Mehala, Orange O tech, DCC, Epson, Jindal Worldwide, Raymond UCO Denim and more displaying unique inventions on the show floor.

Screen Print India showcases new technological capabilities:

Screen Printing plays a major role in today's manufacturing industry and holds a prominent position among brands for high-volume production. With technological developments in this space, screen printing has also made the manufacturing business more economical than ever.

The trade fair has been a pioneering force in introducing new trends to the Indian textile and garment industry. It has successfully recognized the industry's potential and brought in trusted names from domestic and international markets alike leading to a continuous rise in

Messe Frankfurt India & Mex Exhibition to host Gartex Texprocess India's Mumbai Exhibition

the number of exhibitors and visitors each year. Industry bodies extending their support to the three-day exhibition are Ministry of Textile, Denim Manufacturers Associations (DMA) and Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI).

With preparations underway, Gartex Texprocess India 2023 is set out to be an insightful and productive business event. The second edition in Mumbai will begin a new chapter from 11-13 May, 2023 at the Jio World Convention Centre, BKC.

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Textile units moving to polyester, viscose

High cotton prices have hurt the textile industry so much that industrialists are looking to alternative avenues to make business viable.

Many textile manufacturers in Ahmedabad — once the Manchester of the East and the cotton hub of the country — are moving to polyester and a viscose fabrics. Last year, the textile sector here witnessed blending in cotton and now several players in the value chain have moved to polyester and viscose.

Dhruv Patel, MD of Diamond Textile Mills Pvt. Ltd. said. "We had a thriving cotton textile business for more than five decades with integrated spinning, weaving and processing facilities. For the last nine months, we have completely shifted to polyester yarn and viscose."

He further said, "We source the fibre, manufacture yarn, and weave it into fabric. We're also supplying yarn to manufacturers in Surat. we had no choice but to shift to polyester and viscose due to high cotton prices, which affected our viability. We have not exited the cotton business entirely, but feel the time is not right for cotton and thus chose to diversify."

Market sources say cotton textile units need to make only minor changes to start polyester and viscose manufacturing.

According to industry estimates, at least 5% of textile players who were entirely into cotton have adopted man-made fibres. Last year, cotton prices reached a record high of Rs. 1.10 lakh per candy (356 kg). This year prices have come down to an average of Rs. 60,000 per candy. However, recent estimates from the Cotton Association of India (CAI) suggest lower crop out put and there will thus be more volatility in cotton prices, experts say.

Another case is that of Kankariya Textile Industries Pvt. Ltd. "Our key business is cotton fabric processing but last year's high cotton prices taught us many lessons. A section of our customers demand polyester and viscose, which are cheaper. we began sourcing polyester from Surat and viscose from South India Polyester viscose and rayon are part of our portfolio this year and we managed to even bag export orders from China. We have started printing shirting fabric, dress material for women and home textiles in viscose," said P. R. Kankariya chairman of the company. "We procure grey fabric from Surat, which isn't a major cost and process it here."

Saurin Parikh, president of the Spinners Association Gujarat (SAG) said. "Gujarat is hub of cotton textiles but in the last year more than 5% of its cotton capacity has been replaced by polyester and viscose."

Akash Sharma, director of Akash Fashion Pvt. Ltd. said, "We began polyester and viscose printing three years ago. We were into 100% cotton fabrics, but of late have begun blending. There is blending of up to 65% polyester because it is at least 25% cheaper than pure cotton. We used to print 12 lakh metres of cotton shirting every month earlier, however, capacity utilization dropped due to high cotton prices. We now print seven lakh metres of blended shirting fabric while our volume of pure cotton shirting fabric is only one lakh metres a month." ■

Fashinza Announces 'Top 25 Thought Leaders' advancing Innovation and Sustainability in India's Fashion Sector

Fashinza – a leading B2B global fashion supply chain startup has recently announced the list of Top 25 Fashion & Sourcing Leaders of 2023. The Top 25 leaders featured on the list have extensive experience in supply chain management within India's top fashion brands, making them highly knowledgeable and skilled in this field.

The flagship Fashinza list celebrated leadership, innovation, and best practices in the sustainable fashion industry. The list of top winning brands includes Turtle, Proline Fitness, Snitch, Breakbounce, Pepe Jeans Innerfashion, Bewakoof, Brands Studio, Mufti, Mensa Brand, Celio, Wildcraft, and many others.

List of Winners :

- ManojAgarwal, Sourcing Head, Turtle
- Ravindran R S, Head Buying And Merchandising, Proline Fitness
- SiddharthDungarwal, Owner, Snitch
- Shankar Dhanrajani, Business Head, Breakbounce
- Amit Kumar, Product Head, Pepe Jeans Innerfashion
- Rishi, VP Sourcing, Bewakoof
- Manoj Kumar Patil, Heading Sourcing And Supply Chain, Brands Studio
- Amar, Owner, Powerlook
- Pawan Kumar Dasaraju, Founding Team At Mensa Brands, Mensa Brand (Denis Lingo)
- Kuntal Raj Jain, Managing Director At Duke Fashions (India)Limited, Duke
- VinitDoshi, Head Product, Retail Planning & Sourcing, Celio
- JagdishPamwani, V P Sourcing Being Human Clothing, Being Human
- UtpalRuparelia, Owner, Sweet Dreams
- Satinder Singh, Head-Sourcing & Development, Wildcraft India
- Romil Jain, Founder, Denis Lingo
- Ashwini, CEO, Dennison
- Sanjay Sachdeva, Executive Director, Spyby
- Vasanth Kumar, VP - Sourcing & Merchandising, Damensch
- Shish Kharesiya, CEO, Baby & Mom
- DebashisBhadra, Senior Director, Myntra
- Swati Saha, Vice President Supply Chain & Planning HSE, Faballey
- Vedang Patel, Co-Founder, The Souled Store
- Sohail Ansari, Founder & CEO, Yonikk
- GauravKapahi, Head Sourcing, Blackberry
- KunalKashyap, Co-Founder, Magre

The winners of Fashinza are selected with deliberate evaluation based on their experience and the impact or achievement made during their journey. As part of the nomination process, the jury noticed leaders are emphasizing the need to address sustainability challenges in the fashion industry. They are advocating for the reduction of fast fashion and exploring alternative fabrics that are environmentally safe.

Commenting on the idea of releasing the Top 25 Leaders' list, Pawan Gupta CEO & Co-founder of Fashinza said, "At Fashinza, we have created a unique formula for fashion industry players to dig deeper into relevant insights and understand the critical factors that drive business success. Fashinza's recent edition explores industry leaders based on the competitive edge and their significant contribution to redefining and optimizing the fashion supply chain. We look forward to presenting the industry with constantly evolving trends and technologies to address critical market challenges."

Founded in 2020, Fashinza connects fashion brands with experienced manufacturers to tackle apparel/fashion supply chain challenges. It seeks out top-grade adepts to give them a platform to vocalize their success journey.

To bring agility and resiliency to the supply chain, Fashinza combines traditional artisans' techniques with technology-induced transparency. It leverages the use of AI-based technology checks based on performance history, TNA calendar, factory floor technology, compliances, ethical practices, and many more. Additionally, it provides AI-led fashion trend forecasting based on market research, social media analytics & consumer behavior.

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Pre-editorial for TEXFAIR 2024 with some distinguished images of Texfair 2022

The Southern India Mills' Association (SIMA) representing the organised textile industry in South India is organising14th edition of SIMA Texfair 2024, an international expo for textile machinery, spares and accessories during June 21-24, 2024 at CODISSIA Trade Fair Complex, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

The objectives of the fair is to provide a platform for the stake holder to zero in their investments and expenses prudently, showcase their inventions and cost effective items and other products, enable the technocrats and shop floor technicians to update their knowledge on the latest technology and create an awareness on cost cutting, to encourage micro, small and medium entrepreneurs also to showcase their products and get exposure to the market.

It is a highly economical Fair with excellent services, organised by the user industry and being conducted at Coimbatore, which is the hub for textile business in India and the fair would be an ideal platform to showcase and market the products.

The Association has formally commenced the stall booking with effect from 23rd March 2023and the initial response is overwhelming. SIMA appeals to all the exhibitors to participate in the expo to make the event a grand success and internationally memorable one.

Profile of the Participants for TEXFAIR 2024

- All manufacturers and suppliers of textile machinery and spares of ginning, spinning, weaving, processing, powerlooms, handlooms, knitting and garmenting
- Textile testing equipments
- Items relating to effluent treatment
- Auxiliary equipments
- Accessories
- Pneumatic equipment and accessories

- Humidification plant and accessories
- Lubricants
- Energy saving equipments
- Electrical and Electronic items
- Sizing materials, dyes and chemicals

