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## from the editor...

India's textile and apparel market size is growing at a CAGR of 14.59% from \$172.3 billion in 2022 and is expected to reach \$387.3 billion by 2028. The industry is one of the biggest contributors to the economy with a 2% contribution to the GDP. The textile industry is also the second largest employer after agriculture, providing direct employment to 45 million people and 100 million people in the allied sector.

Despite the opening of markets in Western countries due to the festive season, the textile industry saw a decline in exports in November 2023. The export of ready-made garments saw a 15% decline, with export figures falling from \$10.36 billion in April-November 2022 to \$8.84 billion in the corresponding months of 2023.

This downfall raises questions about the evolving consumer preferences, market dynamics, and global economic conditions influencing the demand for fashion and apparel. The industry is hopeful that trend will reverse in coming months when purchase orders for summer clothes will start coming from western countries.

Export of jute manufacturing, including floor covering, reduced to \$234 million in April-November 2023 from \$303 million in the last fiscal in same period, increasing the trade deficit by 23% (y-o-y) and 24% month-on-month in November 2023. Export of handicrafts items dropped from \$1.16 billion in April-November 2022 to \$1.04 billion in the first eight months of the current fiscal, registering negative growth of 10%.

Amidst an overall downtrend in November 2023, there are notable exceptions, providing insights into the industry's resilience and adaptability as cotton yarn and handloom products, in particular, emerged as beacons of growth, recording a commendable 6% increase during this period.

The major exporting destinations for Indian garments are European Union, the US and the Middle East countries. There are many reasons for decline in the textile trade. EU is yet to get over from the ongoing Ukraine-Russia war that has impacted the retail sale. The demand from the Middle East is down due to ongoing Israel-Gaza war. The US market is performing well and hopeful of better export figures in upcoming months as we are not much in winter cloth manufacturing.

The government is aiming to position itself as a textile sourcing and investment destination through seven Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) parks with an investment of Rs.70,000 crore in the next 5 years and also planning to organize Bharat Tex –the biggest exhibition from farm to fashion in February expecting 3000 overseas buyers.

With the government taking every possible step to promote exports such as entering into free trade agreements and promoting the brand India, I am sure Indian textile and apparel industry will touch new heights in coming years.

At the same time wishing you all health, wealth, and blessings in the year 2024.



Arvind Kumar, Editor & Publisher



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## Philippine garment exports are expected to rise by 2 percent next year

The country's exports of garments, textile and apparel are seen to grow by two percent next year to around \$1.33 billion as industry players expand into new markets to boost revenues, according to an official of the Foreign Buyers Association of the Philippines (FOBAP).



In a statement, FOBAP President Robert Young said that 2024 would "not be an easy year" for the sector amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the Israel-Hamas war causing disturbances in the supply chain.

Young said they are now looking for other markets

that can be tapped aside from the current export markets which include the United States, Canada, European Union (EU) and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

"So we are now looking for some other countries in South America and in the Middle East, we are now talking to them which somehow can add up to our production quantity," said Young, who is also trustee for the textile, yarn and fabric sector of the Philippine Exporters Confederation Inc. "We are already in the process of receiving orders from the new markets and the usual markets, they are still there. However, (these are) not as big as last year," he added. Young sees high demand for basic wearables and fast fashion or high-end garments next year.

He said the achievement of two-percent export growth by the middle of next year also hinges on government initiatives on establishing more free trade agreements (FTAs) with other countries, and a remedy to reduce power cost in the country or provision of energy subsidy especially in the export sector. "Our free on board price is 15 percent higher than the ASEAN competitors therefore, it will be not an easy task for us in getting the appropriate quantity for our production," he said.

Young said more FTAs and lower or subsidized power costs can somehow ease up production costs. He also particularly cited the extension of the EU's Generalized Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP+) as another factor to boost the sector's revenues.

"As far as productivity is concerned, we are ready and we have ample laborers as of now. This is due to lesser production orders," he added. Young also expressed hope that the labor cost would be maintained amid the proposed P150 legislated wage hike. He said the proposal would deter the industry's plan to increase the export revenue in the middle of 2024 ■

## China and Pakistan sign an agreement to increase textile cooperation

China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Textiles (CCCT) and All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) signed an MoU, at the "China Pakistan Textile & Apparel Executive Summit" to boost textile cooperation between the two countries.

Pakistan's Federal Minister for Commerce and Industries Dr Gohar Ejaz participated in the summit and said this MOU will pave the way for deeper collaboration, knowledge sharing, and joint ventures.

"This MoU signifies Pakistan's unwavering commitment to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and reinforces the strategic economic partnership. This collaboration will unlock significant potential for our textile industries, propelling them to even greater heights," he said. He stated, "Attending this esteemed gathering presents a unique opportunity to explore avenues for enhanced private-sector cooperation, solidifying the textile industry as a cornerstone of our bilateral economic partnership." "Through insightful discussions and dedicated business meetings, we aim to unlock new frontiers in trade, innovation, and sustainability, paving the way for a mutually prosperous future. Together, the two nations work for a stronger, more resilient textile landscape that benefits our economies and communities alike," he added.

Addressing on the occasion, Zhang Xinmin, Vice Chairman, China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Textiles (CCCT) expressed appreciation for cooperation between the two countries and hoped to enhance cooperation in the field of textile. He noted that through this cooperation both parties will work together to assist in the exchange of delegations and organise events for business representatives from both sides. "The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to promote and strengthen the development of economic and trade relations and co-operation between member companies of APTMA and CCCT on the basis of equality and mutual benefits," he added ■



## Vietnamese textile-garment sector hits record number of export markets

Vietnam's textile and garment products have been exported to 104 countries and territories this year – a record number, said Chairman of the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS) Vu Duc Giang.

According to the association, the US remained the biggest importer of Vietnamese textile and garment products with a turnover of over \$11 bn by the end of September. It was followed by Japan with about \$ 3 bn, the EU with \$ 2.9 bn, the Republic of Korea with \$ 2.43 bn, Canada with some \$ 850 mn, and China with \$ 830 mn.

Businesses have undergone significant changes but they have made efforts to diversify their export products with 36 items. During the period, jackets remained the top export earner by reeling in more than \$ 4.38 bn, followed by trousers with over \$ 3.85 bn, and shirts with \$ 1.87 bn. Diversifying markets, products, customers and partners is a step towards reducing Vietnam's reliance on large markets, Giang said. Markets that previously did not import products from Vietnam now do so, affirming the nation's position in the global marketplace.

According to VITAS, 2023 has posed significant challenges, such as the lingering global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and a large inventory due to decreased demand. The total export value of the industry last year surpassed \$ 44 bn, but with these difficulties, it is expected to decrease by more than 9% this year to over \$ 40 bn.

Despite the export decline, such turnover, given the challenges this year, is considered a breakthrough and demonstrates the tremendous efforts of the business community. The Vietnamese garment and textile sector has made breakthroughs in both terms of export markets and products, Giang noted ■



# Cotton trading center important step to establish textile cluster in Xinjiang

While Western outlets claim China has been hit by sanctions from the US-led West over so-called "forced labor," the country is actually working in the opposite direction to break the blockade. China is promoting the development of Xinjiang's cotton industry, and further opening up to consolidate and enhance its position in global supply chains. A new national-level cotton and yarn trading center in Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region is expected to be a crucial step in this effort.

The unveiling ceremony of the center was held on Monday in Urumqi, Xinjiang. As reported, Xinjiang will make use of policy dividends offered by its pilot free trade zone and the new trading center as a foundation to strengthen trade with China's neighboring countries, striving to become a globally influential cotton and yarn production and sales center. Xinjiang is the largest cotton-producing region in China. A total of 5.98 million tons of cotton were produced nationwide in China in 2022, with more than 90 percent produced in Xinjiang. This reflects the fact that Xinjiang holds a key position in China's cotton industry chain.

One important reason why Western politicians repeatedly hype the outrageous lie about so-called forced labor in Xinjiang is to suppress Xinjiang's cotton industry and the broader Chinese textile industry. This is part of their efforts to contain China's development, particularly its manufacturing sector. We must break down the industry barriers set up by the US-led West.

China's textile manufacturing industry ranks first in the world in terms of capacity and trade. From 2013 to



2022, China's total fiber processing volume increased from 48.5 million tons to over 60 million tons, accounting for more than 50 percent of the world's fiber processing volume, data from the China National Textile and Apparel Council showed.

Textile and clothing exports have remained above \$300 billion a year in recent years; however, Western outlets are keen to hype the transfer of the industry and supply chain from China to other developing countries, claiming that China has lost its comparative advantage in labor-intensive manufacturing, including the textile industry. Their petty trick is crystal clear and should be condemned.

The cost of labor in China has indeed risen and this poses challenges to China's labor-intensive industries, including textiles. But this is not the whole story.

The new cotton trading center in Xinjiang offers a window to observe the migration of industries within China. While the West is trying to hamstring Chinese

economic power, Xinjiang's economy has been rapidly developing. China's textile manufacturing and cotton production, which were once concentrated on the coast and in river valleys with easy access to urban markets and ports, are shifting to western inland areas such as Xinjiang. These areas have relatively low labor costs and other industrial advantages.

The new trading center will help Xinjiang establish world-class industry clusters for cotton and textiles, which are among the eight industry clusters emphasized by the local government in Xinjiang.

Along with the trend of industrial transfer, Xinjiang's opening-up to and cooperation with the outside world have ushered in new opportunities. The Xinjiang Pilot Free Trade Zone (FTZ), the first in China's North Western border regions, officially started operations on November 1. The FTZ is expected to make a great contribution to Xinjiang's integration into the "dual circulation" of domestic and international markets, and play a significant role in building a bridgehead for China's westward opening-up.

Efforts to push forward a new pattern of all-round opening-up will bring new opportunities to industries, including the textile sector. Although facing challenges, China's cotton and textile industries will further develop. We must strengthen and consolidate the position of Xinjiang cotton in the global industry chains, so that its development can adapt to the needs of the global market, and deeply embed Xinjiang cotton into global supply chains ■

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## Sri Lankan apparel industry wins over 31 awards at the 25th President's Export Awards

The apex body of the apparel sector, Joint Apparel Association Forum (JAAF), applauds the unprecedented achievements by apparel companies at the 25th Presidential Export Awards. Exhibiting excellence across multiple categories, the industry secured an impressive collection of 31 awards, reaffirming its dedication to innovation, sustainability and expanding market horizons.

Organised by the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB), the awards spanned across 13 categories over the financial years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023. These awards are the pinnacle of recognition conferred by the President of Sri Lanka on exporters who have made exceptional contributions to the country's export sector and economic advancement.

The accolades achieved by the apparel sector were recognised across several categories, including best performing emerging exporter, contributors from the Regions to the export, innovative export product of the year, and contributor to sustainable development, market diversified exporter, net foreign exchange earner of the year and exporter of the year.

"The resounding success of the apparel industry at the Presidential Export Awards serves as a testament to the industry's continuous pursuit of excellence, innovative practices and sustained contribution to the growth and development of Sri Lanka's export landscape," said JAAF Secretary General Yohan Lawrence.

Leading apparel giants and SMEs recognised at the awards included MAS Active, MAS Intimates, Brandix Apparel, J.K. Garments, Dial Textile Industries, Texlan Center, Ocean Lanka, Teejay Lanka, Hela Clothing and Hayleys Fabric.

In a first for the awards, MAS Holdings secured over 16 awards, with MAS Active Trading recognised as the Exporter of the year. Brandix, was adjudged the leader in sustainable development in exports from Sri Lanka and was



acknowledged for its role in the Large Category for Apparel Exports. Under the sectorial category, J.K. Garments was awarded the Best Exporter – Apparel - Medium, while Hela Apparel Holdings was awarded overall award for Best Exporter in Product Diversification and the Sector Award for Best Exporter–Apparel–Medium category. Dial Textile Industries gained the Merit Award for Apparel-Medium category.

Ocean Lanka, Hayleys Fabric and Teejay Lanka were recognised for their contribution in the Knitted Fabric category, while Texlan Center was presented with the Best Exporter of the year award in the Hosiery category.

The Joint Apparel Association Forum congratulates all award winners for this outstanding achievement and remains steadfast in its commitment to empowering its members to boost Sri Lanka's economy and foster its advancement. These awards serve as added motivation for the industry to persist in its efforts to reach even greater milestones ■

## Teejay wins Silver Award in 'Extra Large' category of 'Textiles and Garments' sector



Teejay Lanka PLC took the Silver Award in the 'Extra Large' category of the 'Textiles and Garments' sector at the Annual Export Awards 2023 presented by the National Chamber of Exporters (NCE), ending 2023 on a winning note, a company said.

The NCE Export Award followed similar accolades for export excellence, including a 'Best Exporter' Award and a Certificate of Merit at the 2023 Presidential Export Awards presented by the Export Development Board (EDB), and a Merit Award at the CNCI Achiever Awards for Industrial Excellence presented by the Ceylon National Chamber of Industries (CNCI), it said.

"The NCE Export Awards programme is a strategic initiative to highlight and celebrate exporters that have excelled in crucial dimensions, focusing on People, Profit, and Planet. The Chamber places distinct emphasis on recognising businesses that not only achieve financial success but also contribute to societal and environmental well-being," it added.

"The assessment of contenders for these awards also encompasses commitment to innovation, value addition and research & development, reflecting a proactive approach in line with the economic perspectives of the Sri Lankan Government."

Commenting on the NCE Export Award won by Teejay, the Company's CEO Pubudu De Silva said: "This award serves as a reaffirmation of Teejay's unwavering commitment to achieving business growth while contributing significantly to the development of the Sri Lankan economy and the textile industry. We value this award because it is not simply about business volumes, but recognition of the multifaceted contributions of exporters, to sustainability, innovation, and economic progress."

Sri Lanka's first multinational textile manufacturer, the Teejay Group owns manufacturing facilities in Sri Lanka and India, along with a state-of-the-art printing facility in Sri Lanka. An ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 and OHSAS 18001:2007 compliant company and the first in the industry to develop green fabric, Teejay Lanka was also the first textile manufacturer in Sri Lanka to receive membership of the US Cotton Trust Protocol.

Teejay is a public quoted company with 40 per cent public ownership and the backing of Sri Lanka's largest apparel exporter Brandix Lanka which has a 32 per cent stake in the Company. Pacific Textiles of Hong Kong, whose key shareholder is the Tokyo Stock Exchange listed Toray Industries Inc., owns 27 per cent of Teejay Lanka.

Teejay Lanka was ranked the No 1 corporate entity among 100 public listed companies in Sri Lanka for Transparency in Corporate Reporting in the TRAC 2022 assessment carried out by Transparency International Sri Lanka (TISL), the local arm of the international corruption watchdog. The TISL assessment was carried out on three areas crucial to fighting and preventing corruption: reporting on anti-corruption programmes, transparency in company holdings and the disclosure of key financial information in domestic operations ■



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## GIZ and Global Fashion agenda to tackle the issue of textile waste in Cambodia



German development agency GIZ and Global Fashion Agenda (GFA) have announced their plans to tackle the issue of textile waste in Cambodia. The joint initiative aims to restructure the apparel waste sector, reduce the amount of textiles ending up in landfills and incineration, and explore circular business opportunities within the fashion sector.

This effort follows a similar successful project launched in Bangladesh in 2020, bringing together recyclers, manufacturers, and brands to address the issue of textile waste.

The collaborative effort between GIZ and GFA involves the establishment of a Circular Fashion Project (CFP) in Cambodia. The CFP will focus on creating a more robust recycling infrastructure and exploring circular business models within the fashion industry. The ultimate goal is to develop sustainable waste practices that can be integrated into the apparel manufacturing value chain.

To kickstart the project, a pilot program has already been initiated. Brands, manufacturers, and recyclers are coming together in a collaborative effort to trial sustainable waste practices and develop a viable business model for post-industrial recycling. The pilot program, managed by GIZ, includes building capacity for apparel manufacturers to enhance sustainable waste management and segregation at the source. Additionally, the program aims to organize the collection of segregated waste from cutting processes by designated waste management and recycling companies.

GIZ is also working towards supporting the manufacture of recycled fibers that will be reintegrated back into the apparel manufacturing value chain. This will contribute to the circularity of the fashion industry and reduce dependence on virgin resources. The project team is also implementing digital traceability tools to monitor the movement of waste throughout the recycling process.

Cambodia's textile industry is a significant contributor to the country's economy, but it also generates a massive amount of textile waste. Approximately 140,000 tonnes of textile waste are generated annually, with the majority ending up in landfills or incinerated. This poses significant environmental and social challenges, making it crucial to find sustainable solutions.