- Packaging materials
- Textile software companies, etc

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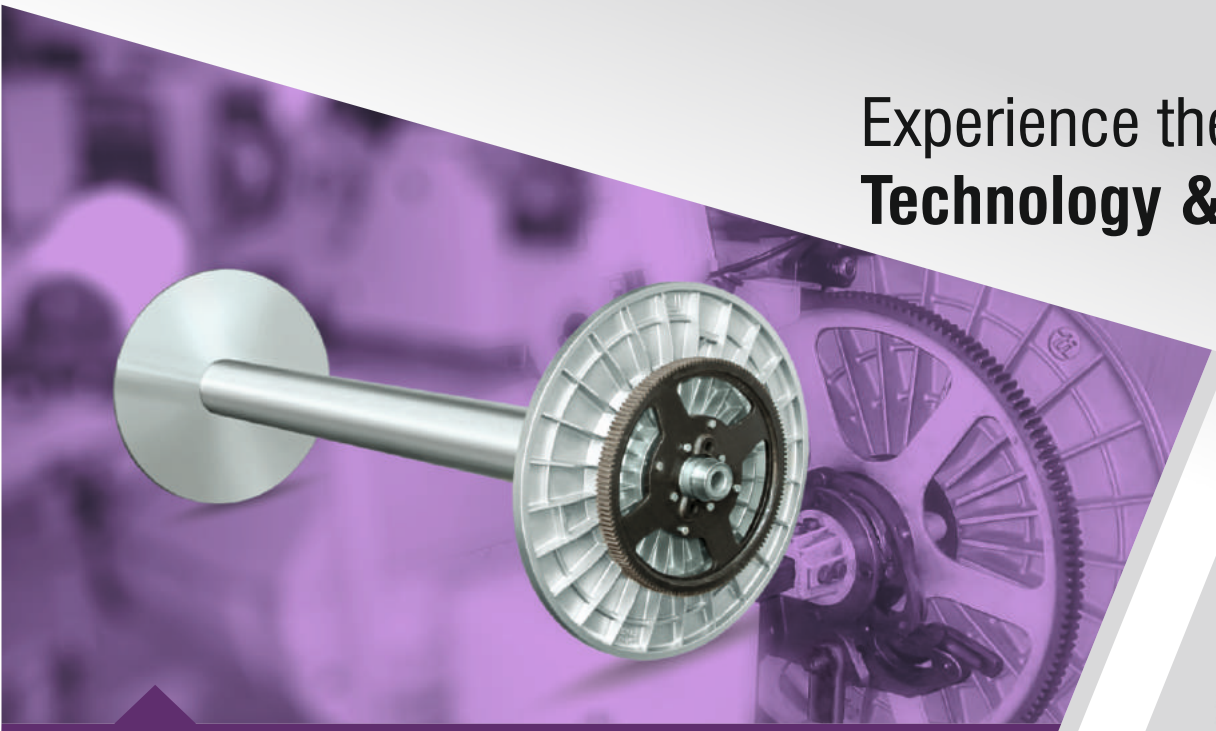
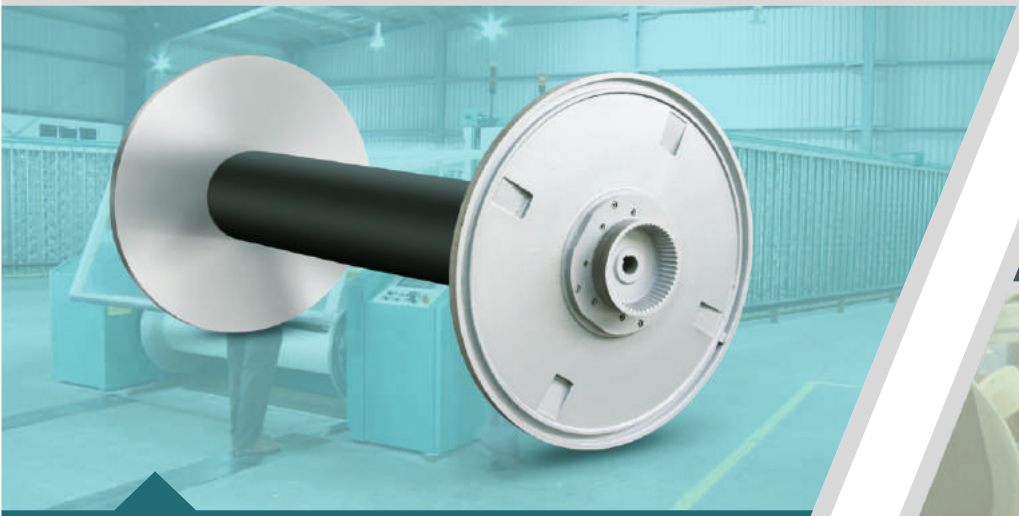


WEAVER BEAMS
Die-casted Aluminum Alloy Flanged Beams in Single/Twin Section

FULL FUNCTIONED PLC CONTROLLED FABRIC SAMPLE /SWATCH CUTTING M/C.



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Colorjet awarded by Shri Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh for its outstanding performance in foreign trade

ColorJet Group Manufacturer of Digital Textile Printers has been honoured with the prestigious State Export Award for outstanding performance in international trade at the ceremony held at Lok Bhawan in Lucknow organised by Export Promotion Bureau of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Yogi Adityanath Honourable Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh handed over the Award To Mr. M.S Dadu, Chairman of ColorJet Group. Shri. Nand Gopal Gupta, Cabinet Minister of Industry Development along with other dignitaries from UP Government were also present at the occasion.

The Export Award is the highest recognition granted by the state government to a company that has demonstrated exceptional performance in international trade.

The Award is presented to companies that have successfully expanded their business footprint overseas and have significantly contributed to the country's export earnings.

ColorJet has been recognized for its outstanding performance in expanding its operation globally, thereby contributing to the growth of the country's economy.

ColorJet Group has consistently demonstrated a commitment to quality and innovation in its product and services, which has helped ColorJet, establish a strong reputation in the international market.

While addressing an Award ceremony, the chief minister said, Uttar Pradesh will emerge as the torchbearer of the fourth industrial revolution (industrial revolution 4.0), adding that this was evident from investment proposals worth ₹35 lakh crores received at the Global Investors Summit held in Lucknow in February.

"MSME itself is going to become the foundation of industrial development of U.P. The Global Investors Summit has decided that U.P. will lead the fourth industrial revolution," he said.

CORPORATE NEWS

While receiving the Award Mr. M.S Dadu Chairman, ColorJet Group said: "The Award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the entire team at ColorJet. The company has invested heavily in developing indigenous technology for the world market to ensure that it meets international standards and regulations. This has enabled it to expand ColorJet business in over 30+ countries now.

All ColorJet printers are designed and robustly built across all components to print excellent results and offer great enduring value to the print solution provider across the globe. All ColorJet Printers are not just a sum total of their parts. They are ergonomically designed & engineered through 3D simulation processes at ColorJet's Innovation Laboratories and built optimally, to deliver phenomenal business value to its customers. Group Innovation Laboratories is having an R&D facility recognised by the Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India which innovates & Integrates Digital Print technology that wins world markets.

About ColorJet India Ltd:

ColorJet Group, from India, was founded in 1995 and has since been known for its industry-leading performance. It is one of the top global exporters of wide-format printers and provides world-class and complete fabric printing solutions. ColorJet's digital textile machines are revolutionizing the world of textile printing with their robust performance, lower downtime, high-value addition, and quick ROI.

ColorJet markets its products in around 30 countries worldwide till date, ColorJet has installed over 5,000 of its printing solutions and products across 450 cities around the world backed by a strong 350-member team.

ColorJet Constantly innovates its product with its R&D facility recognised by the Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. Of India.

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Mayer & Cie. sets up new team to work as representatives in Nepal & Bangladesh : Batliboi forms part of team in both countries

Since 1 April 2023 sales and service of Mayer & Cie. circular knitting machines in Bangladesh have been under new management. A new dynamic team "Mayer Bangladesh" has been formed. Mayer & Cie.'s longstanding Indian representative Batliboi has joined business activities in Bangladesh since the beginning of the month, supported by the team of Brady Services and by Almani Biz. The synergies created by the partnership with Batliboi, Brady Services, and Almani Biz. will allow Mayer & Cie. representations to combine their strengths and expertise to better serve customers.

Batliboi's Abhay Sidham (centre) with Mayer & Cie. CEO Benjamin Mayer (right) and Stefan Bühler, regional sales manager, at the ITM in Istanbul in the summer of 2022

New, well-known faces in Bangladesh

In Batliboi, Mayer & Cie. has set up a business partner of many decades standing as its representative in Bangladesh. For around 40 years Mumbai-based Batliboi has overseen sales and service of Mayer & Cie. circular knitting machines in India. Abhay Sidham heads Batliboi's Textile and Machinery Group. He and his team have many years of experience in strategic marketing, and a focus on sustainability and processing recycled raw materials is part of Batliboi's expertise.

These competences are of relevance in the Bangladesh market because "we face strong competition from Asian manufacturers here," as

Wolfgang Müller, Mayer & Cie.'s sales director, explains. The premium market was growing smaller, and the trend was toward specialities – value-added fabrics, spacer fabrics and athleisure with a high proportion of elastic. Mayer & Cie. sees in these requirements significant potential for its machines – and in Batliboi a partner able in view of its experience to put them to optimal use.

Best possible combination of new and tried and trusted faces

One building block in the set-up of Mayer & Cie. representatives is unchanged. Brady Services will continue with Batliboi to contribute its close ties with the local market. A significant number of existing companies will continue to be looked after by Brady Services.

The Batliboi team at ITME 2022 along with several Mayer & Cie. colleagues

The new member in Mayer Bangladesh team is Dhaka-based Almani Biz. A lubricants specialist for circular knitting machines Almani Biz has a wide network with Bangladesh knitting industry.

Mayer & Cie. feels well positioned by this new set-up. "We," Wolfgang Müller says, "are of the opinion that the market for textile machinery in Bangladesh will continue to grow and we are our performance for your profit confident that by strengthening our sales, service and marketing team we will be able to make good use of this opportunity."

A market with great potential

Customers in Bangladesh have placed large orders in the past. The latest, placed in January, was for several dozen machines to be delivered this autumn. Further orders from Apex and BEXIMCO (Bangladesh Export Import Company) are also scheduled for delivery in the second half of 2023.

Nepal represented by Batliboi

While reorganising the set-up of its representatives in Bangladesh Batliboi has also taken over as Mayer & Cie.'s representative in Nepal, where the company had previously had no local representative. There is a demand for machines for interlock, 8-lock and single jersey, but sales are still in single figures. "Nepal has long been served from India, specifically by Batliboi," Wolfgang Müller says. "So, we have now formalised the existing practice."

About Mayer & Cie.

Mayer & Cie. (MCT) is a world-leading manufacturer of circular knitting machines. The company offers the full range of machines needed to manufacture modern textiles: from fabrics for domestic textiles, sportswear, nightwear and bathing attire, seat covers and underwear to technical textiles. In addition, Mayer & Cie. regularly develops new approaches.

Since 2019 the manufacture of braiding machines has complemented Mayer & Cie.'s portfolio of services. They serve to produce sheathing for hydraulic hoses used, for example, in aviation, the automobile industry or for other special niche applications.

Founded in 1905, Mayer & Cie. earned 2022 sales revenue of approx. € 110 million (preliminary figures) with a payroll of about 450 employees, including around 350 in Albstadt. In addition to its headquarters in Albstadt, Germany, and subsidiaries in Czechia and China, Mayer & Cie. is represented by its circular knitting machine and braiding machine sales partners in about 80 countries.

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CORPORATE NEWS

Lenzing's flagship brand TENCEL™ teams up with INTIMASIA to exhibit Intimate Wear across the Nation

TENCEL™ INTIMASIA 2023 to amp up future of Intimate Wear Industry

Lenzing's flagship Textile Brand for lyocell and modal fibers - TENCEL™ teamed up with INTIMASIA to exhibit the future of Intimate wear segment across the nation. After four successful editions of INTIMASIA, TENCEL ™ fiber brand once again came back to support the intimate wear industry. The event took place from 20th - 22nd February 2023 in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

TENCEL™ INTIMASIA covered 1,20,000 square feet and include 200+ renowned brands, 100+ Raw Material Suppliers, 15,000+ Retailers & Distributors, and 500+ delegates. TENCEL™ INTIMASIA turned the wheel of innovation and started a conversation about the future of the intimate wear apparel industry, making it South Asia's largest B2B fashion expo in the intimate wear category. Retailers, distributors, wholesalers, and potential business owners were seen rushing to this cutting-edge intimate-wear apparel expo from India. Through strategic placement and deft timing, this event is targeting Mumbai, the city with the highest per capita spending in India. TENCEL™ INTIMASIA 2023, which took place at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, has welcomed sizable attendees of 15,000 visitors from across India.

During the tradeshow, the audience was eager to connect with the Indian experts in intimate wear for the latest offerings, innovations, and trends. The event presented products, services, and technology relevant to the entire production chain, serving as the undisputed gateway to offer exceptional quality and a one-stop selling and sourcing platform. Products from the following categories were displayed: lingerie, underwear, sleepwear, loungewear, swimwear, beachwear, yoga wear, activewear, children's innerwear, athleisure, shapewear, maternity wear, leggings, sportswear, thermals, socks, hosiery, and handkerchiefs. In addition to other products, participating suppliers demonstrated fibres, yarns, elastics, lace, packaging, mannequins, retail software, display solutions, and machines. TENCEL™ INTIMASIA also showcased product demonstrations, collection debuts, and networking events throughout its three-day trade fair to bring together producers, wholesalers, suppliers, retailers, and other industry experts.

Yusuf Dohadwala, Chief Organizer and CEO of Intimate Apparel Association of India said that "INTIMASIA's grand success has set a new milestone for the Hosiery & Knitwear Industry with record participation both in exhibitors & visitors. The Show further displayed India's preparedness in increasing exports for the intimate wear industry and replacing China soon. The Indian Innerwear & Comfort wear segment is currently valued at 60,000 Crores and expected to reach 90,000 Crores by 2026 giving tremendous growth opportunities."

Talking about the show and the brand, Avinash Mane - Commercial Director, of Lenzing fibers (TENCEL™) South Asia said, "Due to the softness and skin friendliness, our fibres go well with products for intimate wear. We make sure that the fibres are of superior quality so that anyone can use these fibres to manufacture intimate wear. We believe in expanding the Indian intimate apparel market, and INTIMASIA is a great step towards it. We hope that people got the best out of this trade show as it was a great platform for networking as well."

Apart from product displays, several Panel Discussions took place where Industry experts like Mr. Avinash Mane - Commercial Director, Lenzing fibers, Mr. Ritesh Sharma - Head - Brand & Retail, R-Elan, Mr. Dinesh Keswani - Business Development, Creora, and Mr. Rajkumar Agarwal - MD, SVG Fashions graced the event.

TENCEL ™ brand, the title sponsor of the event also exhibited its innovations at the trade show. It has been seen that the lyocell and modal fibres

sold under the TENCEL ™ brand have seen a phenomenal demand in the Indian intimate wear market. Made from sustainably harvested wood using eco-friendly manufacturing techniques TENCEL™ fibers are used in numerous highly specialized applications, they may be found in the collections of many recognized brands and leading designers. They are recognized for their superior comfort and smoothness, as well as for their capacity to regulate temperature and for high color vibrancy. Underwear and high-quality lingerie benefit tremendously with the use of TENCEL™ Intimate cellulosic fibres. The fiber's smooth surface has a delicate character that gives it a scarcely perceptible feel. The fibres also effectively absorb moisture, creating a less favorable environment for the growth of bacteria, improving the sanitary properties of fabrics while also adding long-lasting softness and improved breathability.

Even many national and international brands have adopted TENCEL™ modal and lyocell fiber which offer more value than existing fibers like cotton and are becoming more cost competitive in the market. These fibers are now hugely popular among emerging and existing domestic brands to offer the product to Indian consumers at an affordable rate.

About TENCEL™

TENCEL™ is the flagship brand under The Lenzing Group that covers textile specialty product fiber offerings. Since 1992, the TENCEL™ brand has been driving the evolution of fiber solutions for the apparel and home textile segments through several industry-first innovations and environmentally responsible production processes. Product brands under TENCEL™ include TENCEL™ Active, TENCEL™ Denim, TENCEL™ Home, TENCEL™ Intimate, TENCEL™ Luxe and TENCEL™ for Footwear.

Featuring botanic origin and biodegradable quality, TENCEL™ branded modal and lyocell fibers are also gentle on skin with smooth, long-lasting softness, color vibrancy and color retention features. TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are versatile and can be combined with a wide range of textile fibers to enhance the aesthetics and functionality of fabrics. Through moisture management, TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers can also absorb moisture efficiently. Offering endless design possibilities, TENCEL™ Modal fibers can be blended with other fibers and processed using conventional machinery, significantly improving the softness and comfort of fabrics.

Fibers and filaments used under the TENCEL™ brand are derived from certified and controlled sources following the stringent guidelines of the Lenzing Wood and Pulp Policy. They are produced via environmentally responsible production processes and are compostable and biodegradable, thus can fully revert back to nature. They are designated by the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) BioPreferred® Program. TENCEL™ Luxe is registered by The Vegan Society.

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.

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Rimi Nayak works jointly with Liva to create an exclusive collection 'BOTANICS'

This capsule range of resort celebration wearis set to seamlessly integrate fashion and sustainability

Rimi Nayak India has collaborated with Liva from the house of Birla Cellulose to create an exclusive capsule range of resort celebration wear; 'BOTANICS.'The collection is heavily inspired by Mother Nature and its various flora and fauna. The bold floral prints in myriad bright hues are a tribute to the evergreen and effervescent nature. The riot of colours is balanced with contrasting neutral shades to signify the opposites that occur in nature including the change of seasons.

Created with Liva's natural and sustainable fabrics, the silhouettes range from free-flowing drapes and saris to structured outfits reflecting the same dichotomy that exists in nature. The collection has a lot of bright vibrant colours, big floral prints and a range of separates which can be mixed and matched together, to create looks suiting one's own personal style.

Speaking about the collaboration, Mr. Sree Charan, Global Head- Brand & Communications, Liva, said, "The core essenceof Liva is creating natural fluid fabric which is fashionable and sustainable at the same time. This collaboration is a result of the alignment between Rimi Nayak's design philosophyand Liva's commitment to go heavy on style and light on the planet. With our fluid fabrics and her exquisite designs, the collection is not only aesthetically appealing but also environmentally responsible."

The exclusive collection by Rimi Nayak India and Liva Fabrics will feature classic cuts, signature prints, and unconventional surface techniques that the brand is known for. The collection will be available at Rimi Nayak India stores across the country.

Rimi Nayak, the designer behind the label, expressed her excitement for the collaboration, "Liva's fluid fabrics are a designer's dream, and I am thrilled to work with them on this collection. I have always been a fan of sustainable and eco-friendly fabrics, and Liva's commitment to sustainability aligns with our brand values. Together, we have created a collection that is both stylish and conscious."

To check out the collection, click on the link

Liva Fabrics | Natural & Viscose Fabrics | Birla Cellulose Fibre - LIVA Fluid Fashion.

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High-resistance sustainable nonwoven : Radici Group showcased Advanced Textile solutions at Index

Spunbond, meltblown and composite structures for new market opportunities

RadiciGroup participated with its Advanced Textile Solutions business area at Index – a leading nonwovens trade show taking place in Geneva from 18 to 21 April 2023. Among the Group's products showcased are spunbond and meltblown for different application sectors, such as roofing, construction, automotive, HO.RE.CA. and filtration.

"The key message we have brought to the fair is sustainability," noted Enrico Buriani, CEO of the Nonwovens division of RadiciGroup Advanced Textile Solutions. "Those who already know us know that, for many years, the Group has been focused on proposing low environmental impact products and processes where sustainability is scientifically measured or certified by independent third parties. Our company is dedicated to nonwovens, which, by the way, are produced using 100% renewable energy. We have expanded our portfolio of innovative solutions for customers interested in realizing projects with sustainability as an essential requirement."

Respunsible® is a spunbond brand manufactured from recycled polypropylene. A preliminary Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) study was carried out by RadiciGroup to demonstrate the correlation between the reduction in environmental impact and the percentage increase in recycled material. The final results demonstrate that a variable percentage of from 50 to 70% recycled material leads to a reduction in CO_2 emissions of from 30 to 40%, compared to a fabric made of 100% virgin material, without comprising high technical performance.

Additionally, since RadiciGroup has achieved ISCC PLUS certification (International Sustainability and Carbon Certification), it can offer bio, biocircular or circular polypropylene spunbond and meltblown nonwovens, in which the sustainable polypropylene is biomass balanced. This certification signifies traceability along the supply chain and verifies that the certified companies meet high environmental and social standards.

Active for over 30 years in the manufacture of nonwovens, the Group continues to invest in an increasingly sustainable offering and high-performance technical products that meet the requirements of numerous industrial segments.

"Since 2020, we have had a technologically advanced meltblown production line," Mr. Buriani concluded. "This allows us to make composite structures, sold under the brand name Radimelt®. Now our goal is to expand our filtration applications, diversifying and developing new business, for instance vacuum cleaner bags or HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) system filters, where we can meet the high efficiency and mechanical resistance demanded, thanks to our latest generation technology."

What's more, colour is a central feature in the RadiciGroup portfolio: the colour chart is extensive and in continual evolution. Tailor-made colours can be formulated according to specific customer needs.

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R&D and Service are in French Textile Machinery Manufacturer's DNA

Interview with Christian Guinet, Secretary General, French Textile Equipment Manufacturers' Association (UCMTF)

Before answering your questions, I would like on behalf of all our members and personally of course, present our sincere condolences to the families of the victims of the terrible earthquakes which struck Turkey and Syria on February 6.

Christian Guinet, Secretary General at UCMTF

We have many customers, particularly in Gaziantep and Aleppo, they are not only customers but partners and friends. No word as any significance.

From the information we receive, may I only say that we admire the resilience of the Turkish and Syrian people. Many factories have been back to work incredibly fast. That may be the best homage to the victims!

Let us know about UCMTF member's participation at ITMA Milano 2023. How many French companies will be there, Do you have any new technology to exhibit in ITMA for first time from French manufacturers?

Christian Guinet : Let me remind you that we are particularly strong in long fibre spinning (wool, acrylic …), yarn twisting and control (including technical yarns), space-dyeing, heat setting for carpet yarns, carpet systems, bleaching and hydro-extractor equipment, dyeing and finishing, felts and belts for finishing processes, precision machining and textile ERP.