The pilot project is scheduled to continue until June 2024, during which the project team will monitor and evaluate the feasibility of the recycling infrastructure and the circular business opportunities within Cambodia's fashion sector. The aim is to establish a sustainable and scalable model that can be replicated in other countries facing similar challenges in the textile waste sector.

By collaborating with key stakeholders, including brands, manufacturers, recyclers, and industry associations, GIZ and GFA aim to drive meaningful change in Cambodia's textile waste sector. The project's success will not only contribute to reducing the environmental impact of the fashion industry but also support the country's sustainable development goals ■

## EU approves ban on destroying unsold clothes

The European Parliament and EU member states announced recently new rules to crack down on fast fashion and reduce waste, including a ban on destroying unsold clothes. The new rules, first proposed by the European Commission last year, impose tougher rules on products to ensure they last longer and are easier to repair and re-cycle. The law bans the destruction of unsold textiles and footwear, and will apply two years after the law enters into force. Medium-size companies will have a six-year exemption, while smaller companies are wholly exempt from the ban. The commission, the EU's executive arm, will also have the power to extend the ban to other unsold products beyond clothing and footwear.



"It is time to end the model of 'take, make, dispose' that is so harmful to our planet, our health and our economy," said MEP Alessandra Moretti who spearheaded the legislation through parliament. "New products will be designed in a way that benefits all, respects our planet and protects the environment," she added.

The law will also set specific requirements for key consumer goods in order to boost the durability of the products. Priority will be given to "highly impactful products" including clothing, furniture, mattresses as well as electronic goods.

Goods must also be sold with a "digital product passport", which could be a QR code that will help consumers make informed choices about their purchases. Under the new rules, large companies will also have to report annually how much of their production they have discarded as well as their reasons why, which the EU hopes will encourage such firms to give up such actions ■

## Better Cotton joins forces with UN initiative to empower SMEs in global supply chains

Better Cotton explained the initiative strives to highlight and reward the contributions of SMEs by collating and publicising their sustainability credentials on the UN's Certified Business Registry – a centralised platform convening multiple supply chain actors. It will provide the credentials of Better Cotton supplier and manufacturer members to have aligned with the new Chain of Custody Standard.



The standard outlines the requirements that supplier and manufacturer members must adhere to for trading Traceable Better Cotton, which Better Cotton pointed out was introduced to assist its farmers in gaining access to increasingly regulated markets.

Better Cotton shared that along with the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS), Textile Exchange, Oeko-Tex and

Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP), it will collectively spotlight more than 60,000 SMEs via the certified business registry to help boost supply chain transparency and create opportunities for collaboration.

Alia Malik, Better Cotton's Senior Director for data and traceability said: "As COP28 gets underway, this commitment to showcasing businesses that source more sustainable materials is another positive step towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals."

Better Cotton believes SMEs benefit from enhanced market access, with scope to generate new business, while for retailers and brands, it is an opportunity to identify climate-smart suppliers from emerging markets.

Additionally, Better Cotton's Public Affairs Manager Lisa Ventura participated in an event at COP28, hosted by the ITC and the US Department of State, titled Just Transition through Trade – Empowering Small Enterprises. This move is said to be in line with Better Cotton's focus on protecting and restoring the environment, in particular through the reduction of synthetic pesticides in cotton farming ■



# Bangladesh's garment export shipment to the USA fell 24.75% in Jan-Oct

Bangladesh's garment export to the United States fell 24.75 percent year-on-year to \$6.35 billion in January-October this year because of a slowdown in the import of clothing items by American buyers since they still have stocks of old inventories. Earnings from garment export to the US, the country's largest export destination, stood at \$8.44 billion during the January -October period of last year, according to data from the Office of Textiles and Apparel (OTEXA) of the US.

If textile and apparel shipments are taken into consideration collectively, the earnings stand at \$6.51 billion, a decrease of 25.25 percent year-on-year. Last year, Bangladeshi suppliers shipped garment items worth \$10.02 billion to America, the highest in a single year.

In January-October this year, the USA's overall apparel import fell by 22.71 percent year-on-year to \$67.26 billion, OTEXA data showed. The decline stands at 21.46 percent, to \$90.04 billion, if both textile and apparel products are considered jointly. Garment shipments to the USA have been falling because of high inflation and because buyers still have old stockpiles of goods in stores of American clothing retailers and brands.

Moreover, American apparel retailers and brands imported a lot of garment items after recovering from the impacts of Covid-19 but sales did not pick up in line with supply as inflation rose due to the severe fallout of the Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Exporters believed the declining trend reflected the US market correcting itself after clothing shipments to America witnessed more than 50 percent growth last year.

AK Azad, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ha-Meem Group, a top garment exporter to the US, said sales of clothing items in US stores could not gather steam because of inflation.

At the same time, American retailers and brands imported a lot of garment items last year, he said. The National Retail Federation (NRF) recently forecast holiday spending to reach record levels during November and December and to grow between 3 percent and 4 percent over 2022 to between \$957.3 billion and \$966.6 billion.



"It is not surprising to see holiday sales growth returning to pre-pandemic levels," NRF President and CEO Matthew Shay said. "Overall household finances remain in good shape and will continue to support the consumer's ability to spend."

Despite a slower growth rate compared to the past three years, when trillions of dollars of stimulus led to unprecedented rates of retail spending during the pandemic, this year's holiday spending is consistent with the average annual holiday increase of 3.6 percent from 2010 to 2019.

Online shopping has witnessed one of the biggest shifts in consumer behavior from the Covid-19 pandemic. Online and other non-store sales, which are included in the total, are expected to increase between 7 percent and 9 percent to a total of between \$273.7 billion and \$278.8 billion. That figure is up from \$255.8 billion last year. "Consumers remain in the driver's seat and are resilient despite headwinds of inflation, higher gas prices, stringent credit conditions and elevated interest rates," NRF Chief Economist Jack Kleinhenz said.

"We expect spending to continue through the end of the year on a range of items and experiences, but at a slower pace. Solid job and wage growth will be contributing factors this holiday season, and consumers will be looking for deals and discounts to stretch their dollars," Kleinhenz said in the statement ■

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## First BioPure garment is unveiled by PEI and Stella McCartney



US start-up Protein Evolution (PEI) and its brand partner, Stella McCartney has unveiled their first garment made from transforming industrial plastic waste into 'good-as-new' fibres. The garment, on show at this week's COP28 climate change conference, has been created using PEI's proprietary Biopure technology, which uses AI-designed enzymes to biologically break down synthetic textile and plastic waste.

The parka is made from rigid packaging waste and industrial textile strappings, previously used to secure international freight containers, which was then transformed into textile-grade polyester. Working with partners in the EU, the polyester was then spun into yarn and woven into new fabric by the Stella McCartney team to be used in the design of the coat.

Speaking at COP, Connor Lynn, Co-Founder and Chief Business Officer of Protein Evolution said the debut garment marked a pivotal moment in the move towards textile-to-textile circularity in the fashion industry. "Not only is this coat validation for the utility and quality of biorecycled polyester – specifically polyester chips created using Biopure – it also offers companies an alternative to the landfill or incinerator for their fabrics, extending the life of their materials indefinitely," he said.

Biopure technology uses enzymes to break down polyester waste into the raw materials of new

polyester that are said to be indistinguishable to the petroleum-derived raw materials used in polyester manufacturing. Once these raw materials are re-integrated into the manufacturing process, the result is a recyclable polyester with a lower carbon footprint than polyester produced from petroleum.

"Anybody who knows me knows that I hate waste, which is why I am so thrilled about our collaboration with Protein Evolution," McCartney added. "Through my SOS Fund, we were among the first to invest in their pioneering biological recycling technology; one that has the potential and power to transform the world's plastic waste into infinitely recyclable polyester."

"Over the last year, Protein Evolution has taken unused fabrics from my past collections to test and prove their textile-to-textile circular process. This allowed my atelier to design and create the beautiful, airy parachute parkas made from biologically recycled polyester that you can see at our sustainable market at COP28."

Biopure is capable of handling a variety of waste streams, from plastic bottles and clam-shells, to industrial textiles and garments. Currently at pilot scale, PEI is building its own industrial scale plant with the aim of processing 50,000 tonnes of synthetic textiles in 2024 ■

## bluesign technologies joins The Promotional Products Association International

bluesign technologies ag, the gold standard in sustainable textile certifications, has recently joined the Promotional Products Association International (PPAI) as a Business Service Member. A bluesign delegation headed up by Björn Härenstam will be attending the annual PPAI EXPO in Las Vegas January 15th – 18th, 2024.

Since 2000, bluesign has partnered with apparel industry brands, manufacturers, and chemical suppliers to help create safer workplaces and textile products that are less impactful on the environment and people. Consumers can trust that bluesign-labeled textiles and products from the chemical inputs to the final production have met the strictest standards throughout the supply chain.

The PPAI is a 14,000+ member strong association made up of suppliers and distributors of promotional products and services including specialty advertising, branded apparel, business gifts, premiums, incentives, and recognition awards.

Through bluesign's membership in the PPAI, both organizations hope to provide leadership to advance sustainability efforts in the promotional products industry.

Daniel Rufenacht, CEO of bluesign, said, "The team at bluesign is eager to share our 20+ years of expertise on environmental stewardship with all members of the PPAI community. I am confident that we can help this sector of the apparel industry to improve impacts on our planet's limited natural resources, reduce harmful emissions, and also ensure the health and safety of consumers and workers throughout the supply chain" ■



## Hanes brand focus on microplastic contamination

Active wear giant Hanes brands has introduced a new variant for its Champion Athletic wear brand using Ciclo technology, which allows synthetic textiles to behave more like natural fibres when they enter the environment. Ciclo was developed by Silicon Valley startup Intrinsic Advanced Materials and leading US yarn and fibre manufacturer Parkdale Advance Materials.

It is used to create biodegradable 'spots' in the polymer matrix, where naturally-occurring microbes in certain environments can break down the plastics just as they do with natural fibres.

Incorporated into its new collection, Eco Future Reverse Weave, Hanes brands notes that 60% of today's textiles are made with plastic-based synthetic fibers like polyester and nylon, which remain indefinitely in the environment because they are not inherently biodegradable. Using Ciclo technology, the Eco Future Reverse Weave collection claims to reduce plastic textile fibres in the environment by giving polyester an eventual expiration date.

The collection also features dyes with ingredients derived from natural sources, including pomegranate, annatto fruit and terminalia chebula fruit. "As we continue to innovate and evolve, Champion is dedicated to creating solutions through products that will ensure a better tomorrow for our planet and the people living on it," said Vanessa LeFebvre, President of Global Active wear at Champion. "Through our partnership with Ciclo, we aim to be a catalyst for positive change in the fashion industry, driving conscious choices, responsible actions and continuous improvements, while providing every Champion a canvas to live their true purpose" ■





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## ■ Spinnova calls for incentives and investment in circular fashion

Sustainable textile material company Spinnova emphasises that the run up to COP28 is no time to back down on climate action in the global fashion and textile industries.

The fashion and apparel industry is one of the most polluting industries in the world, accounting for 4 percent of global emissions and known for various sustainability challenges from water and soil depletion to heavy chemical use, microplastic pollution, and mounting textile waste. In Europe, the consumption of textiles has the fourth highest impact on climate change, surpassed only by food, housing and mobility.

According to sustainable textile material company Spinnova, decarbonising the industry and reaching net zero by 2050 will require immediate and robust action from policymakers, brands and consumers alike. Joining the COP28 Conference, Spinnova's Deputy CEO Ben Selby argues that the pressure is on to keep providing incentives and investments, if we're to meet the industry's ambitious climate targets.



"Decarbonizing an industry as complex as fashion and apparel calls for innovations, incentives and investments. In the past five years, we've seen new, sustainable technologies prove their commercial viability. Now it's time for legislators to follow suit to support these solutions in scaling as rapidly as possible," Selby explained.

Spinnova, creating textile material from wood or waste, is an example of a solution addressing

multiple sustainability challenges in fashion – its patented process creates zero waste, side streams or microplastics, doesn't use any harmful chemicals, and has minimal CO2 emissions and water use compared to conventional cotton. The SPINNOVA® fibre has already been used by global apparel companies such as adidas and Bestseller, and Spinnova has ongoing collaborations with other textile industry innovators in areas such as recycled textile waste and sustainable dyeing.

At the COP28 Conference, Spinnova hopes to build new partnerships and be a voice for textile innovators whose solutions have a chance to help tackle climate change.

"We're only six years away from the first major climate targets that have been set for the fashion and apparel industry. At Spinnova, we do everything we can to support the journey to achieve these goals," Selby sums ■

## ■ Mango, a fashion retailer, commits to regenerative cotton



Fashion retailer Mango has announced it is to use regenerative cotton in its products for the first time with the first selected garments expected to go in sale in early 2024. The Spanish clothing brand has been working with agricultural technology company Mattered, which uses regenerative farming systems

to produce climate-resilient cotton that is said to use 80% less water and produce 30% fewer carbon emissions than standard cotton.

The system also offers complete traceability of the cotton value chain, from the soil to the final garment. To achieve this, farmers in India will collect soil and crop data via Mattered's digital Co: Farm platform. This will allow Mango to monitor the evolution of indicators such as fertility, soil health, number of nutrients, use of water, machinery and pesticides and size of the plot used.

The initiative is part of Mango's wider sustainability strategy which encompasses moving towards increasingly more sustainable products, reducing its impact on the planet, and working towards the full transparency and traceability of its supply chain by 2030.

Earlier this year, it launched its first denim collection designed using circularity criteria to allow the reuse

and recycling of the garments after their useful life, and has also recently worked with Pyratex, a Spanish textile supplier that specialises in fabrics made from natural renewable resources such as seaweed.

Andrés Fernández, Mango's Sustainability and Sourcing Director, said: "As a global fashion company, we have a clear goal - to help create a fairer society and reduce the impact of the fashion industry on the environment.

"This is why we have joined forces with key partners like Mattered, who will help us move more quickly to ensure that 100% of the fibres we use are sustainable by 2030."

Based in London and Ahmedabad, Mattered designs custom growing and sourcing programs, as well as mobile and web applications providing agronomy support to farmers ■

## ■ Hohenstein and Under Armour present test kit for textile microfibre shedding

BÖNNIGHEIM (aba) in cooperation with testing provider Hohenstein, Under Armour is launching a new fiber-shed test kit. It will help textile companies along the supply chain to develop lower shed materials during product development. The companies carry out the test themselves in-house using the test kit or can commission Hohenstein as a testing service provider.

"As a leading research and testing lab for textile fibre release, this new method perfectly complements our current portfolio. We are proud to support Under Armour and its suppliers as a neutral, third party for testing and technical advice," emphasizes Dr Timo Hammer, CEO at Hohenstein.

The kit is a one-off purchase, after which users can buy additional materials from project partner James Heal. By using the new kit, Under Armour can reliably assess the quality and shed rate of the materials from suppliers.

For Hohenstein customers, the test kit is a useful addition to their microplastics tests. It is a quick and relatively inexpensive preliminary test that ensures better early-stage results for the end product.

During the production, wear and laundering of synthetic and natural fabrics, fibre shedding occurs in varying degrees. Hohenstein and Under Armour expect that their test method will help the industry better understand and reduce its contribution to the microfibre problem.

"Until now, integrating fiber-shed testing into industry research and development activities has required a significant time and cost investment," said Kyle Blakely, Senior Vice President of Innovation for Under Armour. "At Under Armour, we believe intervening early to mitigate shedding is critical, which is why our test method is designed to specifically address these time and cost barriers."



A Hohenstein Academy video takes users through the process step by step, ensuring that everything is done correctly ■



## Australian wool market significant increases are seen in penultimate 2023 sale

The Australian wool market experienced a significant upturn in its penultimate sale of 2023, witnessing substantial price gains, particularly in the merino sector. By the end of the selling period, the market recorded an average increase of 25 Australian cents (ac) across all merino offerings, extending also to the finer segments of the crossbred category. However, broader crossbreds and cardings did not see similar demand, falling behind most wools on sale.



Notably, the super fine merino fleece sector, especially those finer than 18.5 micron, saw some of the most intense competition in recent times. Closing quotes placed general wool types in this category at 50 to 70 ac higher, with specialists recording

increases of over 100 ac. This surge in buying interest largely stemmed from the persistent market influence exerted by Chinese mills over the past two months. This shift has led to China acquiring a significant portion of wool clips, traditionally dominated by European buyers, the Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) said in its commentary for the current wool marketing season.

Exporters indicated that the market gains at the finer end of the Australian wool spectrum were not unexpected. The excellent value of these wools, trading below the 2000 ac/kg clean mark, was well-recognised, but financial limitations and tepid demand from European markets had previously restrained buying activities.

The week's auction buying patterns mirrored those of the previous week, with currency fluctuations playing a key role. The Australian Dollar (Au\$) depreciated by 1.8 per cent against the US Dollar and 1.3 per cent against the Yuan, bolstering the 25 ac gains in the 18.5 to 25 micron wool types. The Western Australian centre at Fremantle was a prime example, where Au\$ prices closely matched the Chinese Yuan bid prices, the AWI commentary said ■

## Rheiazymes AG (Switzerland) joins ITMF as Corporate Member


With its proprietary molecular bio recycling technology, Rheiazymes provides biotech solutions for recycling of functional fabrics. Rheiazymes' first industry application, YARN-TO-YARN® is a commitment to closing the recycling gap for synthetic yarn blends and functional textiles, through using natural enzymes.

Christian Schindler, Director General of ITMF, stated that "it is important to welcome start-up companies like Rheiazymes as new members of ITMF as they bring new innovative ideas on how urgent challenges in the textile value chain could be solved. Recycling is a very important



area where the industry is still looking for additional solutions that can be scaled up. Bringing well-established and forward-looking companies together with start-ups like Rheiazymes that are developing new solutions for pressing problems is an important function of ITMF. Only together and in a cooperative manner is it possible to develop sustainable and commercially viable solutions. Rheiazymes is working on groundbreaking solutions that are needed to transform our industry."


Sandra Grimmer, CEO & Co-Founder, pointed out that "winning the ITMF Start-up Award 2023 increased our visibility on an international level and provided us with additional access to the global textile value chain. Seeing the concrete needs of the industry around the world when it comes to recycling and identifying the value-added of our solutions, is critical for our work. ITMF offers a unique international platform to engage with the global value chain" ■




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## Hologenix expands offering to include CELLIANT® Print applications

Materials science leader Hologenix is on a mission to bring the health and wellness benefits of infrared to the most people possible. In the spirit of its perennial innovation, the company has announced that its flagship product CELLIANT® infrared (IR) technology, a natural blend of IR-generating bioceramic minerals, is now more widely available from the company as a printed coating, expanding the uses of the technology and increasing the number of prospective partners. The innovation has already been named a Selection in the Fibers & Insulations Category of the ISPO Textrends Awards just last month.

Traditionally, CELLIANT has been embedded directly into fibers and yarns. However, for its print applications, CELLIANT fine mineral powder can be easily added directly onto the surface of all different fabric types. The company is particularly energized about how this expands the array of sustainable offerings that CELLIANT can be incorporated into, and is looking forward to partnering with brands to print

CELLIANT on their eco-friendly fabrics. CELLIANT Print may be a cost-effective alternative to in-yarn solutions and allows for a more efficient supply chain.

In a process that is similar to screen printing, CELLIANT Print can be applied to a partner's existing preferred fabrics or to a new fabric to create a variety of different product applications. For brands who are seeking a smaller pattern roller for apparel, orthopedic products or other close-to-skin projects, CELLIANT Print can accommodate this. There is also a larger pattern roller for bedding and larger-scale applications. As long as the print covers 80% of the fabric's surface, the design possibilities for the print itself are virtually endless. CELLIANT Print has undergone mechanical testing for wash tests and can be confirmed to last the useful life of the product, for 50+ washes.

By applying CELLIANT Print directly onto the fabric, brand partners are able to use CELLIANT with a higher



loading of bioceramic minerals than what would otherwise be possible with an in-yarn solution. This makes it ideal for recovery and performance purposes. In fact, an example of a CELLIANT Print application on kinesiology tape, KT Tape® PRO Oxygen™ was launched in April to great success.

"Our company is built on innovation and CELLIANT Print is another step forward in bringing the infrared advantage to a wider audience," said Seth Casden, Hologenix Co-Founder and CEO ■

## Walmart funding strengthens the recycling programme

The Accelerating Circularity initiative has received a \$1.5 million tranche of funding from the Walmart Foundation, which it will use to scale up its new 'Building Circular Systems' (BCS) programme. The funds will help build on the programme's early development stages, which have so far demonstrated the technical feasibility of textile-to-textile recycling systems.

Working closely with brands, retailers, recycling innovators and non-profits, the programme will now work to develop tools to optimise the flow of used textiles through channels that have the highest circular potential or GHG reduction benefits. It will also aim to build markets through the commercialisation of circular textile-to-textile recycling at standard production scale volumes. This includes supporting the development of circular fibres, yarns, and fabrics, as well as new projects to establish sustainable circular supply chains that include all of North and Central America. The third key strand of the programme is to educate and engage



brands, retailers and institutions on responsible disposal pathways for used textiles to reduce the volumes going to landfill.

Welcoming the new funding, Karla Magruder, Founder, and President of Accelerating Circularity commented: "We are fortunate to have the support of the Walmart Foundation to do this next level of work and move closer to realising our vision of a world in which textiles are no longer wasted.

"We aim to broaden our engagement as we continue to build the business case for circularity and invite new industry collaborators to join us in this endeavour."

To date, through a previous grant from the Walmart Foundation, Accelerating Circularity says it has created a methodology that has mapped existing systems and identified gaps, modelled new circular supply chain systems for textile-to-textile supply networks, and piloted trials at scalable levels to demonstrate textile-to-textile recycling in the US and Europe. It has also developed tools to facilitate future trials and expedite circular systems such as the recently launched textile-to-textile recycling playbook.

And in September, it created a new working group, which, known as the Alliance of Textile Chemical Recycling (ACTR), will work to provide the industry with accurate information on issues surrounding textile chemical recycling ■

## YKK's new DynaPel™ water-repellant zipper wins best product



The ISPO Textrends judges have selected YKK's DynaPel™ water-repellant zipper as the Best Product in the accessories category. The competition, held twice a year in conjunction with the ISPO trade show, recognizes the most innovative performance textiles, components, and apparel.

Designed to be compatible with garment recycling systems, the DynaPel™ zipper uses GTT's EMPEL® technology instead of the standard PU film to achieve its water repellency. The lack of a PU film helps remove one of the barriers of textile-to-textile recycling of performance apparel by eliminating the urethane material, which presents challenges to garment recycling processes.

"Receiving an ISPO Textrends Award helps validate the technology and our efforts to develop fasteners for circular systems," said Terry Tsukumo, Vice President, Product Strategy Division, Global Sales Headquarters, YKK Corporation. "By employing EMPEL® technology, we can achieve the robust water protection expected from YKK® products while eliminating the challenges that PU poses to recycling systems."

Conventional chemical and mechanical garment recycling systems cannot process the polyurethane film commonly used on water-repellent zippers, necessitating the removal of zippers from garments before recycling. This additional processing step often deters recyclers from accepting garments with PU zippers, resulting in unnecessary waste.

EMPEL® technology uses advanced green chemistry devoid of PFAS and a specialized manufacturing process that allows the chemistry to penetrate the yarn and encapsulate it with a water-repellent layer through molecular cross-linking. The molecular cross-linking creates an extremely durable layer that is highly resistant to abrasion and invisible to the eye ■





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## India will become the largest cotton producer globally



India will strive to become the largest cotton producer globally, Minister for Textiles, Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, said in Mumbai recently, inaugurating an annual global meeting of a UN recognised body of cotton producing and consuming nations.

At the 81st plenary session of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC), the Minister said India has the largest area under cotton cultivation and is the second largest producer. "We need to become the world's largest producer," Goyal stressed, adding that the textile advisory group on cotton will work towards improving productivity similar to the level in countries like Australia.

India will provide leadership in cotton textiles and technical textiles. It has two advisory groups – for cotton and manmade fibre. These groups have representation from the entire textile value chain and take policy decisions with inputs from sector representatives. India has also launched PM MITRA – a Central Government scheme to set up mega textile parks and promote the entire value chain.

Goyal further said that the National Technical Textiles Mission promotes research and development in technical textiles. These are manmade fabric meant for a specific function and are not generally used for apparel or aesthetic appeal. The Indian textile industry is working towards achieving \$250 billion by 2030, including \$100 billion exports, he said.

In a fortnight, the Textile Ministry and the Department of Consumer Affairs would open state-of-the-art testing laboratories nationwide to ensure high quality textile products are manufactured and exported from India, Goyal said, introducing the "Kasturi Cotton Bharat" brand, which he claimed could be traceable using blockchain technology, and that it would be "carbon positive".

The first set of textile products made using Kasturi cotton were also introduced at the event. Indian cotton farmers will benefit from drone-based pesticide spraying launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recently, the Minister said, adding that the use of innovation and Internet of Things will benefit Indian cotton farmers. The four-day event on "Cotton Value Chain: Local Innovations for Global prosperity" is expected to be attended by delegates from 35 countries ■

## Odisha Govt. panel approves 19 projects with investment of Rs 4,804 cr

The State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA) of Odisha recently approved 19 transformative projects worth Rs 4,804.35 cr, further strengthening the state's position as an investment destination. The 125th meeting of SLSWCA was held under the guidance of Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena. The proposed projects have the potential for creating 17,553 employment opportunities.

The significant investments are in key sectors such as Apparel & Textiles, Steel Downstream, Paint (Chemical), Plastics, Packaging/Metal Downstream, Chemicals, Food, Beverage & Allied Sectors, Steel (Ferroalloys), IT Infrastructure, Agro Processing, Renewable Energy/Circular Economy, and Infrastructure. These diverse investments not only enhance Odisha's manufacturing capabilities but also showcase the region's rich mineral resources, metallurgical expertise, and commitment to technological advancements in the IT sector.

The Agro Industry has seen notable advancements, tapping into the state's cultivation potential. Spread across 10 districts, these strategic investments reflect a comprehensive and widespread industrial development strategy for Odisha.

Welspun Living Limited is investing Rs 200.00 cr to establish a Textile Facility in Kendrapada, creating 2,000 jobs in the Apparel & Textiles sector, enhancing regional economic growth.

Modulus Oleochem and Surfactants Private Limited's comprehensive Chemical Manufacturing unit in Baliapal Industrial Estate, Balasore, is an Rs 313.51 cr investment that will boost the Chemicals sector, offering employment for 300 individuals.

Transnova Express India Private Limited invests Rs 120.39 cr in a Chemical Hub in Khordha, setting up a Bulk Industrial Chemical Storage, Re-packing, and Handling facility, offering 258 potential jobs. These projects spanning across diverse sectors from Apparel & Textiles to Infrastructure reflects Odisha's Multifaced growth strategy and steps towards industrial development ■

## Gujarat might provide a 30% capital subsidy under a new textile strategy

The State Government of Gujarat, India, is currently in the process of finalising its textile policy for the next five years. It is expected that the new policy may provide 30 per cent capital subsidy apart from several other benefits. Higher capital subsidy may attract textile industries and investors from other states. The draft will be available soon before the industry for comment.

The current textile policy is going to end this month, and the State Government is expected to launch its new textile policy in New Year 2024, just before the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, scheduled to take place from January 10-12, 2024.



According to industry sources, the government has proposed interest subsidy and power tariff subsidy to new investment in textile units. Industries will also be entitled to have assistance for energy, water and environment conservation. They will also get financial assistance for technology upgradation and adopting green practices.

Ashish Gujarati, the Vice President of the Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) told, "Capital subsidy and other benefits will be main attraction. It will make textile industries from Maharashtra and other adjoining states come to Gujarat. Textile units will come back to the state after they had shifted to other states."

Gujarati is one of the few industry members who have provided suggestions to the State Government for the formulation of the policy draft. The government is likely to come out with several benefits in its new textile policy, as it is felt that the textile value chain needs financial support. Sources said that the draft will be available for final consultation soon ■



# ■ Bihar is considering setting up units of more Bangladeshi textile companies

Bihar is eyeing textile entrepreneurs from Bangladesh for significant investment in the State. Textile is one of four areas for 'Bihar Business Connect 2023' - A Global Investors' Summit to be held during December 13-14 in Patna.

"Situations are quite similar in Bangladesh and Bihar. Also, Bangladeshi companies are looking for place where production should not get disturbed on account of longer non-working hours say during month-long Ramadan," a senior State Government official told. Bangladesh is rapidly emerging as a big player in the textile sector at the global level. However, the textile industry there is facing challenges such as labour and infrastructure, and hence looking for nearby locations. The distance between Bihar and Bangladesh is less than 1000 km and weather conditions are identical.

Apart from textiles, the investor meet will also highlight opportunities in leathers, IT/ITeS& ESDM, Food Processing and Hospitality & Tourism sectors. The state offers a land bank of 28 lakh square meters built-up area. "We also have plug and play facility at 13 locations in 9 districts," the official said. It also has a provision for Rs. 25,000 grant per labour for skilling besides providing Rs. 3,000-5,000 employers' contribution in EPFO for new textile and leather units. There is also provision for capital subsidy and weaver of power charges.

Apart from Bangladesh, the State Government is also expecting participation by investors from a dozen foreign countries such as Japan, Taiwan, UAE, and the US. Among the domestic investors, the hope is that all large companies will participate. The State Government has already organised roadshows in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Tirupur, and Chandigarh in India, apart from the USA, UAE, Japan, and Bangladesh. "The State Government has transformed the industrial landscape of the state over the past few years and has emerged as one of the biggest consumer markets. The summit will see a transformed industrial landscape," the official added. The event will witness business networking, knowledgeable discussions, and sessions for exploring synergies and partnership opportunities.



However, there is big issue over image of the State especially related with law & order. "We aim to remove this kind of misperception. Once you are here and visit the actual location of industrial activities, then only perception can change," the official said. Earlier this month, while criticising the Nitish Government of Bihar, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that he prayed to the local deity Chhathi Maiya to rid the state of "jungle raj". Retorting to that, the Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav said there is 'Mangal Raj' as lot of jobs has been created.

The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of Bihar for 2023-24 (at current prices) is projected to be Rs. 8.59 lakh crore, amounting to growth of 8.9 per cent over 2022-23 (Rs. 7.89 lakh crore). According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (July 2021-June 2022), unemployment rate in Bihar was six per cent, higher than the unemployment rate at the national level (4.1 per cent). For the 15-29 years age group, unemployment rate in Bihar was 20.1 per cent, higher than the national level (12.4 per cent), necessitating the need for more and more manufacturing facilities in the State ■

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## Indian apparel industry aims to showcase goods in Australia, UK, US after Dubai



Indian apparel manufacturers are looking to hold exhibitions in world markets like Australia, the US and the UK which have strong diaspora to expand into new geographies, an industry official said.

Speaking with PTI after holding the inaugural edition of the annual exhibition in the city, Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) Chief Mentor Rahul Mehta said domestic brands are becoming stronger and more capable with their successes within India and it is necessary to take these brands to newer geographies.

"It is time to expose to the international and global market and we felt we should begin with the international market, where the Indian diaspora is in large numbers," Mehta said. At the recently held "Brands of India" in Dubai, there were a total of 350 domestic brands from India exhibiting their wares, Mehta said, terming the response as "tremendous". "Our plan is to have three cycles, at least in Dubai. then, we will go to other markets such as Australia, US, New Zealand, UK etc," Mehta said. He underlined that Indian brands are not just about ethnic wear, but also include other alternatives which make them as powerful as western wear brands. Dubai was the "obvious choice" to hold such a show, he said, adding that being the second largest export market for Indian goods, it has an established potential for Indian products.

The CMAI tied up with The Dubai Textile Merchants Association, The Dubai Textile Merchants Association (TEXMAS), Dubai International Chamber and Readymade Garments Merchants Group Dubai for the exhibition which was held in November-end. Leading wholesalers, retailers, distributors, e-commerce platforms and departmental chains showed interest in the exhibition, the CMAI said.

Rajesh Masand, President of CMAI said the apparel industry will play a crucial role in augmenting India's Ready-made Garment exports to the region.

About 1,500 retailers and importers from Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Yemen, Egypt, Ghana, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya, Cameroon, Somalia, Algeria, Sudan, Russia and had pre-registered to visit the event.

Jagdish Amarnani, the Chairman of Texmas said, "India is amongst the world's largest producers of apparel." The fair had fashion collections by leading brands from Kolkata, Mumbai, Tirupur, Surat, Ahmedabad, Ludhiana, Indore, Jaipur, Bengaluru, Chennai and Delhi.