Offering off-shelve equipment for mass market productions is not our strategy. We are focused on smaller or even niche markets, then we have to be prepared to adapt our equipment to our customer's specific needs and have design and production capacities to do this at industrial prices. This has been our strategy for many years, and this is why most of our customers are long-time partners.

They need flexible equipment and many services from us. Our members have to be agile to design, produce and service the equipments which are needed even for small orders. As they are mostly SME's, run by real entrepreneurs, they can sustain this strategy. R&D and service are in their DNA.

ITMA 2023 will take place next June in Milano. I cannot speak specifically of the new features our members will introduce. It is not the responsibility of our association to do so. Each equipment manufacturer has his own strategy to present its innovations to his own partners and to the general market.

Please explain more about UCMTF Participants at ITMA 2023, range of products and machinery in textile industry. Share with us the most important products and properties of French exhibitors in different categories.

Christian Guinet : In 2022, our sales were back to a "normal pre-pandemic" 1 billion euros annual turnover.

At the beginning of 2023, our orders books are quite good. Most of our members have a backlog of orders of about 5 to 6 months, and new orders are coming in.

For the long run, we believe that apparel, home textiles, and carpets productions will at least, increase with the world population and economic growth and that many new applications will fuel the technical textile sector. Then, new investments in equipments will be needed both to keep up with the growth of our customers and to modernize their factories. To be sustainable, this growth will need much more recycling but recycling is also a new sector by itself which needs as much equipments and workforce as the more traditional sectors.

Right now, we face two problems: inflation and shortages of some components. The rising prices of raw materials is not specific to the textile industry. After an unusually long period of worldwide low inflation, the geopolitical tensions, the war in Ukraine, the availability and prices of energy have set a return to a new wave of inflation, rising interest rates and social disruptions. In the equipment business, our companies have faced shortages and incredible price increases in electronic devices and transportation.

But, it is when everything looks complicated and difficult that good news may come in. Logistical disruptions seem to ease substantially, transportation prices are going back to pre-crisis levels, the inflation peak seems behind us and interest rates are increasing at a lower speed. Then, it may be time to be positive!

Sustainability and recycling is an important subject for textile manufacturers all around the world, what is UCMTF and French textile machinery manufacturers' sustainability policy?

Christian Guinet : New trends are of course related to sustainable developments and Artificial Intelligence.

Concerning sustainable developments, the demand comes from the end consumers themselves. The well-known global brands as the smaller ones cannot just follow this trend but have to be leaders. Then their own suppliers, the textile (fabrics and carpets) manufacturers have to adapt their own production processes. This is where, we, as equipment manufacturers, have our own responsibilities. Offer energy, water, chemical, raw materials savings thanks to new design of our equipments.

For the long term, I think it will have a positive effect on our companies. Just one example: one of our members, a few days ago, showed me the energy savings from the replacement of equipment he had computed with a customer. The pay back of the equipment he was offering was less than a year compared to the machine which was installed in the customer's factory!

The equipment we sell may run for many years but the old equipments are not energy efficient, new investments have very quick paybacks, I believe that this is a real argument to invest and then an additional chance for us to sell new equipments.

Artificial intelligence may help as it helps to focus on zero defects and traceability. Industry 4.0, is already a reality in the factories of our customers. Artificial intelligence is no more a dream but a tool to maximize cost reductions and the metaverse is already developed, even by us as an association, to design virtual presentations. In our R&D departments, we see the developments of digitalization and Artificial Intelligence.

For example, to design new equipments we have incredible tools like CATIA which has been developed by a French software company. It is sure that digitalization within a factory or between customers and suppliers will continue to take a bigger and bigger role.

How UCMTF help to members to promote their machines and services around the world? What is your most important activities in last year?

Christian Guinet : As the trade association grouping the French textile equipment manufacturers, we are a member of Cematex and therefore have an important role in the decision-making process of this European association which owns the ITMA brands including ITMA ASIA.

We provide our members with economic information and represent them at the European and French levels.

We organize road shows in the textile areas. For example, in the countries your journal is the most active :

- In Turkey, our second most important market, we have organized road shows in Gaziantep (and the next day in close by Aleppo), in Bursa and we have been active at all the ITM expos
- In Africa, we have participated in the African Sourcing expo in Addis-Abeba
- In Egypt we have organized a seminar in Cairo and participated in Stitch-Tex just before the pandemic broke
- In Iran, our conferences took place in the main textile production centers including Kashan, Ispahan and Yazd
- Our latest conference took place in Morocco in November 2022. We organized it in Fès I certainly forget some. But I do not forget our goal which is to do all this even better and closer and closer to our customers.

We have also redesigned our website www.ucmtf.com which is a very convenient hub to visit our members own websites. We have helped our members design new marketing tools incorporating virtual presentations.

Our sales teams can travel again. As they have established personal relationships with their counterparts, I strongly believe they can go beyond usual business relationships and see how our companies can help their customers develop new markets and products. These partnerships are really important. Our strategy has always been to have very stable collaborators, continuing education and internal promotion, this is very positive to establish a mutual understanding relationship with our customers and go beyond the day-to-day business.

At the end you can add any other information that you think is interesting for readers in the EMEA region and a better interview.

Christian Guinet : The French textile equipments manufacturers are the 5th exporters worldwide. ITMAs are important to meet our customers at the highest level. At ITMA we show our latest innovations but we also discuss with our customers-partners about the future. We tell them on which technologies we are working, they tell us what their markets are asking and we try to find how these could fit.

ITMA 2023 will be a great edition. I just received some statistics from the ITMA organizers. Already 120 000 square meters are booked which is about 10% more than the final figures for ITMA 2019 in Barcelona (before the pandemic).

I would like to end this interview with a very proud moment for us. Kristian Blummenfelt, the Norwegian athlete won the Men's Triathlon Olympic Gold Medal. At that time, I did not know that the Trimtex Skinsuit he was wearing for swimming, cycling and running was made of a fabric designed and produced by the French company Payen. Even more: to dye and finish the fabric, Payen is using a machine from one of our members, Alliance. It dyes and finishes the fabric which incorporates an unusually high percentage of elastane-covered polymer.

Highly technical finishing equipment for a highly technical fabric and, at the end of the story, a Gold Medal!

I trust that many customers will award us "gold medals" during the next ITMA. It will be an honor and a pleasure to welcome them on our booths.

For further information, please contact :
info@kohantextilejournal.com ■

ITMA 2023

08-14 June 2023
Milan, Italy

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ITMA 2023 Partner Events

ITMA facilitates the creation of new opportunities and valuable relationships by hosting events from leading industry organisations at ITMA 2023. Join the partner events to transform the world of textile and garment manufacturing, collaboratively.

ZDHC Impact Day 2023

11 June 2023

The ZDHC Impact Day 2023 will highlight the organisation's efforts, impact, and achievements in the last year. Attendees will also learn about ZDHC's new strategy, improved vision and Roadmap to Zero until 2030, as well as sustainable chemical management.

Planet Textiles

12 - 13 June 2023

Hosted by the Sustainable Apparel Coalition, Planet Textiles brings together textile and apparel businesses to discuss the latest Higg Index updates, the role of manufacturers in driving change, and the future of science-based targets. Planet Textiles is a licensed brand of MCL News & Media.

Discover, Exchange and Gain Insights on Latest Innovations and Industry Trends

ITMA Textile Colourants and Chemicals Forum

9 June 2023

Engage with industry experts and learn about the latest trends such as reducing carbon footprint in chemical treatment, improving dyehouse output treatment, fibre fragmentation and many more green chemistry initiatives in the colourants and chemicals industry.

Don't miss the keynote presentation Textile Wastewater: Addressing Microfibre Loss During Manufacture by Ms Sophie Mather, Co-Founder and Executive Director of The Microfibre Consortium, and Mr Prasad Pant, Director (South Asia) of the ZDHC Foundation.

TEXTILE EVENTS

ITMA Nonwovens Forum

10 June 2023

Nonwoven applications have risen at a rapid pace in light of the textile industry's desire to produce quality products that are environmentally friendly and cost-effective. Discover the latest innovations and solutions designed to meet these challenges at this forum.

Keynote speaker Dr Bryan Haynes, Technical Director, Global Nonwovens, Kimberly-Clark Corporation will share insights on Ready Now Nonwoven Solutions for the Global Plastics Crisis.

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Register for your conference badge today at EUR219 (plus applicable VAT)! All members of ITMA 2023 supporting organisations enjoy preferential rates. Get the promo codes from your association now!

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ITMA Blog

Change is happening now, and it's happening fast. Explore the industry's big issues such as green financing, textile functionalising, material reshoring, smart textile developments, next-gen materials and may more in the latest blog article.

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

Uniform and Sportswear Expo 2023

Mumbai 23-25 November

Venue : Nehru Centre Worli, Mumbai

Second Edition of Uniform & Sportswear Expo 2023 Will be Held On 23-25 November 2023 at Mumbai

When a new trade show makes a successful debut, a sequel is obviously expected. Uniform and Sportswear Expo 2022, the dedicated B2B exhibition showcasing growth opportunities with significant knowledge takeaways was highly praised by exhibitors and visitors alike. There is good news for them as dates for the 2023 edition have just been announced. The second edition will again be held at Nehru Centre, Worli, Mumbai, from November 23-25, 2023, this time on the ground floor for more convenient access.

Technical seminars are also planned during the expo to increase the value addition factor and knowledge sharing. A 'TechnoInnovation Pavilion' is planned for the first time to include those start-ups providing relatively new concepts / products / services to the Uniform and Sportswear segment. The well-planned and structured three-day exhibition promises a rewarding B2B interface yet again along with the freedom to interact in a focused manner with the target audience, while showcasing varied products and related services in an enabling environment.

Uniform and Sportswear Expo 2023 is being organised by Aditya Expositions, a reputed brand and catalyst for industry transformation. Sharing the significance of the second edition, Devang N. Sheth, Managing Director, Aditya Expositions, emphasised, "Uniform and Sportswear Expo 2022 provided a dedicated platform to achieve the inherent potential for uniforms and sports apparel in the market. The second edition will now raise benchmarks further and highlight the scope for tapping exponential growth opportunities not just within India but beyond borders as well."

"This on-ground event, provides a customised platform for showcasing brands, products, machinery and more. Trade shows are an essential component for business interaction and networking and this concept fits the industry requirements precisely. This sunrise industry has vast scope to increase its share within the apparel and textile market. We envisage immense potential for growth and development. This initiative is our contribution to enable manufacturers from this country to export all over the world; facilitating the 'Make in India' efforts as they progress and achieve a level of true success," he added.