United Arab Emirates (UAE) emerged as the largest importer of Indian ready-made garments with imports totalling \$1.21 bn in FY23. In the first seven months of 2023-24, UAE's imports of Indian ready-made garments reached \$368.78 mn ■

## Manmade fibre exports to rise 75% by 2030

Booed by the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme and free trade agreements with the UAE and Australia, the industry expects India's exports of manmade fibre (MMF) textiles to increase 75% to \$11.4 billion in 2030 from around \$6.5 billion in 2021-22. India is the second largest producer of MMF after China. Curtains, drapes and interior blinds, curtain or bed valances of synthetic fibres, tents of synthetic fibres and tarpaulins are some of the products which can drive this growth. "Technical textiles is a sunrise sector and the future of this industry," said a government official, adding that ambitious targets have been set for it. Currently, MMF dominates global textile fibre consumption, with a 72% share, while natural fibre accounts for 28%. The share of MMF has been steadily increasing due to the inherent limitations of growth of cotton and other natural fibres. The industry's vision includes tapping new markets such as Vietnam, Japan, China and Poland, besides the existing ones, including the US, Turkey, the UK and Brazil, where India has about 5% share in exports of MMF textiles. The plan is also to improve capacities of filament-based woven and knitted fabrics and processing of man-made filament yarn-based fabrics.



Bhadresh Dodhia, Chairman, Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council highlighted "Manmade fibre textiles are environment friendly and sustainable as they require less water compared to cotton textiles, are cheaper and more value addition can be done on them." Dodhia who stated that technical textiles are largely made of MMF and changing lifestyles, concern for safety and health will lead to more use of technical textiles. India maintained its exports share in global trade of MMF textiles at 3.4% from 2016-2021, but the challenge emanates from Bangladesh, Turkey, Cambodia, Vietnam, Pakistan and African countries enjoying duty-free access to all the major markets such as the EU and the US while Indian products attract 10-34% duty. As per the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry, globally, MMF products have about 55% share in global textile trade ■

## India will establish itself as a textile sourcing, investment destination

The government is aiming to position itself as a textile sourcing and investment destination through seven Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel parks with an investment of Rs. 70,000 cr in the next 5 years, said Textile Secretary Rachna Shah. The government is looking to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) through PM MITRA and several other schemes.



"We are hopeful that seven PM MITRA parks will emerge as growth centres in the textile sector, seeking the support of global investment players to invest in India and source textile from India," Shah said. The Ministry is also focusing on increasing footprints in technical textiles, which is a growing market. Currently, India is exporting technical textiles, including medical apparels, to the tune of \$ 2.5 billion and we are working to take it to \$10 billion in the next 5 years, the Secretary told. Textile Ministry is organizing Bharat Tex 2024,

a first of its kind mega textile show, in February to attract global players to invest in the sector and source textiles.

"We are the second largest cotton producer and a leading player in silk. Availability of raw material, skilled manpower and technological upgradation are our key strengths that we will showcase to the world for attracting foreign direct investments in the sector," Shah said.

The global mega textile event is scheduled to be held in New Delhi from 26 February to 29 February at Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi. We are pitching Bharat Tex 2024 as a global mega textile event with a very large international participation. About 3,500 exhibitors, over 3,000 international buyers, and 40,000 business visitors are expected to participate in the show.

The government is also reaching out to every state to showcase their own unique catalogue of products for the global buyers. Foreign embassies in India have also been engaged in getting their participation. BharatTex is an industry-led initiative started by a consortium of export promotion councils and Ministry of Textiles is in supporting role. At the show, the entire strength of the Indian textile, including handloom, handicraft, traditional weaving, etc, would be displayed for participants ■



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## SGCCI requests that the government expedite the new textile policy

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) has embarked on a fervent appeal to the Gujarat Government, advocating for the unveiling of a new textiles policy aimed at propelling the accelerated growth of the textile sector, particularly in Surat.

In a recent delegation, SGCCI's President Ramesh Vaghasia, Vice President Vijay Mewawala, and former President Himanshu Bodawala convened with Gujarat Industries Minister Balwantsinh Rajput, stressing the paramount significance of a new textile policy for Gujarat's textile landscape.

Ramesh Vaghasia, President of the Chamber of Commerce, underscored the urgency of the situation, emphasizing that the existing textile policy is scheduled to conclude on December 31, 2013.

Expressing concern over the absence of continuity, Vaghasia urged the Minister to expedite the announcement of the new textile policy without any interlude, a departure from past practices where blackout periods were absent in the textile sector's policy transitions.

An essential facet highlighted in the discussion was the need to encompass the spinning sector of man-made fibers, which remained excluded from the textile policy of 2019. Vaghasia ardently advocated for the inclusion of this segment in the forthcoming policy, citing the 2019 policy's sole provision of incentives for cotton spinning.

The delegation emphasized the imperative nature of incorporating various textile sectors, such as weaving, knitting, preparatory, dyeing processing, and embroidery, into the purview of the new textile policy. Additionally, they advocated continuing



the power subsidy benefits provided to textile units with high and low tension power connections under the current policy.

Vaghasia accentuated the significance of aligning Gujarat's textile policy with those of neighboring states like Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu, where capital subsidies are extended to textile units. He called for similar provisions in Gujarat's new textile policy, emphasizing the need for subsidies and assistance, mirroring the precedents set by the previous policies.

"The early announcement of the new textile policy is crucial, especially when numerous new projects are in the pipeline. Comprehensive inclusion of the suggested points will not only benefit Surat but will also positively impact the entire textile industry in South Gujarat," highlighted SGCCI President Ramesh Vaghasia, accentuating the potential advantages awaiting the textile sector if these recommendations are incorporated into the upcoming policy ■

## SP Apparels to buy textile arm and apparel unit of Bannari Spinning Mills

Bannari Amman Spinning Mills Ltd (BASML) has said that SP Apparels Ltd hasevinced interest in buying its textile subsidiary, a garment factory, and Perundurai lands. The company is planning to utilise the funds from the proceeds to reduce its borrowings.



"The company's board at its meeting recently has taken on record, in principle, the proposals for transfer/disinvestment/sale of the company's equity shareholding in the subsidiary and joint venture company Young Brand Apparel Private Ltd, sale of its garment unit located at Pal-

ladam Hi-Tech Weaving Park, Palladam, Tamil Nadu and sale of 6.43 acres of land with building situated at site no. R-44, SIPCOT, Perundurai, owned by the company," it said in a filing to stock exchanges.

SV Arumugam, Managing Director of BASML, is negotiating in furtherance of the above proposals. The transaction, when finalised, is subject to necessary statutory, regulatory, and other approvals. BASML reported a revenue of Rs. 1.099 cr in FY23 (Rs. 1290 cr in FY22) and incurred a loss of Rs. 34 cr (as against Rs. 48 cr profit in FY22), mainly due to higher cotton prices and poor realisations. In H1 of FY24, it reported total revenue of Rs. 508 cr and a net loss of Rs. 10 cr.

Meanwhile, SP Apparels' board has also approved the proposals to buy Young Brand Apparels Pvt Ltd and Palladam Garment units and 6.43 acre land in Perundurai.

Young Brand Apparels Pvt Ltd (YBAPL) is a manufacturing and export company and a strategic partner of brands focused on the intimate wear market segment. It is a joint venture company between Jacob Industries (USA) LLC, Intimark of Mexico, and Bannari Amman Spinning Mills and has a good customer base in the US. It has a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility on the outskirts of Chennai.

SP Apparels said the acquisition of YBAPL will improve the synergies of both companies in terms of customer base. This acquisition will be a great support to its core business, the company said ■

## Birla Cellulose ranks no.1 and sustains dark green shirt rating in canopy's hot button report 2023

Birla Cellulose, a flagship brand of Grasim Industries Ltd., is proud to announce that Birla Cellulose has secured the first position in Canopy's Hot Button Report 2023, because of its unwavering commitment to conserving ancient and endangered forests and promoting circular solutions. The company continues its exceptional streak by securing the highest rating of 'Dark Green Shirt' for the fourth consecutive year.



Canopy, a non-profit organization dedicated to environmental causes, issues an annual Hot Button Report. This report empowers fashion brands and retailers to comprehensively evaluate suppliers of Man Made Cellulosic Fibers (MMCF) regarding their sourcing of forest fibers.

Commenting on the ranking, H.K. Agarwal, Managing Director, Grasim Industries Ltd., and Business Director Birla Cellulose, said, "This esteemed recognition serves as confirmation of Birla Cellulose's steadfast dedication and commitment to improve sustainable wood sourcing practices, forest conservation, innovation, next-generation fiber solutions, and transparent operations across the entire value chain."

Birla Cellulose, in collaboration with global MMCF producers, actively supports the Convention on Biological Diversity's commitment to conserving at least 30% of terrestrial ecosystems by 2030. The company remains at the forefront of industry collaboration, working closely with brands, supply chain partners, and key stakeholders, including Canopy, Fashion for Good, and Circular Fashion Partnership, to drive the scaling up of circularity in the fashion sector.

Nicole Rycroft, Executive Director, Canopy, said, "A hearty congratulations to Aditya Birla for securing the top spot in Canopy's 2023 Hot Button Report. We commend their hard work to remove Ancient and Endangered Forests from the MMCF supply chain and are encouraged by their consistent progress to bring Next Gen fibres to market at scale" ■



## Strategic disinvestment by Ginni Filaments

Ginni Filaments Ltd., a listed company manufacturing traditional and technical textiles, has divested its spinning, knitting and processing unit to consolidate financial standing. Board of Directors of Ginni Filaments approved in its meeting, held on 1st December, 2023, the transfer of its entire spinning, knitting and processing undertaking located at Chhata, Distt. Mathura (U.P.) to M/s. RSWM Limited, a listed company having its presence, inter alia, in textiles, on slump sale basis on a consideration of Rs. 160 Crores.



Ginni Filaments is engaged in the manufacturing of traditional textiles comprising of yarn, fabric and garments and technical textiles comprising of non-wovens and consumer products. RSMW is one the largest and well-established manufacturers of textile products. It is positioned to infuse capital and strengthen its position in this segment. The employees of the various units of Ginni will be secure and have future growth prospects.

Shishir Jaipuria, Chairman & Managing Director of Ginni Filaments, says, "The transfer of the spinning, knitting and processing undertaking would strengthen the financial position of the company since traditional textile business continues to suffer on account of adverse global geo-political situation. Ginni wants to focus on technical textile where it has a leadership position."

Saket Jaipuria, Executive Director of Ginni, says that "The company has been producing technical textile products for hygiene and medical applications and has a strong customer base. It has also started manufacturing cosmetic products and is seeing substantial growth on this front. It wants to strategically focus on this new emerging segment and is exploring several exciting opportunities. The slump sale process is expected to be completed in three months' time." "We would like to express our gratitude to all the stakeholders for their trust and look forward to our shared success in future," says Saket Jaipuria ■

## India has opportunities to penetrate the global textile market

India has huge opportunity to tap into the international textile and apparel market, said the newly-elected President of International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF) K.V. Srinivasan. Who is the first South Indian to head the international association, told recently international buyers wanted to source more from countries other than China. This offered opportunities for Indian suppliers. However, the drop in demand globally and high inflation had hit the industry globally. Apart from this, in India, the demand was "surprisingly low for textiles" even during the festival season. The scope to improve the competitiveness of the Indian industry was there in some segments, he added.

The ITMF organises annual three-day conference and also conducts a monthly survey involving stakeholders from the entire supply chain. The Southern India Mills' Association organised a felicitation function for Srinivasan recently and Christian P. Schindler, Director General of ITMF, made a virtual presentation on the long and short-term developments in the global textile industry. According to the November survey, majority of the participants said the current business situation was poor and they had optimistic expectations for the future, he said ■

## Brandix Apparel India among the 'Top 25 Safest Work laces' in India



Brandix Apparel India has been awarded as one of the Top 25 Safest Workplaces in India at the Kelp HRPoSH Awards, 2023. This recognition acknowledges the exemplary efforts of the organization in not only complying with the PoSH Act 2013 but also going above and beyond the legal requirements to ensure a safe and inclusive work environment.

On behalf of the organization, Dr. T. Vasudha, Head of Wellness and Syamala Devi, Manager, Wellness received the award from Dr. Pradnya Saravade, IPS, Director General, Railway Police, Maharashtra at a ceremony held at MCA Recreation Center, Mumbai on 7th Dec 2023.

Brandix Apparel India is one of the only four manufacturing organisations to make it into the Top 25 this year, and one of the only two to earn a place at first attempt. While being proud of this accomplishment, we will keep going further in our journey of building safe and inclusive workplaces that inspire excellence.

From its rollout in 2016, Brandix Apparel India's PoSH policy has gone above and beyond the law in order to redress sexual harassment faced by people of any gender. The policy was made effective by asserting zero-tolerance towards abuse and harassment of any nature, providing multiple accessible venues to raise complaints through, and by establishing a robust redressal mechanism. Prevention measures such as regular training and awareness for employees also contribute to its success ■

## Indian fashion reaches new horizons with Manish Malhotra



Located at the Fashion Avenue in Dubai Mall, Manish Malhotra globalises Indian fashion with the opening of his first global flagship store marking a proud moment for Indian Couture.

Dubai, United Arab Emirates: In a remarkable stride towards India's evolving fashion landscape, celebrated Indian haute couture icon Manish Malhotra inaugurates his flagship store at the prestigious Fashion Avenue of the Dubai Mall on December 10, 2023 marking a momentous day for Indian fashion. Notably, Manish Malhotra has earned the distinction of being the first Indian designer to secure a coveted spot at the luxury Fashion Avenue in Dubai Mall, a testament to his international acclaim.

The exquisite 5000 square feet ivory clad palatial store unfolds "The India Story". Every corner of the store represents the essence of India. From the timeless Chikankari of Mijwan, the artisanal threads of Kashmir, the fine craftsmanship of Zardosi and his signatory sequins from the artisans across the country in addition to bringing his High Jewellery line, together amalgamates "The India Story" in his signature glamorous style.

This inaugural flagship store marks a stride for Indian fashion towards a global presence, heralding the expansion of Manish Malhotra's exquisite brand beyond regional boundaries.

Reflecting on this special occasion, Manish Malhotra shared, "I feel emotional for it has always been my cherished dream to bring the rich artistry of Indian designs, exquisite embroideries, and craftsmanship to a global platform. Representing Modern-day India, that is also deeply rooted in tradition, culture, and luxurious heritage but constantly evolving. This store reflects my warm house, where every person who walks in is embraced by Indian culture and hospitality.

The exquisite store was meticulously crafted by the talented Gauri Khan, who collaborated closely with Manish Malhotra to materialize his grand vision for his inaugural global store.

"A fusion of opulence and grandeur, designing Manish's store in Dubai was a great experience. My designs tie in the majestic creations of Manish clothes to highlight and showcase every detail as we follow similar design sensibilities.", said Gauri Khan ■



## 17 years of Max redefine affordable fashion in India



Leading Global value fashion brand, Max Fashion, marks 17 years of its presence in India, touching over 480 stores. The brand's success is deeply rooted in its core values of, affordability, and trendsetting styles, making fashion clothing accessible to everyone. Reaffirming its promise to serve millions of Indian consumers, Max captures share of mind in value fashion, catering to the ever-changing needs of its target audience. Growing its customer base to 35mn+, the brand is geared to set new benchmarks for the apparel market, building a strong connect with the style-conscious, youth audience.

Speaking on the occasion, Pallavi Pandey, Vice President & Head of Marketing, Max Fashion, adds, "Max has always been driven by a vision to democratize fashion, and our growing position in the market is a testament of the trust and loyalty customers have shown towards the brand, over the years. We are very excited about the evolving and rapidly transforming Indian market. The opportunities in our market are immense and we continuously strive to deliver latest fashion trend at affordable prices to everyone on the Family."

Always ahead of the times, Max continues to build its prowess in creating a world class shopping experience. Extending its presence from offline to online with its e-commerce platform maxfashion.com and now on mobile, the brand stands out for its largest social footprint with 1 million+ youth following on Facebook and Instagram. The entire gamut of shopping experience, from e-kiosks to features like click 'n' collect at stores, is driven by omni channel thinking and the brand's belief in ease of shopping.

One of the first to have introduced international styles, Max keeps up with up-to-date clothing line for its diverse audience, bringing in new styles every 45 days. To match evolving trends and consumer demand, the brand introduced new fashion verticals, ensuring everyone finds what they want. From shirt shop to Lingerie, to baby clothes, Max recently launched its new line of sustainable products under, "Max Cares".

Witnessing a sharp rise in customer loyalty and increasing base of new shoppers, year on year, Max is invested in responsible fashion. The brand actively engages in initiatives that reduce environmental impact, promote ethical sourcing, and support community development ■

## Closed textile mills in UP will be given way for new companies

The Uttar Pradesh government is acquiring defunct textile mills for fresh allotment to the industry. According to estimates, prime land assets of over 1,000 acres are locked in these units across the state. These units are operated by state-owned entities like UP Cooperative Spinning Mills Federation, UP State Textile Corporation Limited, UP State Spinning Company Limited, and UP State Yarn Company Limited. These defunct units collectively owe liabilities of almost Rs 3,000 cr to different agencies, including financial institutions, and have little chances of revival.