Uniform and Sportswear Expo 2023 offers an ideal opportunity to reap big benefits. Media Partners for the three-day event are Screen Print India magazine and Sublimating Ideas magazine, with Screenprinting & Graphics Association of India (SGAI) as the Supporting Association.

The activewear market in India has witnessed a steady growth in terms of market revenue. The market was valued at INR 466.9 billion in 2018 and is estimated to reach INR 997.8 billion by 2024, with an estimated compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of about 13.59%, during 2019-2024.

The market size of the uniforms manufacturing sector in India is estimated to be Rs.18,000 crore per annum, with Rs.10,000 crore coming from machinery and fabrics while Rs.8,000 crore come from sales supplying to local schools through retailers and institutions.

The show organisers, Aditya Exposition (P) Ltd., have envisaged an extensive social media campaigns on the available and popular, regularly accessed platforms, in order to reach out to sportswear manufacturers, buyers, exporters, wholesalers and dealers in the sector, corporates, sports organisations, clubs, yoga and gym clubs, sportspersons, coaches, sports therapists, etc. Constant promotion of the exhibition will be undertaken to create wider awareness.

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Texfair Video

Oerlikon

Oerlikon Barmag at the PU TECH India 2023

Oerlikon presented its Barmag pumps – metering with superlative precision at PU TECH India held from 12-14 April 2023

Greater productivity, increased lifespan and tailored solutions for the most demanding technical tasks in PUR applications and in the paints and lacquers industry – these are the convincing arguments with which Oerlikon Barmag is presenting its precision metering pumps at this year's PU TECH India, the international polyurethane industry trade fair being held in New Delhi, India between April 12 and 14 (Hall North 1, Stand NA10).

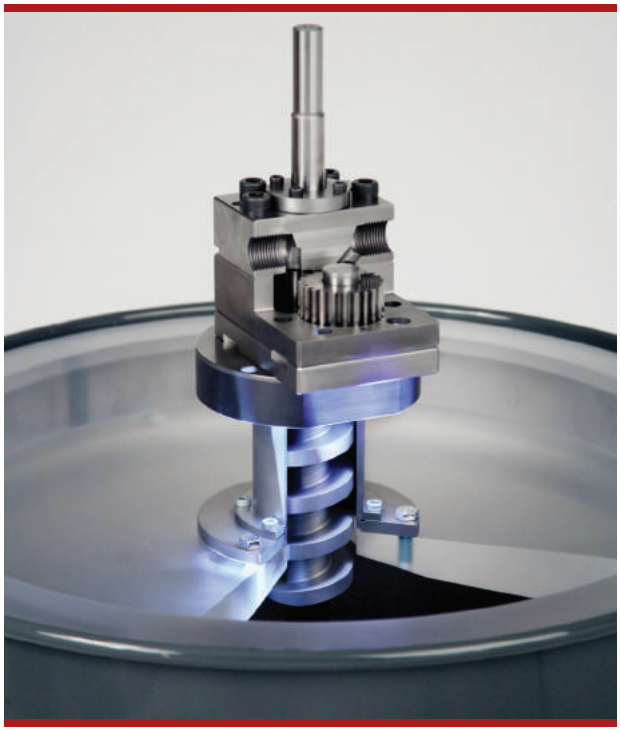
High-tech components for high-performance compound materials

Polyurethane is conquering ever more areas of modern life – automobiles, furniture, footwear, medical technology and packaging. However, processing it is extremely complex and demands tailored solutions for the respective applications. Here, the precisely-defined mixing ratio of the various elements during manufacture is decisive for the quality of the end product. Oerlikon Barmag metering pumps are responsible for the precise metering of the various liquid materials in the numerous chemical processes carried out during the production of the components. In addition to the high quality of the end products, they ensure that production is highly-efficient – something that is reflected in shorter product conversion times and lower waste rates.

The GA range of pumps has been designed for conveying media with higher viscosities of up to 1,500 Pas and temperatures of up to a maximum of 225°C. Furthermore, it is characterized by its short flow channels and the utilization of highly wear-resistant tool steels. With the new range of pumps, Oerlikon Barmag now offers tailor-made solutions for applications requiring accurately-defined, even metering.

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 tailor-made for conveying highly-filled, high-viscosity and abrasive media, such as filled adhesives, filled silicones and filled casting compounds, for example. The highlight 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.



Specialist for conveying and metering high-viscosity materials: the Oerlikon Barmag drum pump.

Drum pumps – conveying and metering in a single unit

Oerlikon Barmag's drum pump has been designed specifically for conveying and metering high-viscosity materials, such as adhesives, silicones, etc., from drums. Karl-Peter Warda, responsible for pumps used in industrial and chemical applications: "The drum pump not only removes high-viscosity materials from the

drum, it also meters the medium to the mixer head without any additional interim stops and with the customarily-high volumetric degree of efficiency. The advantage here lies in the fact that the scooppiston pumps used to date can be dispensed with."

Specialists for chemical applications with pressures of up to 80 bar …

Especially tailored to customer-specific processes, the company supplies magnetically-coupled GM metering pumps for high-precision metering of, for example, toxic materials in hermetically-sealed environments. Shaft seals with stuffing box, shaft sealing ring or slide ring seals are possible for standard applications as well. In addition to the design in rust- and acid-resistant, hardened steel, a wear protection layer (DLC) for abrasive or poorly-lubricating media protects the pump and therefore increases its lifespan.

Oerlikon Barmag's eccentric screw pump is tailor-made for conveying high-viscosity, abrasive and highly-filled media

… and under high pressure

The GM series with the round plate package has been expanded to include an option for the pressure build-up capacity especially for use in high-pressure technology with small throughputs and low viscosities. It is available in 0.05 through 20 cm^2/rev feed sizes and guarantees the build-up of the required high operating pressures. The improved pressure build-up capacity at low viscosities (e.g. 250 bar, 100 mPas) permits higher volumetric degrees of efficiency or a greater useable speed range. For manufacturers of PUR molded parts, foam slab stock, refrigeration unit insulations and sandwich panels, this means constant process stability at lower investment costs.

About Oerlikon Polymer Processing Solutions Division

Oerlikon is a leading provider of comprehensive polymer processing plant solutions and high-precision flow control component equipment. The division provides polycondensation and extrusion lines, manmade fiber filament spinning solutions, texturing machines, BCF and staple fiber lines and nonwoven production systems. Its engineering competence leads to sustainable and energy-efficient solutions for the entire textile value added chain with a circular economy approach. Moreover, Oerlikon develops and produces advanced and innovative hot runner systems for the injection molding industry as well as customized gear metering pumps for the textile, automotive, chemical, dyes and lacquers industries.

The division serves customers through its technology brands – Oerlikon Barmag, Oerlikon Neumag, Oerlikon Nonwoven and Oerlikon HRSflow - in around 120 countries with production, sales, distribution and service organizations.

The division is part of the publicly listed Oerlikon Group, headquartered in Switzerland, which has 12 100 employees and generated CHF 2.9 billion in sales in 2022.

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Lenzing Group

Lenzing Group introduced "Fiber Recycling Initiative" by TENCEL™ spotlights circularity with mechanical recycling of TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers

"Fiber Recycling Initiative" by TENCEL™ set to transform the future of the textile industry with circularity and innovation at heart, starting with the denim segment in the initial phase ˜ Lenzing's long-term partners are at the forefront

of fiber circularity, advocating for the mechanical recycling of TENCEL™ branded lyocell fibers for use in the production of original denim fabrics at a commercial scale

Lenzing Group, a leading global producer of wood-based specialty fibers, introduced the initial phase of the "Fiber Recycling Initiative" by TENCEL™ alongside its valued mill partners, Artistic Milliners from Pakistan, Canatiba from Brazil and Textil Santanderina from Spain. Dedicated to driving circularity in the global textile industry, the new initiative kicks-off with the production of denim fabrics derived from mechanically recycled TENCEL™ branded lyocell fibers. With usage of pre-consumer lyocell waste at a commercial scale, the initiative redefines the circular future of a sustainable denim industry globally.

"Brands and consumers count on us to lead the change towards a more sustainable industry value chain," said Tuncay Kılıçkan, Head of Global Business Development, Denim, at Lenzing. "As we constantly seek ways to improve circularity across various components of the textile industry, our

like-minded, decades-long value chain partners have innovatively discovered the mechanical recycling of TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers in denim production. While such concept is still relatively

new to the wider industry, the development of the "Fiber Recycling Initiative" by TENCEL™ sets out to promote the benefits and unleash the full potential of the new circular fabric."

Transforming the future of denim with mechanically recycled TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers

The initial phase of the new circularity initiative spotlights the ongoing quest for sustainable denim production and innovation from Lenzing and its mill partners as they answer a common call for sustainability, circularity and transparency in the global textile value chain. This is driven by a growing demand from consumers who are looking for more sustainable and circular product options.

"Denim circularity is undeniably the present, and the inevitable future of denim," said Baber Sultan, Director of Research, Product and Trend at Artistic Milliners. "We have seen wider adaptation of mechanical recycling beyond textiles, particularly in paper and construction industries. Considering the high tenacity of TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers, there is an edge to increase recycled content while producing higher quality fabrics. The new fabric has so much potential across global markets, especially with the nostalgia around Y2K and other vintage looks. The classic salt and pepper effect really blooms with mechanically recycled TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers, along with that neppy denim aesthetics."

Virgin TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are reputable for their environmentally responsible, closed loop production process, which transforms sustainably sourced wood pulp into cellulosic fibers with high resource efficiency and low carbon footprint. Mechanically recycled TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers adds to the sustainability features of the denim fabric, as it does not require usage of water or chemicals.

"The mechanically recycled TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are ideal for denim," said the Product Development Team at Canatiba. "Unlike cotton, the new fabric retains its characteristics in relation to virgin fibers, while maintaining the length, resistance and all the physical properties, as well as being super soft to touch. It comes from a completely clean and sustainable process that does not involve water or chemical consumption. In Brazil, mechanically recycled lyocell fibers have a strong potential to scale among large brands and department stores."

Enabling endless possibilities for sustainable denim

Fabrics produced using mechanically recycled TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers feature a "close-to-cotton" aesthetics while retaining the core features of TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers, like breathability, smooth drape, gentle on skin and long-lasting comfort.

"We believe that the future of the textile industry depends on sustainability and circularity, which can also guarantee the survival of denim," said José Antonio Mazorra, Corporate Social Responsibility Manager at Textil Santanderina. "The awareness of reducing environmental impact within our sector is growing, especially with the industry trends of circular economy and sustainable production practices. I expect that innovation and technological improvements around circularity, including phases of collection, selection and recycling, will result in a greater need for mechanically recycled cellulosic fibers."