UP Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi had announced the state intended to acquire the land parcels for allotment to investors after settling their outstanding liabilities. While the state has waived Rs 500 cr debt on these units, the requisite funds to wipe off the remaining debt would be raised through auction, sources said.

UP Cooperative Spinning Mills Federation alone has over 700 acres of land spread across districts. Meanwhile, the proposed restricting action plan includes setting up of an MSME industrial park in the Kanpur region, which is among the most industrialized and textile hubs of North India. The government is bracing up for a mega groundbreaking ceremony to launch projects worth almost Rs 10 trillion. Since the industry has flagged the urgent requirement of land for setting up units, the UP Government is pulling all stops to ramp up industrial land bank in the manufacturing and commercial hubs ■

## Reliance Retail is expanding B2B apparel business

After becoming the country's largest apparel retailer, Reliance Retail is now scaling up distribution of clothing and fashion products to third-party stores, creating an exclusive portfolio of branded products for this business-to-business venture. The company has already launched more than 50 such exclusive brands and the number will be increased by 2-3 times shortly as part of its latest strategy to expand the fashion business, going beyond its own stores as that offers much higher growth opportunities, two senior industry Executives in the know of the development said.



The brands it has launched so far include Silkfeet and Jivers in footwear, Xlerate in footwear and athleisure, Feet Up in women's footwear, Dhuni by Avaasa in Indian wear, Riva in womenswear, John Player Select in menswear, Kidlyboo in kidswear and Altair in t-shirts. These brands will be distributed by Reliance Retail across all markets, including rural, to be sold through third-party stores that are part of its apparel distribution network. The company is running a pilot under the Ajo Business banner, which will be scaled up by next spring-summer, one of the executives said.

"Reliance will launch its own apparel and fashion brands across categories such as western wear, Indian wear, inner wear, lingerie, costume jewellery, footwear, fashion accessories in the value and mid-premium range to be sold through lakhs of third-party retailers. Organising the unorganised will be the next thrust area," the Executive said.

The other Executive said the B2B business in apparel will become a bigger revenue generator than Reliance Retail's own apparel retail stores in five years. He said 80% of the apparel retail market is unorganised in India which is a bigger opportunity to cater than just grow through own stores.

"The textile industry is a large employment generator and Reliance would want to nurture it by ensuring small apparel retailers can offer an assortment. Reliance will create a backend for them so that they can also do sales by showing catalogues," he said. An email sent to Reliance Retail seeking comment remained unanswered at press time.

Reliance is also distributing other popular apparel and fashion brands through Ajo Business. These include Campus, Khadim's, Liberty, Biba, Globaldesi, Lotto and Adidas. Reliance Retail is the country's largest apparel retailer with over 4,000 stores across multiple brands. Its Trends brand is the largest fashion retail chain with over 2,600 stores. It has recently launched new formats like Azorte which is into high street fashion, youth-centric fashion at Yousta and Centro departmental stores.

"The company will expand the newer formats by 50% annually for next few years, while Trends stores will be expanded by 10-15%. While the overall apparel market is growing at 11%, organised retail is growing at 18-20%," the second executive said. Reliance, the country's largest retailer, is also the leader in consumer electronics and mobile phone retailing, and grocery ■



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SUBLIMATION PRINTER

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Capping system	Automatic up and down capping system	
Printing Width	30cm	
Resolution	720x2800 dpi	
Speed	High speed	5 m <sup>2</sup> /h
	Product speed	3.5 m <sup>2</sup> /h
	Pdecision speed	2.5 m <sup>2</sup> /h
Data Interface	USB3.0 Date transfer (Temperature): 20-25 C	
Working Environment	(Humidity): 40%-60%	
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# Cotton import from Australia suppliers demand premium on price



## S.VENKITACHALAM

is a senior economic journalist with more than 40 years of experience, covering Industry, Commerce & Textile Ministries. In this article the author discusses how suppliers importing cotton from Australia demand a price premium.

There is an Economic Co-operation Trade Agreement (ECTA) or a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Australia. That allows duty free imports among others of three lakh bales of cotton annually. But with exporters demanding three to five centres per pound premium on supplies of this fibre the benefits of FTA have been lost, affecting global competition. All this is due to the 11 percent import duty imposed on cotton by India. The measure is aimed to protect our farmers. Far from it, it has adversely affected the textile industry, raising its costs, as already reported in these columns.

It is well – known that FTAs signed with Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and others in the past have led to large-scale imports not envisaged by New Delhi. Fearing a flood of imports particularly garments from China, India decided against signing the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement with the 10 nation Asean about 2 years ago. It was a wise move. Recently Asean indicated that it would review the Agreement. But New Delhi has stood from on the issue so far.

Over two – thirds of cotton produced in India is exported as value-added textile products, providing jobs to over 11 lakh people, besides earning dollar 25 billion in foreign exchange every year. The textile industry requires around 320-330 lakh bales of cotton against the crop size of 310-320 lakh bales. Out of this, only around 80 percent is of good quality and the rest cannot be used to produce high value – added textile products. Around 30 to 40 lakh bales of cotton is normally exported and therefore the industry would face acute shortage, if import duty exemption on cotton is not announced immediately, warns Southern India Textile Mills Association (SIMA) Chairman Ravi Sam.

He has said that it would take three to four months for shipments to arrive at mills premises and therefore it is essential to remove the duty, forthwith to enable the mills to enter into contracts.

Most cotton arrivals in India take place during the peak season (November-March). Most spinning units are in the MSME sector which can buy and stock cotton for upto three months due to working capital constraint and to bridge the demand supply mismatch during the off-season (April – October). They opt for imports which have become unavailable because of the duty.

The area under cotton has increased from 124 lakh hectares to 130 lakh hectares. Despite that, the cotton crop for the current season is likely to be around 320 lakh bales. The cotton price has dropped over 25 percent compared to last year and over 40 percent of cotton is yet to arrive in the market. Farmers and traders are holding it

**■ The area under cotton has increased from 124 lakh hectares to 130 lakh hectares. Despite that, the cotton crop for the current season is likely to be around 320 lakh bales. The cotton price has dropped over 25 percent compared to last year and over 40 percent of cotton is yet to arrive in the market.**

anticipating a rise in the price. The industry, therefore, has started facing the shortage and the uncertainty is still continuing.

As stated earlier, the 11 percent import duty on cotton has also been levied on cotton waste, the key input for open-end spinning mills in Tamil Nadu. There are 600 such mills in the state and they are into production of house hold items such as towels, bed sheets and floor mats. The mills spin yarn of 20 to 30 counts only. The mills have been facing a tough time for more than a year now. Several of them are unable to pay back either the obtained loans or processed with the production due to mounting financial stress.

Though the issue has been flagged off by spinners and conveyed to Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and TN State Electricity Minister, no progress has been made so far and the situation has only worsened, says President of the open end Spinning Mills Association G. Arul Mozhi. High Electricity tariff is also playing havoc with the industry.

The open-end spinning mills want the Union Government to prohibit waste cotton export to reduce its price and meet their raw material needs. While cotton export is allowed despite domestic demand, a 11 percent tax has been slapped on cotton waste. Exporters contend that cotton waste export should be stopped, so that domestic availability gets increased and ensured smooth functioning of open end spinning mills.

The Indian textile and apparel market is projected to touch dollar 344.1 billion by 2027, showing a compounded aggregate growth rate of 14.8 percent during 2022-27. The sector contributed 2.3 percent to the country's GDP, 13 percent to industrial production and 12 percent to exports. Around 45 million people are employed in the industry, making it as the huge employment generation source for India.





Government authorities say India’s growth as a manufacturing hub for textile and apparel will depend on the attractiveness of the domestic market and investments in high-end textile machinery, products in emerging areas like technical textiles and man-made fibres.

The T and A Sector is extremely varied with hand-spun and hand-woven textile sectors on the one end of the spectrum with the capital intensive sophisticated mill sector at the other end. In terms of global ranking India stands second in textiles export with a 7 percent share and sixth in apparel export with a 3 percent share. Overall India holds fourth position with a 5 percent share of global exports.

India is expected to achieve a higher rank in global. T and A business as India is self sufficient in the entire value chain for textile manufacturing and cost of manufacturing is at a competitive rate.

India has become an attractive destination for foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the textile industry because of 100 percent FDI under the automatic route and under single brand retail and upto 51 percent FDI in multi brand retail. The increase in the FDI rate has led to several benefits like capital formation, advanced technology and employments generation.

The textile sector has a huge potential area for FDI due to a surge in demand for technical textiles. It also several high employment opportunities. The future looks promising, buoyed by strong domestic consumption as well as export demand various initiatives have been worked out to give a boost to the technical textile industry.

The players in the industry are achieving sustainability in their products by manufacturing textiles that use natural recyclable materials. The growth of the industry will be driven by growing household income, increasing population and demand by other sectors like housing hospitality, health care etc.,

Besides, State Governments are also joining hands with the Central Government and unveiling of sector specific policies for the textile industry. The states which have introduced textile policies are Tamilnadu, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Bihar, Karnataka, Gujarat, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh. These states offer attractive incentives for companies willing to invest ■

State-Wise Estimates of the Cotton Production for Cotton Season 2022-23						
Name of the State	2021-22(P)			2022-23 (P)		
	Area (Lakh Hactare)	Production (170 kgs Lakh Bales)	Yield (Kg/Hc)	Area (Lakh Hactare)	Production (170 kgs Lakh Bales)	Yield (Kg/Hc)
Punjab	2.51	6.46	437.53	2.41	4.54	320.25
Haryana	6.36	13.16	351.76	6.47	17.20	451.93
Rajasthan	7.56	24.81	557.90	7.77	25.51	558.13
NORTHERN ZONE	16.43	44.43	459.71	16.65	47.25	482.43
Gujarat	22.84	75.09	558.90	25.49	87.12	581.03
Maharashtra	44.10	82.49	317.99	42.29	81.85	329.03
Madhya Pradesh	5.60	14.20	431.07	5.99	15.19	431.10
CENTRAL ZONE	72.54	171.78	402.57	73.77	184.16	424.39
Telangana	18.89	48.78	438.99	20.24	54.41	457.00
Andhra Pradesh	5.54	17.08	524.12	6.95	18.85	461.08
Karnataka	6.74	19.55	493.10	8.97	21.48	407.09
Tamilnadu	1.48	3.02	346.89	1.56	3.56	387.95
SOUTHERN ZONE	32.65	88.43	460.43	37.72	98.30	443.03
Orissa	1.93	6.26	551.40	2.16	7.23	569.03
Others	0.16	0.27	286.88	0.19	0.29	259.47
TOTAL	123.71	311.17	427.60	130.49	337.23	439.34

P – Provisional, As estimated by Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption (COCPC) in its meeting held on 20.02.2023

Cotton Balance Sheet for Cotton Seasaons 2021-22 & 2022-23 (Cotton Year: October to September)				
Particulars	2021-22 (P)*		2022-23 (P)*	
	(In lakh bales of 170 kg. each)	(In thousand tones)	(In lakh bales of 170 kg. each)	(In thousand tones)
SUPPLY				
Opening Stock	71.48	1221.28	45.25	769.25
Crop	311.17	5289.89	337.23	5732.91
Import	21.13	359.21	10.00	170.00
TOTAL SUPPLY	404.14	6870.38	392.48	6672.16
DEMAND				
Mill Consumption	279.57	4752.69	275.00	4675.00
S.S.I Consumption	21.07	358.19	20.00	340.00
Non-Textile Consumption	16.00	272.00	16.00	272.00
Export	42.25	718.25	35.00	595.00
TOTAL DEMAND	358.89	6101.13	346.00	5882.00
Closing Stock	45.25	769.25	46.48	790.16



# The Lenzing conclaves in Bangalore & Ahmedabad

## Pioneers sustainable solutions for the textile industry

The Lenzing Group, a world-leading provider of wood-based specialty fibres, hosted 'The Lenzing Conclave' in Bengaluru and Ahmedabad. The event served as a platform for brands, retailers, and selected garment manufacturers to convene, exchanging insights on current consumption trends and the future trajectory of textile fibres and fabrics for 2030. The discussions also explored the pivotal factors propelling the dynamic transformations within the industry. In Ahmedabad, 'The Lenzing Conclave' renowned as a significant textile base with some of the leading fabric mills and traders, Ahmedabad has been a stronghold for Lenzing fibres, extensively utilised across various applications for several years now.

The exhibitions at the conclave featured an extensive display of Lenzing's latest innovations across major segments, including denim, home linens, intimate and loungewear, general outerwear, and traditional wear. This hands-on experience allowed participants to explore the versatility and quality of Lenzing fibres, reinforcing their position as industry leaders.

Participants got to directly experience Lenzing's latest products and innovations. Notably, the exhibition highlighted the impressive variety of LENZINGTM ECOVEROTM black fibres, celebrated for delivering exceptional depth of black colour in fabrics, and LENZINGTM ECOVEROTM with REFIBRATM technology, which is another step closer to a circular economy. This innovative offering is in harmony with Lenzing's dedication to sustainability and the pursuit of innovative products. Lenzing recently transformed its Indonesian manufacturing site to produce LENZINGTM ECOVEROTM fibres, which are certified with the internationally recognised EU Ecolabel for environmental excellence. The site will also offer LENZINGTM ECOVEROTM black fibres for Asian customers.

As an industry leader in the evolving textile industry, Lenzing continues to present pioneering and planet-friendly solutions that align with the evolving demands of the Indian market. The conclave saw enthusiastic engagement from essential stakeholders, creating valuable networking prospects and collaborative dialogues, reinforcing Lenzing's standing as a frontrunner in the ever-changing textile landscape.

Ahmedabad's fabric mills and traders, long-standing consumers of Lenzing fibres, have played a vital role in shaping end fabrics with applications spanning fashion, denim, home textiles, and intimate wear products. These fabrics, made from Lenzing fibres, have gained prominence in both export markets and domestic retail. The conclave delved into global fibre and material consumption trends, providing insights into the anticipated changes in the immediate future. Attendees gained valuable perspectives on the evolving landscape of the textile industry and the role sustainable practices play in shaping its future.

Talking about the events, Avinash Mane, Senior Commercial Director of the AMEA and NEA regions, Textiles Business, Lenzing Group, said, "We are elated by the



success of 'The Lenzing Conclaves' in Bengaluru and Ahmedabad, where industry luminaries across the supply chain gathered to envision the future of textile fibers. Lenzing maintains its leadership in sustainable solutions, exemplified by our flagship products and pioneering innovations. We take pride that our fibres are supporting brands and retailers to create innovative and sustainable fashion offerings for Indian consumers."

He further added that it was good to see an increasing number of new partners joining us to collaborate on new innovations. Our commitment to value-driven sustainability and innovation is reflected in the showcased products and discussions on global trends. We are proud to be a trusted partner for Ahmedabad's textile industry, contributing to the creation of high-quality, sustainable fabrics for both local and global markets" ▣



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# WSU's new conductive, cotton-based fibre developed for smart textiles

A single strand of fiber developed at Washington State University has the flexibility of cotton and the electric conductivity of a polymer, called polyaniline. The newly developed material showed good potential for wearable e-textiles. The WSU researchers tested the fibers with a system that powered an LED light and another that sensed ammonia gas, detailing their findings in the journal Carbohydrate Polymers.

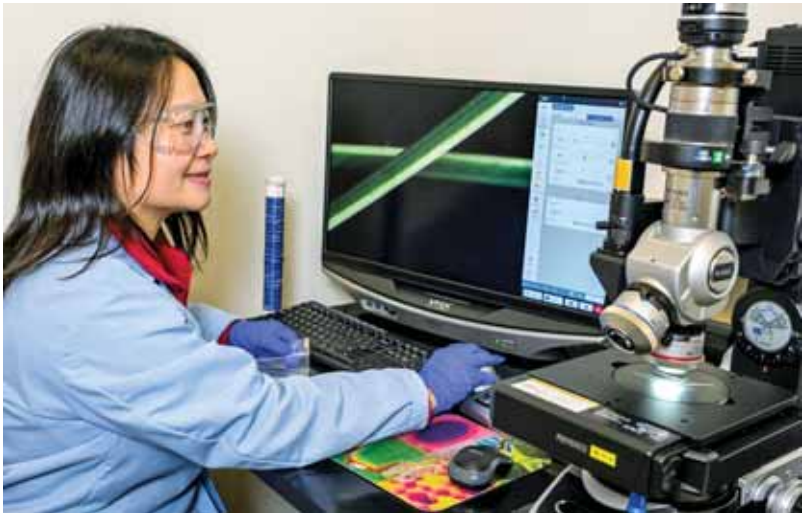
"We have one fiber in two sections: one section is the conventional cotton: flexible and strong enough for everyday use, and the other side is the conductive material," said Hang Liu, WSU Textile Researcher and the study's corresponding author. "The cotton can support the conductive material which can provide the needed function."

While more development is needed, the idea is to integrate fibers like these into apparel as sensor patches with flexible circuits. These patches could be part of uniforms for firefighters, soldiers or workers who handle chemicals to detect for hazardous exposures. Other applications include health monitoring or exercise shirts that can do more than current fitness monitors.

"We have some smart wearables, like smart watches, that can track your movement and human vital signs, but we hope that in the future your everyday clothing can do these functions as well," said Liu. "Fashion is not just color and style, as a lot of people think about it: fashion is science."

In this study, the WSU team worked to overcome the challenges of mixing the conductive polymer with cotton cellulose. Polymers are substances with very large molecules that have repeating patterns. In this case, the researchers used polyaniline, also known as PANI, a synthetic polymer with conductive properties already used in applications such as printed circuit board manufacturing.

While intrinsically conductive, polyaniline is brittle and by itself, cannot be made into a fiber for textiles. To solve this, the WSU researchers dissolved cotton cellulose from recycled t-shirts into a solution and the conductive polymer into another



separate solution. These two solutions were then merged together side-by-side, and the material was extruded to make one fiber. The result showed good interfacial bonding, meaning the molecules from the different materials would stay together through stretching and bending.

Achieving the right mixture at the interface of cotton cellulose and polyaniline was a delicate balance, Liu said. "We wanted these two solutions to work so that when the cotton and the conductive polymer contact each other they mix to a certain degree to kind of glue together, but we didn't want them to mix too much, otherwise the conductivity would be reduced," she said.

Additional WSU authors on this study included first author Wangcheng Liu as well as Zihui Zhao, Dan Liang, Wei-Hong Zhong and Jinwen Zhang. This research received support from the National Science Foundation and the Walmart Foundation Project ■



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# Forthcoming PM MITRA Park in Gujarat will make the textile industry thriving

The Gujarat Government's industry-friendly policy, investments attracted through the platform provided by the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, and the upcoming PM MITRA Park in Navsari are set to boost the state's efforts to promote the textile sector, officials and industry leaders said. With over 60 per cent of the country's denim fabric coming from Gujarat, the state is aptly considered as the textile state of India, they said, adding that the support provided by the state government through its textile policy for the last more than a decade has also contributed significantly to the growth of the sector.

Experts say that Gujarat's textile policy has led to technological upgrades, skill enhancement and the development of textile parks, making it one of the most vibrant sectors. They believe that Gujarat's textile industry will position itself as a driving force in the state's economic growth and contribute to India's prominence in the global textile market.

According to the State Government, the development of PM MITRA Park in Navsari in South Gujarat is poised to attract over Rs 10,000 crore in investments, generating an annual output of Rs 25,000-Rs 30,000 crore. It is expected to elevate the contribution of Gujarat's apparel sector from 3 per cent to 5 per cent, overall textile output from 18 per cent to 22 per cent, and sector exports from around 12 per cent to over 15 per cent, it said.

As a precursor to the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit (VGGS) 2024, the Gujarat Government has so far signed 10 MoUs with textile and apparel manufacturing companies with a combined value of Rs 2,844.93 crore. The MoUs pertain to the manufacturing of knitted products, viscose and polyester staple yarn, polyester films, and manufacturing of composite textile unit and denim dyeing and processing unit, a Government release said.

The State Government is progressing well to achieve Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call to make India's textile sector a "world champion" and using every opportunity to give a boost to the sector which has emerged as second only to agriculture in employment generation, it said. "To make a profit in the future, we will have to invest in the local supply chain. This is the way to build a developed India and this is the way to fulfil the dream of a developed India, to fulfil the dream of a 5 trillion economy," Modi had said in one of his speeches.

Over the last two decades, the VGGS has been instrumental in providing a platform for notable investments in Gujarat's textile sector. It brings together both domestic and international industry leaders, creating partnerships for projects in the textile industry in Gujarat, industry representatives said.

The textile policy launched by the government in 2012 has attracted over Rs 35,000 crore in investment. Supported by pro-industry policy and meetings organised as part of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summits, the sector witnessed a 2.3 times growth in exports by 2019, said Gaurang Bhagat, a textile business owner.

"Because of the meetings organised as part of the Vibrant Gujarat (Summit), the textile sector has seen a lot of improvements. Suggestions were received and beautiful progress made," he said. As a result of such pro-industry approach, production of cotton spindles in Gujarat increased from 10 lakh spindles in 2012 to 46.3 lakh spindles in 2022-23, he said.

Gujarat's textile policy has led to technological upgrades, skill enhancement and the development of textile parks, with a significant focus on rural employment and women's empowerment, making it one of the most vibrant sectors, industry experts said.

In a seminar organised last month in Surat on the theme of 'Future Ready 5F : Gujarat's Textile Vision for Viksit Bharat@2047' ahead of the 10th Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, Minister of State for Textiles Darshana Jardosh announced a strategic focus on developing the technical textile sector with a commitment to the highest quality. She said that the construction of PM Mitra Park in Navsari is anticipated to propel the textile sector to new heights in employment generation.



**Gujarat's textile policy has led to technological upgrades, skill enhancement and the development of textile parks, making it one of the most vibrant sectors. Gujarat's textile industry will position itself as a driving force in the state's economic growth and contribute to India's prominence in the global textile market.**

"The State Government has proactively formulated policies addressing labour, industry and textiles, leading to significant advancements in the textile sector," she said, while also underscoring the significance of ready-made garments using man-made fibres. The government is actively promoting the development of the textile sector, she added.

During the seminar, Gujarat Minister of State for Industries Harsh Sanghavi said, "The textile sector has surpassed other industries in generating employment, and the State Government is dedicated to making it a hub. Our government values diverse opinions and is committed to implementing effective policies."

According to Chintan Thaker, Chairman of ASSOCHAM's Gujarat Council, the state holds a significant position for textile industry entrepreneurs. The textile sector provides the highest employment after agriculture in the state. In various other sectors, an investment of Rs 1 crore generates employment for 3 to 5 people, while in the textile sector, an investment of the same amount generates employment for 9 to 15 people, he said.

The state has encouraged the development of the textile sector through the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI), RoSCTL scheme (Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies on Export of Garments and Made-ups), and policies related to Goods and Services Tax (GST) by the government, he said.

Projects such as PM Mitra Park and Sagar Mala are expected to elevate the contribution of Gujarat's apparel sector from 3 per cent to 5 per cent, overall textile output from 18 per cent to 22 per cent, and sector exports from around 12 per cent to over 15 per cent, the experts said. These proposed projects in and around Surat and Ahmedabad will begin with projected timeframe by 2025 and are expected to create more than 11,400 employment opportunities, the release said ■



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# The advantages of Fluorescent Colors for Sublimation Printing



## ANNE DE BROUWER

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Fluorescent dye-sublimation printing has revolutionized the world of digital printing, offering exciting new possibilities for transforming fashion, sportswear and home textiles. While traditional dye-sublimation relies on standard process colors, the infusion of fluorescent magenta and yellow inks takes the game to a whole new level, allowing for the creation of brilliant fluorescent prints that captivate attention. But what are the possibilities of this special color ink? In this blog, we'll delve into the key advantages that set fluorescent dye-sublimation printing apart.

### The Fluorescent Dye-Sublimation Process Unveiled

The process of fluorescent dye-sublimation printing relies on the paper transfer method. This method commences with the precise application of dye-sublimation inks onto transfer paper, specifically engineered for optimal dye transfer onto polyester fabric or rigid materials. Following this application, the transfer paper is delicately positioned in direct contact with the fabric or rigid material. The final step involves the use of a calender or heat press, applying both heat and pressure to facilitate the transfer process. The outcome is a water and rub-resistant graphic that not only captures attention with its visual appeal but is also ready for finishing or immediate sale.

### What are the Advantages of Fluorescent Sublimation Inks?

Exploring the key benefits of fluorescent sublimation inks uncovers a revolutionary impact on digital printing. These inks not only significantly broaden the color gamut, offering a diverse spectrum of hues and shades, but also elevate print quality to captivating heights. Achieve prints that demand attention with their inherent vibrancy and dynamic appeal, allowing for product differentiation and premium offerings. Fluorescent prints maintain their vivid appearance under normal light conditions, ensuring a prominent and captivating impact in any setting.

Furthermore, the consistent printing capabilities of these inks eliminate concerns about head clogging, providing a seamless production process. Delving into applications, fluorescent inks prove instrumental in producing vibrant and long-lasting prints that endure multiple washes. Additionally, the utilization of four-color ink (CMYK) in combination with fluorescent colors empowers textile printing companies to explore intricate and complex designs, showcasing greater design flexibility in executing sophisticated graphic elements.

### Emerging possibilities in the Sports Industry

In the dynamic world of the sports industry, the call for additional colors extends far beyond mere aesthetics—it's a strategic imperative. Nowhere is this more evident than in the creation of football shirts, where teams meticulously seek specific colors to align



with their brand identity or to make a bold statement on the field. The quest for precision in color matching becomes particularly pronounced when it comes to 'away shirts,' where unique, eye-catching hues become emblematic of a team's distinctiveness. Here, fluorescent dye-sublimation printing emerges as the preferred solution, meeting and exceeding the exacting demands of sports apparel.

By seamlessly incorporating fluorescent colors, this printing method not only ensures that teams achieve the precise hues they envision but also guarantees that their jerseys stand out vibrantly, capturing attention both on and off the field. The result is not merely sportswear; it's a visual representation of team identity and spirit, enhancing the overall impact of sports apparel in the competitive world of athletics.

### Discovering Fluorescent Printing Possibilities with SPGPrints

Fluorescent dye-sublimation printing unveils a vast spectrum of possibilities, empowering creators to fashion captivating graphics on a diverse range of materials. Whether your goal is to elevate the aesthetics of sportswear, creating standout designs that resonate with athletes and fans alike, or you're in pursuit of distinctive prints to enhance your business's profitability, the utilization of fluorescent sublimation inks proves to be an invaluable choice. The expanded color gamut, vibrant prints, and consistent results achieved through this advanced printing technology contribute to the creation of visually striking and enduring designs.

The versatility of fluorescent dye-sublimation printing extends beyond sportswear, reaching into various industries where eye-catching visuals are paramount. Whether you're envisioning custom textiles, promotional materials, or unique merchandise, the vibrant realm of fluorescent printing opens doors to unparalleled creativity and innovation.

Should you find yourself with questions or in need of expert guidance along your creative journey, our experienced colleagues at SPGPrints stand ready to assist you. With years of expertise in the field, we are committed to providing the support and insights necessary to help you make the most of the potential offered by fluorescent sublimation printing. Your venture into this dynamic and vibrant printing realm awaits, promising not only stunning visuals but also a seamless and rewarding creative process ■



# Shahi Exports' green journey

## Powering towards 100% renewable energy

Shahi Exports, India's largest apparel manufacturer and exporter, released its second Sustainability Report for FY 2022-23 today. The comprehensive report details the company's extensive initiatives across key focus areas, including Energy and Emissions Management, Water Efficiency, Chemical and Materials Stewardship, Waste Towards Circularity, Empowered Workforce, Employee Health and Well-being, Fair and Respectful Workplace, and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

Anant Ahuja, Head of ESG at Shahi Exports, said, "The past year has marked significant shifts in the narrative, perspective, and business of sustainability in fashion. As the industry evolves, Shahi remains committed to conducting our business in a way that reduces negative impact and maximizes the positive impact on our people and the planet. The Sustainability Report is an important tool in helping us track our progress and identify areas where we can make further improvements. The data and insights reported over the past two years have been invaluable in helping us develop more strategies aligned with long-term thinking on our growth journey."

### Key highlights of the report

Shahi has moved the needle on Planet targets by:

- Increasing renewable energy capacity to 92.5MW brings it closer to 100% renewable electricity goal by 2026.
- This year, Shahi phased out coal from garment factories and continue to work on coal elimination in mills.
- Achieved Higg FEM verified average score of 78.05%, compared to the global average of 59.67%.

Shahi's efforts have not gone unnoticed, and have received several international and national awards for the commitment to environmental stewardship, like the International Green Apple Environment Award by The Green Organization and the Excellence in Performance Award by The Confederation of Indian Industry under the ground-mounted solar category.



### On the People front

- Shahi has invested 1.2 million hours in upskilling its employees in behavioral & technical skills.
- The company continued to invest in soft skills training for women through the Gap Inc. PA.C.E. program, reaching 86,000+ women since 2007 and completing 96% of 2024 training target.
- It partnered with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to support migrant workers and launched the YESS: Yarn Ethically and Sustainably Sourced program to mitigate the risk of forced labor in supply chain.

Harish Ahuja, Managing Director and Chairperson of Shahi Exports said, "Over the years, Shahi has always demonstrated a deeper understanding of the changing landscape of our environment and the role that sustainability as a concept plays in this shift. As Shahi turns 50 next year, we believe sustainability efforts will increasingly underpin our success and drive industry-wide transformation. We will continue in the spirit of collaboration, share our best practices, and advocate for collective action" ▣

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# CITI celebrates important milestones achieved at the 81st ICAC plenary meeting

As the second-largest producer of cotton in the world, with the fastest-growing consumer base and a significant portion of agricultural and industrial employment coming from the cotton textile value chain, cotton is of great importance to India. The 81st Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) was a very special event for India to discuss various aspects and issues of cotton.

The four-day event, which was held from December 2 to 5, 2023, in the Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai, with the theme "Cotton Value Chain: Local Innovations for Global Prosperity," was an important occasion for India to showcase its innovations, sectoral vibrancy, and leadership in the cotton value chain. The plenary meeting was followed by a tour of Ahmedabad.

International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) inaugurated by Piyush Goyal, the Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Commerce & Industry, and Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India, The event had comprehensive deliberations, delving into pivotal subjects such as sustainability, advancements in textile technologies, cotton projects, productivity enhancement in cotton, developments within the cotton value chain, economic trends, policies, demand and supply dynamics, subsidies, climate-smart innovations, price risk management, integrated pest management, and a World Cafe session where institutional collaborations on various interventions for strengthening the cotton value chain was discussed. This international gathering brought together representatives from diverse nations, unified by a common objective to augment value and stimulate development within the cotton sector.

Cotton cultivation plays a major role in sustaining the livelihood of an estimated 6.5 million cotton farmers and several million people engaged in related activities such as cotton processing and trade, thus, making Cotton the backbone of the Indian economy.

India has the highest area of cotton cultivation in the world, with around 13 million hectares under it and accounting for 23% of world production. Contrary to the global trends on fiber use, cotton based T&A products accounts for more than 60% of our T&A market. Cotton feeds into one of the most modernized spinning sectors in the world with the Indian textile sector witnessing investment in the latest technologies in the last one decade or more.

The ICAC programme discussed various dimensions of cotton and its socio-economic impact on the global and Indian textile value chains. But the most important development for the textile industry that we are very happy to showcase at the event was the launch of the Indian brand of cotton, i.e., "Kasturi Cotton Bharat," which was a much-needed quality and branding initiative. 'Kasturi Cotton India' aims to strengthen India's competitiveness in the global cotton market and create a sustainable ecosystem for all stakeholders involved.

The Confederation of Indian textile industry, erstwhile Indian Cotton Mills Federation, as one of the oldest Industry association, has been witness to the evolution of the Indian cotton textile industry for more than six decades. With the fast changing trends and demands of the fashion industry, I think the industry today needs to strengthen not just its quality and cost competitiveness but also positioning as a transparent, sustainable and socially inclusive sector. While our huge cotton farmers community is our strength, the small and fragmented nature of the majority land holdings and farmers limited bandwidth to adopt the latest technologies and innovations, besides growing technology gaps in mechanisation and seed varieties are challenges that the industry and Government need to work upon together to ensure fiber availability for feeding the projected growth of Indian textile industry.

Indian textile industry is looking at a \$350 bn industry by 2030, which gives a huge scope for the cotton industry to grow. Emergence of a strong and organised Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), a never before synergised efforts by various ministries to address the agronomic, technological and financial challenges of the sector and a bold step towards Branding and Traceability are developments that give confidence to the stakeholders of a promising future.

The industry is also optimistic of the upcoming Free Trade Agreements that India is negotiating with important cotton textile destinations which can have an important bearing on the demand and supply factors of this sector.



Inaugurated by Piyush Goyal, the Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Commerce & Industry, and Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India



Rakesh Mehra, Chairman, CITI highlighted the advances in textile technologies that are shaping the textile landscape, emphasizing the integration of cutting-edge technologies to enhance efficiency, sustainability, and overall productivity within the industry.