The fibers are also identifiable in end products, ensuring traceability and transparency of production processes. With the ability to be traced back to their sources, the use of mechanically recycled TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers can be documented and verified, ensuring greater accountability and transparency in the supply chain.

About TENCEL™

TENCEL™ is the flagship brand under The Lenzing Group that covers textile specialty product fiber offerings. Since 1992, the TENCEL™ brand has been driving the evolution of fiber solutions for the apparel and home textile segments through several industry-first innovations and environmentally

responsible production processes. Product brands under TENCEL™ include TENCEL™ Active, TENCEL™ Denim, TENCEL™ Home, TENCEL™ Intimate, TENCEL™ Luxe and TENCEL™ for Footwear.

Featuring botanic origin and biodegradable quality, TENCEL™ branded modal and lyocell fibers are also gentle on skin with smooth, long-lasting softness, color vibrancy and color retention features. TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers are versatile and can be combined with a wide range of textile fibers to enhance the aesthetics and functionality of fabrics. Through moisture management, TENCEL™ Lyocell fibers can also absorb moisture efficiently. Offering endless design possibilities, TENCEL™ Modal fibers can be blended with other fibers and processed using conventional machinery, significantly improving the softness and comfort of fabrics.

Fibers and filaments used under the TENCEL™ brand are derived from certified and controlled sources following the stringent guidelines of the Lenzing Wood and Pulp Policy. They are produced via environmentally responsible production processes and are compostable and biodegradable, thus can fully revert back to nature. They are designated by the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) BioPreferred® Program. TENCEL™ Luxe is registered by The Vegan Society.

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 ladies 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.

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Theengines behind Mesdanreputation and fast growth originate in its outstanding technology andits capabilities to meet textile industry requirements with innovative solutions distinguished in quality and performances.

A simple recipe at first glance, the ingredients that makes the difference are its specific know-how and competence, as well as a touch of Italian creativity.

MESDAN's yarn knotters and splicers are produced in the automatic version (for instance, as an integral part of SAVIO winders) or as hand-operated units. Apart from spinning, weaving, knitting, etc., MESDAN's yarn splicers can be found virtually in any factory that has something to do with textiles, like tyre cord industry, sewing threads manufacturing, cable reinforcement, ropes & fishing nets, umbilicals, medical and disposable hygiene industry, technical yarns/roving (made of fibreglass, carbon fibre, aramid), automotive, etc.

MESDAN-LAB is one of very few textile laboratory equipment suppliers offering such a comprehensive range of testing equipment: for fibres, yarns, fabrics, nonwovens, garments … both physical analysis as well as dyeing and finishing assessment, including colour fastness testing. Mesdan-Lab does also supply standard consumables as well as calibration services. Nowadays a series of Mesdan-Lab equipmentis considered a benchmark in textile testing, a reference standard.

At ITMA 2023 in Milan, MESDAN will display on the corporate VANDEWIELE stand in the Spinning Hall together with SAVIO, LOEPFE and SUPERBA, all under one roof.

VANDEWIELE will showcase their range of products in 4 locations:

- Weaving hall (Hall 10 - stand B201)
- Spinning hall (Hall 3 - stand B205)
- Finishing hall (Hall 11 - stand C305)
- Knitting hall (Hall 4 - stand D108)

This will be a world-première of such a strong corporate presentation.

At ITMA 2023 MESDAN will highlight :

- new mechatronic splicer
- new cotton fiber testing equipment
- new yarn and fabric testing equipment
- newlab-scale shredding machine

The new shredding machine is complementing the well-known Mini-Spinning line, extending its applications towards one of the most important trends:textile recycling.

Looking forward to seeing you in in Milan in the period 8-14 June in Hall 3- stand B205c.

Being the exclusive distributor in the Western part of Europe of THERMETRICS (famous US manufacturer of measuring equipment for the Thermal & Psychological comfort of fabrics and garments), MESDAN will be present also on THERMETRICS booth, Hall 4 – stand D318.

For further information, please contact :
S. Govindarajulu,
Mesdan India Pvt. Ltd.
Coimbatore
Mesdan S.p.A. –Italy,
Phone: +39.0365.653142
sales@mesdan.it
www.mesdan.com

❐

Rabatex Industries

Hall No. 6, Stall No. B307

Rabatex Industries introduces complete range of fabric sampling solutions

A textile sample is a piece of cloth or fabric designed to represent a larger whole. A small sample, usually taken from existing fabric, is called a swatch, whilst a larger sample, made as a trial to test print production methods, is called a strike off. For plain-dyed fabrics it is called a lab-dip, and for yarn-dyed fabrics (like stripes and checks), it is called a handloom.


Mr. Haresh Panchal

The use of swatches has formed an essential part of the design process of textiles throughout different cultures across history. Samples enable designers to display different types of fabric, demonstrating how different colours, materials, trims and methods of weaving will look in real terms—something that may not be readily apparent from a paper of digital design—before the entire fabric is manufactured.

A textile manufacturer may bring together several swatches of materials into a single sample book, which may serve to enable a salesperson to display a wide selection of fabrics to potential customers in a convenient manner. A textile swatch book may also serve as an internal reference for materials that have been made previously and could be manufactured again.

New trend in fashion industry, brand promoter or designer need to feel fabric as actual garment as well as to test market with small quantity of garment, where Advanced Sample warper makes major roll to prepare a short length actual warp with minimum quantity of warp yarn with unlimited design or pattern possibility. This process improves highest success ratio of any new product promotion effectively with actual test market results. Apart from this customisation fabric need is increasing day by day where user need to have specific design or pattern of fabric, which can be fulfilled with use of this technology.

RABATEX Industries have been an indispensable part of fabric industry the world over with new technological evolutions equivalent to any global know how in warp preparation machinery, fabric sampling machinery and material handling and storage equipment for more than 6 decades. Thus, the vacuum which the Indian fabric industry has been subjected to once, could be eliminated by advanced technological import substitute machinery.

Rabatex experts, have been interacting with the technical experts in textile industry across the world over about their actual requirement with respect to value for investment as well as product output expectation in quickest fabric sampling solution. With patience and creation ability, Rabatex Team have made analysis need of future demand and customer expectation as well as global opportunity of Indian Textile Fabric Manufacturing Industry. Exploring highest opportunity for Textile Industry to display their capability, creativity and value addition.

Rabatex Industries emerges with complete solutions of Fabric Sampling

RABATEX have now come out with a complete range of Fabric Sampling Solutions like Small Width Fabric Weaving Machine, Small Width Single End Warper, Cone to cone sizing and Advanced Sample Warper for short length preparation which has its unique features to submit. Of course, the added advantages or special features which every RABATEX brand products always carry have been fed into this new launch also. More than 6 decades of tradition inspires them to come out with something new every time for their patrons.

Fabric Sampling Weaving Machine (Small Width)

Technical specifications

- Working Width : 20" (50CM/500mm)
- Maximum Fabric Sampling length : 30 Meter

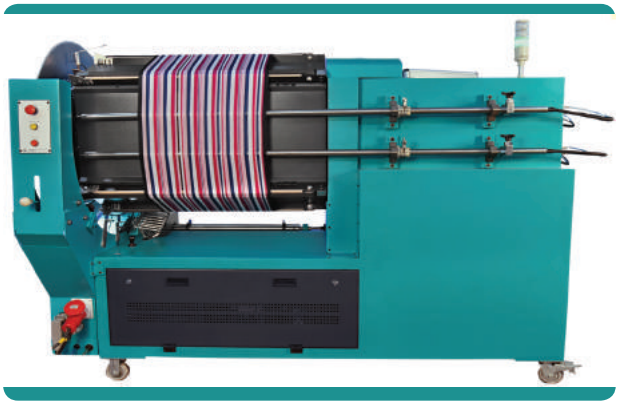
- No of Weft Selectior : 8
- No. of Shaft : 20
- Auto Weft Selector

- Close Loop Control for Speed and Tension
- Fully PLC Controlled

Single End Sample Warper (Small Width)

Technical specifications

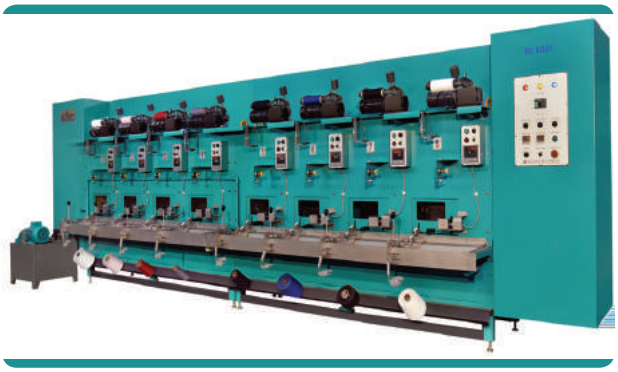
- Working Width : 20" (50CM/500mm)
- Maximum Fabric Sampling length : 30 Meter
- No of Weft Selector : 8
- Leasing Operation : Automatic
- Thread Selection : Automatic
- Pattern Entry : Infinite
- Fully PLC Controlled



Cone to Cone Signgle End Sizing Machine

Technical specifications

- Heating Type : Electrical
- No of Spindles : 1 / 4 / 8
- Maximum Speed MPM : 250 MPM



- Length Set Control : Yes
- Temperature Control : Yes
- Speed Control : Yes
- Spindle Control : Individual

Advanced Sample Warper

Technical specifications

- Maximum Possible Length : 500 Meter
- Maximum Warp Feeder : 16
- Maximum Warping Speed : 1000MPM
- Maximum Beaming Speed : 50MPM
- Cross Lease Automatic : Yes
- Know Lease Automatic : Yes
- 7 Lease Automatic : Yes (Optional)

There are many firsts in Rabatex's cap as they thrive on research and development. They are proud to be part of the progress and value customer's inspiration. This new developed, Rabatex Product were exported recently to USA / CANADA / TURKEY / MEXICO / SOUTH AFRICA / INDONESIA and many more.

Rabatex Industry is the largest supplier of premium warping machines in India. There are already about 3200 Nos. of Sectional Warpers & about 5600 Trollies installed across the world . More details about products can be viewed on www.rabatex.com.

For further information, please contact :
Shima Dhiraj, Sales Co-ordinator
M : +91 9601869615
E-mail : sales@rabatex.com
Rabatex Industries
Plot No. 559, GIDC Opp. Road
No. 9 GIDC Kathwada
Ahmedabad-382430 (Gujarat), India
Phone : +91 792290 1367/68/69/70
Fax : +91 792290 1374
Website : http://www.rabatex.com

Mylon Metallics P. Ltd

Hall No. 1, Stall No. E205

Mylon Metallics came into being an Engineeing Company par excellence for its products

Mylon gathers a lot of experiences in the area of design, manufacture, marketing and technical services

Mylon Metallics was incorporated as an engineering company par excellence for manufacture of engineering products that will find applications in

1. Textile mills - Machines, spares and services.
2. Transport sector – Refrigerated insulated trucks for perishables.
3. Original Equipment Manufacture supplies.

Mylon is promoted by professionals with over 35 years of experience in various fields of design, manufacture, marketing and technical services.

The reputation gained with over 800 customers in India and abroad is the biggest asset for the company.

Mylon is built with a modern PEB structure of 12000 sq ft with EOT crane and other latest gadgets and CAD software to meet the manufacturing requirements. Further CNC machines for sheet metal and metal cutting are shared with other dedicated suppliers in the manufacturing hub of Coimbatore.

Process of yarn conditioning system offered by Mylon Metallics

Yarn Conditioning

Yarn loses the moisture during spinning process from blow room to winding. To regain the lost

moisture various methods were followed. The process of yarn conditioning has been prefected over the years with vacuum steaming of yarn.

Conditioning of yarn improves

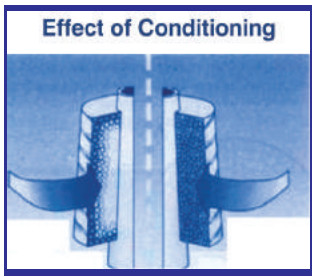
- Yarn elongation and strength
- Better performance at warping, weaving and knitting
- Reduced snarling
- Reduced fly liberation
- Optimum moisture in yarn

Variety of yarn that can be conditioned

- Cotton
- Cotton blends with Rayon /Viscose
- Cotton blends with Polyester
- Worsted/Woollen yarn

Principle of Yarn Conditioning

Conditioning of yarn in atmospheric conditions take several hours for moisture to penetrate the inner layers of cone/cheese.



Generation of steam under vacuum is an established process of conditioning that offer the advantages as :

- Helps in generation of steam at lower temperature
- Better penetration of steam across several layers of yarn homogeneously
- Shortened conditioning time

Process parameters

Material-Yarn	Temperature Deg C	Dwell Time - Minutes	Process Time - Minutes
Cotton-Waxed	55 to 60	25 to 30	50 to 55
Cotton-Warp/ Weft	60 to 80	25 to 30	50 to 55
PC/PV blends - waxed	55 to 60	30 to 40	50 to 60
PC/PV blends - warp	75 to 90	35 to 40	50 to 60
Wool	70 to 80	25 to 30	55 to 60

Principle of Yarn Conditioning Plant

Conditioning at atmospheric pressure takes several hours for moisture to penetrate the inner layers of cones/cheese.

Generation of steam under vacuum has the advantages as :

- Helps in generation of steam at lower temperatures
- Better penetration of moisture across several layers of yarn homogeneously
- Shortened Conditioning time

Mylon - Yarn Conditioning Plant

Technical Specifications

MYLON – Yarn Conditioning Plant						
Description	YCP 200	YCP 750	YCP 1000	YCP 1250	YCP 1500	YCP 2000
Batch Capacity-Kgs	200	750	1000	1250	1500	2000
Production/day-tonnes	4–4.5	16–18	22–24	27–30	33–36	44–48
Diameter-mm	1400	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Length-mm	1500	2500	3300	4100	4900	6500
Height	2800	3400	3400	3400	3400	3400
Connected load-Kw	36	90	120	150	180	210
Number of trolleys	1	3	4	5	6	8

- Specifications are subject to change
- Batch capacity will depend on cone diameter and weight of cones
- Production capacity will depend on process parameters

Heating options : Electrical, Steam, Dual, Gas

Material loading : Trolleys with automatic loading platform.

Pre Condition/Post Condition

Yarn Conditioning

A typical conditioning improves the moisture in yarn by 1.5 to 1.8% depending on the yarn/ fiber properties and conditioning parameters. Certain application may require higher increase in moisture. Pre/post conditioning of the yarn

MYLON Yarn Conditioning Plant – Technical Specifications							
Description	**YCP-Cube**			**YCP–Cube Floor Mounted**			
	1250	**1500**	**2000**				
Production/batch in kgs	1250	1500	2000	200	600	1200	1600
Production / day in Tonnes	27–30	33–36	44–48	4–5	13–15	upto 29	upto 35
Width in mm	1450	1450	1450	1450	1450	1800	1800
Length in mm	4300	5100	6700	1200	1600	3075	3475
Height in mm	1850	1850	1850	2000	2000	2000	2000
Overall height from pit	2300	2300	2300	2600	2600	2600	2600
Connected load heater KW	90	150	150	36	60	90	150
Other motors KW	14.5	14.5	26	5	7.5	14.5	14.5
Loading options	Auto	Auto	Auto	Direct	Direct	Direct	Direct
Number of Carriers	5	6	8	1	2	4	6
Pallet size LxWxH mm	1200×1200×1300	1200×1200×1300	1200×1200×1300	NA	NA	NA	NA

- ► Capacity depends on package diameters, package weight.
- ► Production/day depends on capacity/batch & process parameter.
- ► Technical details given in this catalogue are subject to change without prior notice.

- ⇛ Specifications are subject to change
- ⇛ Batch capacity will depend on cone diameter and weight of cones
- ⇛ Production capacity will depend on process parameters

Heating options : Electrical, Steam, Dual, Gas. **Material loading :** Trolleys with automatic loading platform.

increases the moisture by 0.2 to 05% depending on the duration of the process, yarn/fiber properties.

Customised Manual, Automatic Pre/Post conditioning systems can be offered.

Spares

A reliable source for

⇛ Yarn Conditioning ⇛ Spares ⇛ Trolleys ⇛ Service

Spares and Service for Yarn Conditioning Plant

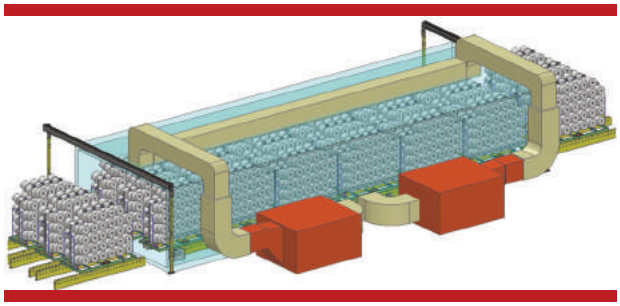
Yarn Conditioning Machines supplied by several reputed suppliers in the past 20+ years are in operation in most of the spinning mills. These machines need spares and services from experts with vast experience in conditioning.

Mylon offers all the essential spares, PLC, Electrical and Mechanical upgrade kits for improving the performance of conditioning machines at an economical cost.

Containers

Reefer trucks

Mylon with the facility to manufacture and experience in engineering has ventured into the manufacture of Insulated Containers for perishables.



A wide range of containers are offered

1. GRP Insulated containers. 2. Aluminium Insulated containers. 3. Steel Insulated containers. 4. Dry containers

The sectors served in Normal, Zero and Sub Zero temperatures

1. Ice creams. 2. Fish & Poultry. 3. Cakes & Pastry. 4. Vegetables. 5. Milk and milk products

Advantages of Mylon - Reefer Trucks

Have an association with COOLTECH Containers for marketing and technical support

- Association with reputed Air conditioning & Refrigeration companies like Carrier Thermo King. Tessol to offer complete package.
- Experience in working with all reputed truck manufacturers like Bharat Benz, Ashok Leyland, TATA, Isuzu, Eicher.

For further information, please contact :
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Landline : +91 9047033798, +91 9047022798
mail : mylonmetallics@gmail.com
www.mylonmetallics.com ❐

Loepfe Brothers Ltd

Loepfe to showcase its products made with cutting-edge technology in ITMA 2023, Milan

At ITMA Milan 2023, Loepfe is taking a new approach and inviting visitors to witness firsthand the remarkable advantages Loepfe users experience with its cutting-edge sensor technology.

Profitable, efficient and easy with a high-quality output - that is what Loepfe stands for. But how do they make it happen?

Textile Corner

Loepfe will demonstrate how its sensors keep yarn producers ahead of the competition by showcasing impressive achievements from Loepfe users in the Textile Corner.

Loepfe specialists will demonstrate how unique sensor technologies detect the smallest deviation in yarns, while clever software evaluates the signals to maximize quality and machine efficiency. Field study results, fabric examples and much more will be available for visitors to kick off exciting discussions.

Loepfe provides solutions for producers that need quality yarns at maximum machine efficiency. With the market's most advanced yarn monitoring systems, producers can reduce costs and waste, increase efficiency, and enjoy ease of use.

Clever yarn clearing

Loepfe focuses on the needs of producers and turns quality control into profitability through groundbreaking technology and clever software. Loepfe will showcase its market leading YarnMaster® PRISMA and YarnMaster® ZENIT+ technologies, both of which lead in technology, performance, and proven reliability for all applications in winding.

A special highlight at ITMA will be the newly launched PRISMA Autoclearing functions, which provide the perfect solution for ease of use in yarn clearing. PRISMA Autoclearing offers the most effortless yarn clearing experience on the market. Visitors can also test the full range of functions of the associated MillMaster® TOP data system, including trend analysis, planning boards for winding machine scheduling, clearer-assistant for cut forecasts, and more.

In the open-end sector, Loepfe will present our world renowned and well proven YarnMaster® EOS. This rotor yarn clearer is known for meeting the spinner's requirement for consistent yarn quality and maximum machine efficiency.

Loepfe's offerings extend beyond the spinning sector, including the WeftMaster® CUT-iT for thermal fabric cutting and the all-rounder sensor WeftMaster® FALCON-i. The FALCON-i is known for zero-defect manufacturing, regardless of color, conductive materials, monofilament, or multifilament yarns.

Meet the team

Finally, visitors are invited to meet the Loepfe team, which has recently expanded with independent local business units in Turkey, India and China within the Vandewiele Group structure. Sales agents and service partners are now officially Loepfe colleagues, and they will be available at the Loepfe booth B205d in Hall 3 for interesting exchanges.