Chandrima Chatterjee, Secretary General of Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI)

Recognising the need for better engagement of the user and the producer industry, CITI's Cotton Development and Research Association has been actively engaged in improving agronomic practices and farmers awareness of the new technologies and good practices. Better income and welfare of the farmers through balanced farming techniques that meet India's need for enhanced productivity without compromising on the soil health or environmental impact is what the CITI CDRA works towards. The technical sessions at ICAC would be a great platform for institutions like this to exchange knowledge on feasible and adoptable new farming practices.

The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) extends its sincere gratitude to all contributors, stakeholders and participants for their invaluable presence, cooperation, and efforts throughout the event and also discussion on important aspects of global Cotton including Climate change, organic cotton integrity, labeling, quality assurance, Climate-smart innovations, Genetics, pest management, price risk management, women empowerment, certification, etc. ■



# Innovations in Textile

## The Rise of Plasma Treated Yarns

In the textile industry, innovation drives progress. The recent shift towards sustainable methods has led to the emergence of plasma treated yarns, a groundbreaking approach to fabric processing that promises both environmental and economic benefits. This article delves into the intricacies of plasma treatment for yarns and its positive impact on the textile landscape.

### What are Plasma Treated Yarns?

Plasma treatment involves the use of a highly ionized gas, known as plasma, to modify the surface properties of textile yarns without altering their bulk characteristics. This state-of-the-art technology is adept at treating a variety of fibers, from natural options like cotton and wool to synthetic alternatives such as polyester and polyamide, enhancing their performance and appeal.

### The Plasma Treatment Methodology

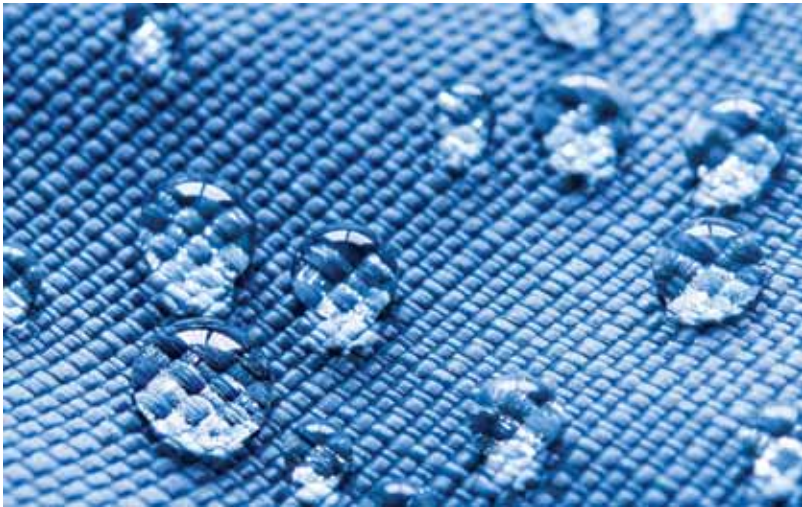
The plasma treatment process is a multifaceted procedure tailored to improve the quality and functionality of yarns:

- **Cleaning Process:** This foundational step uses inert gases to strip away any impurities from the yarn surface, ensuring that it is primed for subsequent treatments
- **Activation Plasma Process:** By bombarding the yarn with active species of plasma, the process introduces functional groups to the fiber surface, dramatically improving its adhesion potential for dyes and coatings
- **Deposition Process:** Also known as plasma-enhanced chemical-vapour deposition (PECVD), this phase applies a protective or functional coating to the yarn, effectively changing its surface properties to suit specific applications
- **Grafting Process:** This intricate procedure involves the introduction of monomers that graft onto the fiber's surface, further enhancing the yarn's characteristics through a process of polymerization

### The Advantages of Plasma Technology in Textiles

Adopting plasma technology in textile manufacturing offers a suite of advantages:

- **Improved Fabric Quality:** Plasma treatment augments fabric properties such as dyeability and wettability, directly contributing to enhanced end-product quality
- **Reduced Environmental Impact:** By minimizing water and energy usage, plasma treatment stands out as a sustainable alternative to conventional textile processing methods
- **Enhanced Efficiency:** The process is not only energy-efficient but also time-efficient, leading to faster production cycles and a reduction in processing times



### Market Demand and Environmental Shifts

The increasing consumer demand for eco-friendly products has spurred the textile industry to adopt greener processes. Plasma technology aligns perfectly with this paradigm shift, enabling the creation of high-quality textiles that meet both market demands and environmental standards.

### Challenges in Plasma Treatment Adoption

Despite its numerous benefits, the adoption of plasma treatment faces challenges, such as the initial cost of setting up the necessary equipment and the ongoing need for skilled technicians to operate the sophisticated machinery.

### The Future of Plasma in Textiles

As research and development in plasma technology continue to advance, the potential for more widespread adoption looks promising. Ongoing improvements aim to make plasma treatment even more cost-effective and accessible, paving the way for broader implementation across the textile industry.

### Conclusion

Plasma treated yarns represent a significant leap forward in textile manufacturing, offering an eco-friendly solution to traditional fabric processing challenges. As the industry continues to innovate, plasma technology is poised to play a pivotal role in the future of textiles, leading to a more sustainable and efficient production landscape. If you are looking for a reliable woven fabric manufacturer

(Source: Dinesh Export Pvt. Ltd.)



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# The Future of Indian Fashion

## Trends and Innovations to Watch



### KABIR MEHRA

Co-Founder of Herringbone & Sui, Pangolin & Suigarh. Graduate of the Doon School, Denison University, and holder of an MBA from London Business School. Kabir oversees operations, finance, and the digital domain. Before co-founding, he amassed over six years of experience in Product Development and Management in tech firms, including a notable stint at Cartrade.com.



In this ever-evolving landscape, the pulse of Indian fashion beats to the rhythm of change, giving rise to a myriad of trends and innovations that are set to redefine the very essence of style. This isn't merely a reflection of aesthetics; it's a journey that transcends the boundaries of conventional fashion, embracing a fusion of the traditional and the cutting-edge.

As we stand on the cusp of a modern era, the vibrant aesthetics of Indian fashion unfurls before us, promising a future that seamlessly marries the rich threads of cultural heritage with the avant-garde strokes of contemporary influences. It is a canvas where each stitch tells a story, and each design is a testament to the evolving narrative of a dynamic and diverse nation. But what all is changing? Here's what the future of Indian fashion holds,

One of the most significant shifts in the Indian fashion industry is the growing emphasis on sustainability. As environmental consciousness gains momentum, designers are weaving eco-friendly practices into the fabric of their creations. From organic textiles to recycled materials, the focus is on minimising the environmental footprint of the fashion industry. Making conscious choices not just in design but in production processes as well.

Technology is becoming an integral part of the Indian fashion narrative. Designers are embracing cutting-edge innovations to enhance both the creative process and the consumer experience. Augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) are employed for virtual trials, enabling customers to visualise outfits before purchasing. This not only adds a futuristic element to the fashion industry but also provides a more personalised and convenient shopping experience.

Inclusivity is taking centre stage in the evolving narrative of Indian fashion. Designers are breaking stereotypes by celebrating diversity in size, shape, and ethnicity. Runways are becoming more representative, featuring models from various

backgrounds, challenging the conventional beauty standards and promoting a more diverse and accepting definition of beauty.

The blending of traditional Indian elements with global influences is not a new concept, but the future of fusion fashion takes it to new heights. Designers are experimenting with unexpected combinations, merging Indian craftsmanship with Western aesthetics. Indo-Western silhouettes, unconventional pairings of fabrics, and innovative draping techniques are redefining the boundaries of fusion fashion, making traditional garments more versatile and appealing to a global audience.

The democratisation of high fashion is a notable trend reshaping the Indian fashion landscape. Luxury is no longer confined to exclusive runways; it's becoming accessible to a broader audience. High-street collaborations, affordable luxury lines, and the rise of homegrown brands are making fashion more inclusive. Designers are contributing to this shift, creating collections that strike a balance between opulence and accessibility.

The future of Indian fashion is intertwined with innovative textiles and material experimentation. Designers are exploring unconventional fabrics, introducing sustainable alternatives, and pushing the boundaries of what defines traditional attire. From vegan leather to bamboo silk, the industry is witnessing a wave of creativity that reimagines the very essence of Indian fashion.

The future of Indian fashion is a canvas painted with vibrant hues of sustainability, technology, inclusivity, fusion, heritage, accessibility, and innovation. It's a journey that honours the roots of Indian craftsmanship while embracing the winds of change. As we move forward, the evolution of Indian fashion promises to be not just a reflection of style but a testament to the adaptability and resilience of a rich cultural heritage in the face of modernity. The stage is set for a fashion renaissance that transcends boundaries and captivates the world with its unique narrative ■





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# The complex landscape of India's textile industry and the future outlook



## BALKRISHAN SHARMA

Business Head and Chief Executive, Yarn, RSWM Ltd.

He is a seasoned and results-driven business leader with an impressive 28-year career in the textile industry. His expertise spans various domains within textiles, including export and domestic marketing, commercial operations, quality control, supply chain management, and more. He possesses a keen eye for detail and a strategic and analytical mindset.

The year 2023 painted a picture of resilience and learning for the Indian textile industry. The tumultuous start to the financial year witnessed some relief in fragments, but the sunny days were short-lived. A similar scenario was observed in the global textile landscape, where the industry presented diverse trends throughout the year.

In Asia, China took centre stage with impressive performance. Meanwhile, retail sales in the Middle East swiftly accelerated in the second quarter, with profit margins surging by 5.5% on a year-on-year basis. In the U.S., retail sales followed an upward trajectory; however, the Japanese and UK markets faced a slowdown due to internal factors. Here in India, the retail industry experienced a cycle of ups and downs, marked by sporadic rises in demand and unexpected setbacks, set against the backdrop of the festive season and the wedding fervour.

### The complex export dynamics

As per the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI), the export of Indian textiles surged massively by 24.29% in October 2023, while apparel exports receded by 8.08% during the same period. Cumulatively, the export of textiles and garments in the first seven months of FY24, at the end of October 2023, dropped by 6.67% compared to the same months of the previous fiscal year. The Indian textile industry has been grappling with this challenging period for over a year. Weaker global demand, coupled with the rising cost of living and economic instability in Russia, Ukraine, Turkey, Egypt, and the UK, has added to the complexity. In the Middle East, Turkey grapples with currency devaluation, while Egypt faces constraints related to the availability of USD. The UK is dealing with a similar challenging economic scenario, arising after both Brexit and the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine has led to unrest across the globe, thereby receding the global demand for textiles and garments.

The excessive dependence of the Indian textile market on cotton and the volatile cotton prices, attributed to the low yield of the cotton crop, has also adversely affected the production and export of textile products. For the fiscal year 2022-23, cotton production was limited to 31.89 million bales, resulting in the shutdown of numerous small-scale industries struggling to acquire raw materials due to shortages and high prices. The cotton production forecast for India in the fiscal year 2023-24 is equally alarming. It is anticipated that India's cotton production for this fiscal year might be the lowest in the last 15 years, shrinking to just 29.51 million bales. However, the demand is expected to remain the same. If Indian mills

**For the fiscal year 2022-23, cotton production was limited to 31.89 million bales, resulting in the shutdown of numerous small-scale industries struggling to acquire raw materials due to shortages and high prices. The cotton production forecast for India in the fiscal year 2023-24 is equally alarming. If Indian mills continue to operate at a capacity range of 80-85%, the textile industries would require 31.1 million bales in FY23-24.**



continue to operate at a capacity range of 80-85%, the textile industries would require 31.1 million bales in FY23-24.

Additionally, the rising demand for Bangladesh-made textiles and garments across the globe has added to the woes. Bangladesh imports cheap raw materials from China and exports finished products to the EU and the US. Under the "least developed country" tag, no import tax is levied on any of its products, providing them a competitive advantage.

### The stagnant domestic market

Even in the domestic market, the demand for textiles and garments remains stagnant for the first half of the fiscal year, deepening the industry's challenges. Despite the industry shifting its focus to the domestic market due to low demand in the international arena, surging retail inflation has deterred people from spending on desired goods and services. Meanwhile, in Ludhiana, the hub of the hosiery and woollen garments industry, the transition from winter to summer production has impacted the utilization of knitting capacity. In the third quarter of the fiscal year, the sale of textile



products did pick up due to the festive season. It is further expected to increase with the onset of the wedding season post-Diwali and the arrival of winter, heightening the activity in the market.

**The imports plight**

Worsening the matters, the garment imports from Bangladesh to India have also surged significantly by 57% in 22-23, reaching Rs. 2489 crore from Rs. 1576 crore in 21-22. This rising trend has put the domestic garment manufacturing industry at risk. The escalating pattern poses a threat for the domestic garment manufacturer, which is already reeling under pressure from decreased demand on the international platform. Furthermore, it might impact the livelihood of about 100 million workers employed in the textile and garment sector directly and through allied activities. That’s not it, the quantity of fabric imported from China has spiked in recent years. From 568 tons per day in the previous fiscal year to 887 tons per day in FY23-24, the number raises concerns about potential impacts on domestic production and trade dynamics.

**The glimmer ray of hope among uncertainty**

Though the first two-quarters of FY23-24 haven't been gleeful, the third quarter presents a glimmer of hope for recovery amid uncertainty. The festive season, coupled with wedding fervour, may succeed in turning things around with increased consumer activity and a surge in shopping trends. While many apparel retailers and manufacturers are predicting a potential 25% dip in demand on the domestic front compared to the previous quarters, lowering prices could be a better strategy. Sprucing up offerings may allure consumers to open up their wallets and indulge in retail therapy. This may bring some short-term relief to the garment sector and spike sales in FY24. For sustained relief in the textile sector, it is time for the industry to work rigorously to diversify the portfolio and reduce dependency on cotton.

In the coming year, the demand for Man-made Fiber (MMF) is anticipated to surge amid evolving global fashion trends. This presents a perfect opportunity



for India to capitalize and become a key player in meeting the escalating global demand for MMF. The Indian textile industry already excels in producing all types of synthetic fibers, including polyester, viscose, nylon, and acrylic. The textile industry just needs to make a little extra effort to overtake China, which currently leads the global market in the export of Man-made fibers. With the implementation of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for producing man-made fiber and the creation of seven mega textile parks in the country, shifting the focus from cotton to MMF will become even more convenient. Higher factory productivity, digitalisation, and sustainability could be other crucial factors that may help India take over its competitors and dominate the textile and apparel market.

On the international front, the ‘China plus one Factor’ and the ongoing production disruption in Bangladesh due to production halt, and simmering political tension in the light of the upcoming polls in the country can also play a noteworthy role in India’s textile growth story ■





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# Nanollose creates the world's first wearable fashion garment made from liquid waste

Australian-based biomaterial technology company Nanollose Ltd (ASX: NC6) has created the world's first wearable garment using the company's eco-friendly Tree-Free Rayon fibre (Nullarbor™), sourced from sustainable coconut waste. The sweater is the first of its kind and marks a breakthrough for an industry that is urgently seeking sustainable alternatives to clothing made from traditional rayon and cotton, both of which cause significant environmental issues.

Nanollose Executive Chairman Wayne Best said; "We have successfully taken waste and created clothing, and we have done it following industrial protocol. Our fibre was spun into yarn and made into fabric, then manufactured into this garment using existing industrial equipment. It validates our entire process."

150 million trees are cut down each year, then chipped and treated with hazardous chemicals to extract the raw material used to make Viscose Rayon fibres for clothing. By contrast, Nanollose's Nullarbor fibre is made without harming a single tree.

"We didn't have to cut down any trees to create this sweater, and we have now demonstrated that our Tree-Free Rayon fibre can be used in the same way as other commonly-used fibres to make clothing and textiles, without the hefty environmental footprint." Best said

Nanollose's innovative biomaterial technology process begins in a facility where microbes naturally ferment liquid waste products from food industries into cellulose, a cotton-like raw material that then is transformed into their Nullarbor fibre. Their process to produce cellulose requires very little land, water or energy and a production cycle is just 18 days, compared to the eight months seen in the cotton industry.

"We believe that we are the only company producing Tree-Free Rayon fibres from waste, and we have now reached a point where our technology is moving out of the laboratory and into the factory. Once we achieve this increased scale, manufactures will have an alternative eco-friendly option available to them." said Best.

As more and more headlines revealing the environmental impact of the textile industry emerge, there is an increasing urgency among consumers, brands, retailers and manufacturers to seek and cultivate alternative fibre resources.