For further information, please contact :
Loepfe Brothers Ltd.
8623 Wetzikon / Switzerland
Kastellstrasse 10
Phone +41 43 488 11 11
www.loepfe.com ❐

Bluemoon Machines

Hall No. 4, Stall No. E223

Bluemoon Machines Manufacturer to show case its latest textile machines equipments at ITMA 2023, Milan from 8-14 June

A brief profile of Bluemoon

Bluemoon engineering was established by Mr. Moiz Akbar Kalavadwala in 1968 with a vision to offer quality steam based textile machines. It eventually diversified in manufacturing a perfect range of machines & equipments for textile industry.

Bluemoon is recognized for its tradition of ensuring long term business relationship with customers by achieving total customer satisfaction in its products. The company is assuring leading position in textile industry by providing high-tech, efficient, safe and reliable products to customers at very competitive price and well on time.

Its manufacturing facilities are situated at Surat, famous for its jari, silk and diamond industries at world level and one of the important hub of indian textile business. It gives a privilege to the company, Surat is just 300 Kms away from Mumbai, India's financial capital.

At Bluemoon, we are committed to provide our customers cost effective solution for their various process needs by applying intensive R&D and 43 years engineering expertise of our engineers and specialists.

Major textile machines manufactured by Bluemoon with world class engineering expertise

Yarn Conditioning Plant

Bluemoon Advantage

- Low power consumption
- Low maintenance
- Low process cost
- Short payback period
- High quality conditioning
- Uniform moisture gain through out the package
- Moisture level increases by 1.5-2%.

Advantages of conditioned yarn

- Increased single yarn strength and elongation.
- Improved hairiness.
- Constant friction coefficient.
- Better running ability for subsequent production process.
- Enhances productivity, reduces fly generation, improves fabric softness.

Salient Features

- Designed as per ASME SEC VIII DIV I.
- Non corrosive stainless steel used for material of construction.
- Welding joints are tested with radiography.
- Vessel is insulated externally to maintain negative (vaccum) pressure which helps in producing cold saturated steam at low (46°c) temperature.
- Option of normal vaccum (700 mm-Hg) or high vaccum (750 mm - Hg) i.e. 99%.

- Precise process control as sensors interfaced with PLC based control panel. This allows the process to activate only as per prescribed limit of parameters like water level, pressure, temp, & time etc.
- Precise software ensures accurate repeatation of process.
- Single or multicycle process facility.
- Hydraulic door opening system for utmost safety.
- Automatic platform for feeding and removing trolley from the chamber.
- Condensation prevention roofplates are provided to avoid water droplet on yarn package.

Yarn Steaming Autoclave

Each production step like spinning, twisting or knitting causes tension in yarn & fibre. Yarns tend to snarl in order to relax. Tension and snarling lead to problems in downstream processing. Blue moon yarn steaming autoclaves provides optimal and smooth treatment for following application.

1. Heat setting.
2. Fixation of textured & twisted filament.
3. Relaxation of high twisted yarn.
4. Torque Stabilization.

Advantages

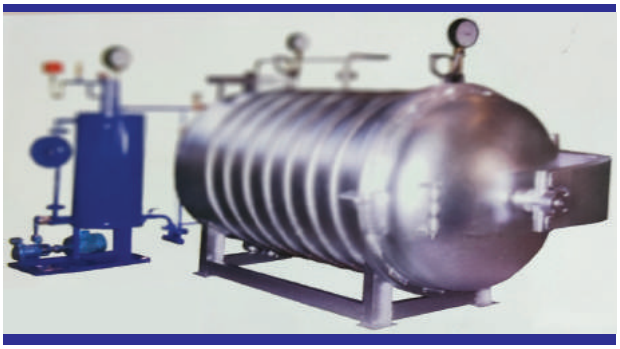
- Twist set and relaxed.
- Treatment of Natural fibre, Synthetics, Blends & Micro Fibre.
- Inexpensive paper tubes can be used.
- Treatment in plastic boxes, trolleys & crill.
- Absolutely saturated - dry steam for steaming.
- Steaming from 70°C-150°C.

- No Shock treatment, No condensate.
- Uniform steam distribution.
- Even steam penetration.
- Less electricity/energy consumption.
- Short payback time.
- Better dye affinity.

Yarn Setting Autoclave

Salient Features

- Best solution for steaming/heat setting.
- Treatment is suitable for both man made and natural yarn.



- Treated yarn eliminates undesired twisting effect from fibers.
- Improves shrinkage & elasticity of yarn.
- High vacuum (700mm-Hg) in vessel allows steam to reach inner most layer of yarn package.

- Unfiorm distribution of super heated steam avoids condensation drop on yarn package.
- Easy to operate electronic control panel.

Application

- Polyester
- Viscose
- Nylon
- Metallic film covered yarn
- Jari covered yarn
- Acrylic
- Silk
- Cotton
- Blends like PV. PC.

Hot Air Ager for Yarn Setting & Yarn Drying

A Revolutionery Concept

- This is a revolutionary concept innovated to set low twisted yarn (max 1000 TPM).
- We make forced air to penetred in side the cone.
- Fully Automatic process controlled through control panel to ensure best quality of twist setting through out a lot.

Salient Features

- Low twist yarn setting. (up to 1000 TPM)
- Drying of dyed yarn.
- No colour shade change.
- To cut down production cost by changing of conventional system. (steam to Air)

- To avoid damages to the Paper tubes.
- To cut down batch time.
- To eliminate Bobbin winding-rewinding cost.
- Also to accommodate in small scale industry.
- To make more safer by avoiding steam pressure in machine.

Yarn Setting Steam Ager

Salient Features

- Fully Automatic Process.
- Accurate Temperature & Time Control.
- Short Process Cycle.
- Optimal Process Cost.
- Adequate Process Safety
- Heat Source : LP Gas/CN Gas/Wood/Oil.
- Less Energy Consumption.

Application

- Medium & High twisted yarn steaming.
- To operate at 70°C to 130°C.
- To operate upto 2 Kg/Cm^2.
- Polyester, Nylon, Viscose, Pure Silk, etc. with High Twist.
- Multicolour Spcae Dyed yarn dye fixation.

Availibility

- Fully Automatic/Semi Automatic/Manual

Technical Specifications

Model	Capacity (Kgs)
BSA 50	50
BSA 100	100
BSA 200	200
BSA 250	250
BSA 300	300

M.O.C.

- Stainless Steel.
- Carbon Steel.
- Aluminium.

H.T.H.P. Vertical Dyeing Machine

Salient Features

- Airpad dyeing system helps keeping low liquor ratio from 1:4 to 1:7 compared to fully flooded system. It leads to saving of water, dyestuff, chemical and heat energy.
- Coil type heat exchanger made out of high grade seamless tubes for high heat transfer efficiency.
- In addition to spring loaded safety valve, the machine is equipped with an additional pressure switch to release pressure if it exceeds set limit for utmost safety.
- There is no need to rotate the lid on main vessel to lock the machine but outside ring clamps the lid with vessel for locking. As there is no rubbing of lid, lipseal life increases.
- Option of various type of carriers for fibre, hank, muffs, tops & beams.
- Control panel is fabricated form stainless steel for longer life.
- Modular design. Two machines of same capacity can be coupled to increase batch size.

For further information, please contact :
Bluemoon Machines Mfg. Co.
Plot No. 201, New Industrial Estate
"F" Road, Road No. 6
Udhyognagar Udhna, Surat-394210
Shabbir Moiz Kalavadwala : 97129 11052
Email : sales@bluemoonmachines.in
Web : www.bluemoonmachines.in

LENZING INSTRUMENTS

Full power towards perfection.

Reach optimized quality control with high-end testing equipment.

Lenzing Instruments offers quality– and process control for filament yarn, staple fibre, nonwoven– and woven fabric and plastic film.
Automation options: Laboratory, at-line, online.

Draw tension

Nonwovens testing

Thermal shrinkage

Online monitoring

LENZING INSTRUMENTS

TRUSTED TEXTILE TESTING

Contact us for tailored solutions:

www.lenzing-instruments.com
India: TIRUPATI TECHNIK
tirupatitechnik@gmail.com
Tel.: (022) 6666 1770

Visit us at ITMA 2023

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

MAY 2023

MANOJ
ENGINEERING

MANOJ ENGINEERING

DYEING SIMPLIFIED

HT/HP VERTICAL YARN DYEING MACHINE

HTHP YARN DYEING MACHINE FOR YARN, TOPS, HANKS AND FIBER IN BOTH NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC MATERIALS

Features

- Various sizes and capacities (1Kg to 2000Kg)
- Advanced temperature and pressure control systems
- Available in Fully Automated and Semi Automated
- Programmable features for custom dyeing cycles
- Lower liquor consumption
- High dyeing quality and consistency
- Versatile for dyeing various yarn types
- Energy-efficient
- Equipped with Safety features
- Rapid Dyeing times for faster production
- Reduced chemical usage for cost and environmental benefits
- Flexible loading options for different production needs
- User-friendly interfaces for easy operations and accessibility

Manoj Engineering is a leading Manufacturer of HT/HP Package Dyeing Machines up to 2000 KG certified with ISO 9001:2015. with over 30 years of experience and with a commitment to quality, sustainability and customer satisfaction. We are also engaged in manufacturing and suppling of Hydro Extractor, Hot Air Dryer, Beaker Dyeing, Pneumatic Press Trolley Auto Claves Heating Machines, Winding Machines and SS Springs and Tubes.

H.No: 480, Temghar, opp Swayam Siddhi, D.ed College, near gupta motors, Kalyan-Bhiwandi road, Bhiwandi - 421 302. Dist: Thane.
Contact Us: +91 9619477129 | 9320477129 | 9579918195
Email us: manojengineering@yahoo.com

www.thex-axis.com

the X-axis®
OCL

WE ARE **THE X-AXIS**,
WE ARE

HERE TO TRANSFORM.

Is the life of rings and travellers
the sole criteria for its selection?

The X-Axis offers a new perspective

The powerful combination of Xtensa Rings and Xgen Travellers by The X-Axis shifts the focus on achieving optimal results instead of just longevity, thus enhancing the QUALITY, PRODUCTIVITY and PROFITABILITY of your spinning process.

BEGIN YOUR MILL'S JOURNEY OF
TRANSFORMATION WITH US.

Join us to experience the
new perspective of spinning
quality here:

ITMA 2023
08 —— 14
JUNE 2023
MILAN . ITALY
Stand details:
H1-E202

Scan the QR code
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Manufactured in India by:
RIMTEX ENGINEERING PVT. LTD.
(an ISO 9001:2015 TUV certified co.)

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OUTPUT CONSISTENCY LONGEVITY

Lets Promote Quality

@thexaxisindia +91 95123 66767 I enquiry@thexaxis.in

www.rimtex.com

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Sliver Management Systems

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