"Progressive brands and companies are starting to facilitate this new shift by involving themselves deeper in the supply chain and searching for feasible,



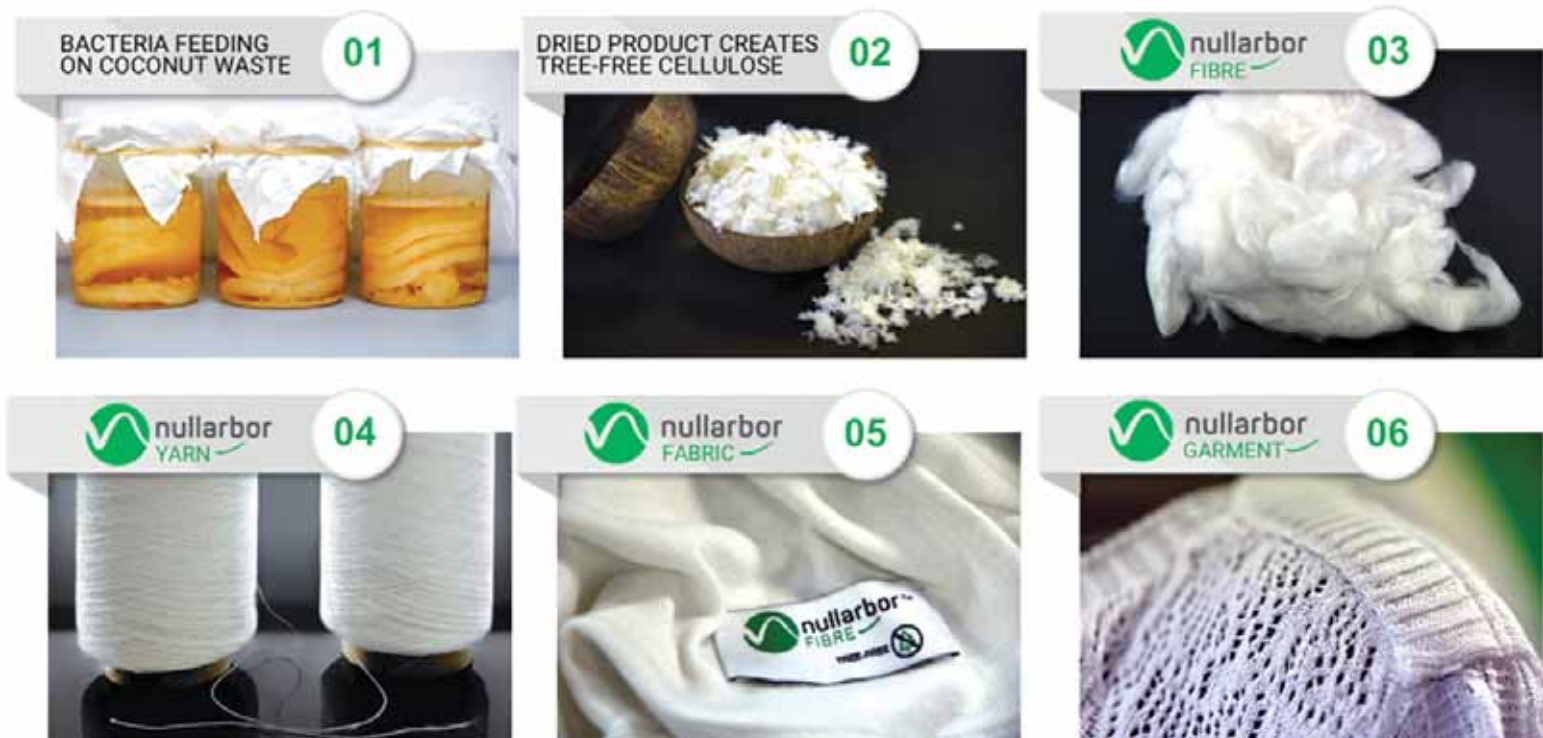
sustainable long-term alternatives. This is evident in the increasing number of enquires we have received over the past six months." Best said.

This urgency for cleaner alternatives saw retail juggernaut H&M release a sustainability report in April 2017, highlighting their commitment to use 100% sustainably sourced materials by 2030. Similarly, Zara joined the movement with the launch of their new sustainable line 'Join Life' modelled by Sasha Pivovrova.

To ensure Nanollose can supply future partners with commercial qualities of fibre, the company is developing a supply chain within an ecosystem around waste from the Indonesian coconut industry (along with waste streams from other industries), and aims to significantly increase fibre production over the next 3-6 months.

"We are a technology company that has also become a steward in facilitating a new raw material supply chain. The goal is to work with key partners who will simply take waste (instead of trees), produce our Nularbor fibre, and seamlessly integrate them into their clothing supply chain with no retrofitting to existing machinery or processes required" ▣

## The six process steps from taking liquid coconut waste and creating an item of clothing





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# Pantone® Fashion color trend report

## New York Fashion Week Spring 2024



According to Pantone® Color Institute experts, colors for NYFW Spring 2024 are infused with a hint of nostalgia yet at the same time speak to transformation as we embrace a more positive way of living. A new sense of freedom is reflected in this palette of evocative yet familiar tones that open the door to the exploration of our creative potential to re-visualize the future. With the desire for personal self-expression at the center of fashion, feelings of joy and comfort come through in the colors we engage with as we boldly enter this new era.

“Colors for NYFW Spring 2024 inspire feelings of release. Opening the imagination and amplifying and liberating our own unique artistic spirit, they enable us to express ourselves in more inventive ways”, said Leatrice Eiseman, Executive Director of the Pantone® Color Institute. “A harmonious mix of familiar shades infused with a contemporary edge, colors for NYFW Spring 2024 introduce a new interpretation of current times as memories of the past and a glimpse of the future brings hope for the present”.

### New York Fashion Week Top Ten



PANTONE® 18-1355 TCX

**Rooibos Tea**  
Rooibos Tea, a full bodied red imbued with rich, woody notes.



PANTONE® 17-1461 TCX

**Orangeade**  
A sweet and mildly tangy red-orange hue, Orangeade has a fruity citrus touch.



PANTONE® 17-0220 TCX

**Watercress**  
Watercress, a refreshing peppery green with a sprightly presence.



PANTONE® 15-1435 TCX

**Desert Flower**  
Desert Flower is a warm and engaging pink whose blooms thrive under the sun.



PANTONE® 14-3812 TCX

**Pastel Lilac**  
A soft and powdery lavender hue, Pastel Lilac is suggestive of a sweet aroma.



PANTONE® 15-4030 TCX

**Chambray Blue**  
Chambray Blue, a brightened denim blue infused with an easy vitality.

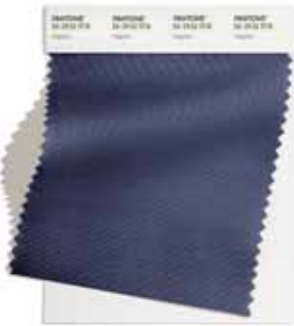




About the NYFW Spring 2024 New Classics



**PANTONE® 11-4001 TCX**  
**Brilliant White**  
Clean, crisp, and pristine  
Brilliant White is suggestive  
of simplicity and modernity.



**PANTONE® 18-3932 TCX**  
**Marlin**  
Marlin, an aquatic blue  
native to tropical and  
temperate waters.



**PANTONE® 12-0736 TCX**  
**Lemon Drop**  
Sugar coated Lemon Drop  
is filled with zest.



**PANTONE® 14-1305 TCX**  
**Mushroom**  
Mushroom, an earth rendered  
taupe composed in  
temperature and tone.



**PANTONE® 14-4104 TCX**  
**Northern Droplet**  
A rainy day gray, Northern  
Droplet promises a quiet  
respite.



**PANTONE® 16-5938 TCX**  
**Mint**  
Mint, a cooling mentholated  
green that is a breath of  
fresh air.



**PANTONE® 15-4722 TCX**  
**Capri**  
Vibrant Capri is a bright blue hue  
reminiscent of the azure colored  
waters of the blue grotto.



**PANTONE® 18-4006 TCX**  
**Quiet Shade**  
Quiet Shade, a shadowy  
gray that offers a  
protective shelter.



**PANTONE® 16-1317 TCX**  
**Brush**  
A utilitarian khaki hue, Brush  
provides a natural blend to its  
surroundings.

The colors featured in the semiannual Pantone® Fashion Color Trend Report are selected from the Pantone® Fashion, Home + Interiors Color System, the most widely used and recognized color standards system for fashion, textile, home, and interior design. Each season, the Pantone® Color Institute issues the Pantone® Fashion Color Trend Report as a semi-annual color trend forecasts for the upcoming season, highlighting the top colors you can expect to see at New York Fashion Week and London Fashion Week. The Pantone® Fashion Color Trend Report serves as a color reference throughout the season for retailers and brands as well as fashion enthusiasts and reporters.



# Circular Design Challenge organized by R|ELAN™ in association with the United Nations in India

India's biggest sustainability award - The Circular Design Challenge (CDC) presented by R|Elan™, - a leading advocate for sustainable practice from Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), in association with the United Nations in India, made a significant impact at COP28 in Dubai. CDC, aligned with the UN's mission for sustainable development, focuses on promoting circular design principles to address environmental concerns and foster innovation.

COP - Conference of the Parties, is the biggest annual conference on climate crisis, held by the United Nations. This year, the conference convened over 70,000 participants, including heads of State, Government officials, industry leaders, academics, and representatives from across the world at Expo City Dubai between 30th November to 12th December 2023. The COP28 Presidency followed a two-week thematic program, geared towards real world solutions to close the emissions gaps in 2030 (UN Sustainable Development Goals) and build on the challenges and opportunities identified in a Global Stock take of progress on climate action.

A thought-provoking panel discussion titled 'Fabrics of the Future' took place at the Centre for Planet, Expo City Hall, which was open to delegates and the public. Ritesh Sharma, Brand and Retail Head for R|Elan™ Fabric 2.0, the next-generation fabric range made from specially engineered fibres and filaments from the product range of Reliance Industries Ltd, a visionary in sustainable fashion, joined the panel as an esteemed expert, offering insights into the role of circular design in shaping the future of fabrics. The panellists explored topics like nature-based solutions, fabrics of the future, putting people first and achieving circularity at scale and more.

The other participants included Ruchika Sachdeva, Creative Director and Founder of BODICE; Manuel Arnaut, Editor in Chief, Vogue Arabia, Vogue Man Arabia, and Vogue Living Arabia; Amanda Navaï, founder of the first local Dubai brand to be featured in Bloomingdales Dubai. The session was moderated by Rumana Nazim, Founder of sustainable concept store, The Edit Dubai. The panel looked at how the industry can strive for sustainable and equitable practices across the entire fashion ecosystem.

Participating at the panel discussion Ritesh Sharma, Brand and Retail Head for R|Elan™ Fabric 2.0 said, "Sustainability does not start at the fabric stage, but it starts at the fibre stage, and we are trying to make an impact at that end of the textile value chain. Our technology recycles post-consumer PET Bottles that is socially compliant and provides end to end traceability. With our partnerships with large global brands, we are aiming to support their sustainability goals by providing fabrics that are made for the future."

Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator in India commented, "The CDC is here at COP28 responding to the call for urgency by helping reduce the fashion industry's climate impact. From sourcing sustainable materials to building in circularity, the CDC has encouraged many young designers to innovate in their design, production, and value chains. The UN in India is proud to join hands with the CDC and together transform the industry for a sustainable future."

Additionally, CDC alumni Without, Thaely & Paiwand made a presentation and spoke about the problems they're tackling and the impact, at the SDG7 Global South Pavilion. This platform provided an opportunity for emerging talent to showcase their innovative designs that align with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 7. The CDC alumni represent a diverse cohort of visionary entrepreneurs and designers committed to reshaping the fashion industry's landscape and this session spotlighted their exemplary success stories.

The session delved into the journey of these trailblazers, illustrating their transformative impact on the fashion sector through circularity. Through engaging narratives and first-hand accounts, the panel explored the challenges faced, breakthrough moments, and the ripple effect of their success stories within the Indian fashion ecosystem. Attendees gained insights into the practical application of circular design principles and the tangible outcomes and impact



Panel Discussion - Fabrics of the future - (R-L) Ritesh Sharma, Amanda Navaï, Manuel Arnaut, Ruchika Sachdeva - Moderated by Rumana Nazim



on the Global Goals, achieved by CDC alumni, inspiring further innovation and collaboration within the industry.

Finally, a compelling installation by CDC alumni, Without, Thaely and Paiwand, was showcased at the Green Zone - Centre for Planet, Expo City Hall serving as a visual testament to the transformative power of the Circular Design Challenge. Titled 'Fashion for Planet', attendees witnessed first-hand the innovative solutions presented by participants committed to creating a more sustainable future. Circular Design Challenge is an exemplary initiative that aligns with the global commitment to sustainability. The event at COP28 served as a beacon for change, inspiring collaboration and innovative solutions towards a circular economy.

COP28 program highlighted the sectors and topics raised by stakeholders during consultations, including themes which need to be part of the COP agenda each year, and new, essential topics like health, trade and relief, recovery, and peace. The programming incorporated four cross-cutting themes that underpin effective, interconnected delivery: Technology & Innovation, Inclusion, Frontline Communities and Finance – to help rebuild trust, and empower communities to succeed in the future world ■





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# 23rd 'AEPC Excellence Honours' Awards for RMG export performance for 2021-22 & 2022-23

Piyush Goyal, the Union Minister for the Textiles, Commerce and Industry and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution presented the AEPC prestigious exports awards to the RMG exporters on 8th December 2023. The 'AEPC Excellence Honours' was conferred for the year 2021-22 and 2022-23. The awards recognize extraordinary contributions made by Indian Apparel exporters in building our modern export enterprises and helping to further develop a unique Indian export culture.

Addressing the gathering Piyush Goyal, the Union Minister for the Textiles, said "40 by 30 will be a fitting tribute to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to make India a developed nation by 2047. Let's expand textile exports to 100 billion through our collective efforts. If RMG exports can grow from 16 billion USD to 40 billion USD in this period it will truly be a game changer for the future of the textiles industry and in our effort to provide jobs to the large section of people and create a value added proposition." He said that the government is taking every possible step to promote exports such as entering into free trade agreements and promoting brand India.

The minister also asked the apparel exporters to procure raw materials from Indian players and not depend on "opaque" foreign suppliers and suggested not to fall for "predatory pricing". He said that for the long term health of the whole textile ecosystem in the country, it is necessary to build domestic supply chain capacities by supporting each other.

The Union Minister said that every element of the industry is important and therefore, he called upon industry leaders not to fall for low cost substandard goods to substitute domestic availability. He said that the true meaning of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat is not about closing India's doors to the world, but to open them wider through supporting domestic suppliers and developing a domestic ecosystem.

Applauding the industry, Goyal said, "The encouragement we received from the industry led to 55% exports growth from 500 billion USD to 776 billion USD in both merchandise and services exports in the last two years between 2021-23."

The event began with the '40 by 30' theme Focus Group Discussion (FDG) with following topics: Making Indian Apparel more competitive; Strengthening Industry Academia Linkage, Exploring new frontiers with MMF, Compliance and Sustainability- How to make it India's edge? Major issues which emerged during the FDG were picked for the Power Group Discussion (PGD) with the following discussants - Rohit Kansal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, Deepak Seth, Founder and Chairman, Pearl Global Industries Ltd., Nitin Prasad, Managing Director, PVH Supply Indian sub-continent and GOC, Dr Ajay Sahai, Director General & CEO, FIEO and Naren Goenka, Chairman, AEPC.

Speaking at power group during the event Naren Goenka Chairman AEPC said, "the Indian apparel industry has been able to withstand the hard and testing times during the pandemic wherein despite the global demand being stagnant, Indian apparel exports grew at a rate of 30.35% in 2021-22 over 2020-21, and 1.10% in 2022-23 over 2021-22. While we commemorate this success today, we are also vigilant of the fact that India's apparel exports have been constant to the tune of 3-4% of global export share during the past 3-4 years."

Further Chairman AEPC said, "I am confident that the next decade will be India's decade in textiles exports and the target of 40 USD billion of RMG exports is achievable. There is big confidence from our international buyers towards India in wake of China exiting and neighbouring countries instability. We have an abundance of raw material with the biggest raw material base after China. Because of this raw material availability we can cater to a shorter lead time as we don't need to import anything as our product has 98% of Indian inputs. This strength of raw material also ensures that we are least affected by price volatility and currency fluctuations or any recessionary or inflationary changes globally. We have the government support and encouragement in providing market access by doing FTAs with many countries like UAE, Australia, Japan, etc. The FTA with the UK will be a game changer for the industry, and the EU will offer a big advantage if we sign a FTA deals."

One of the major issue regarding poor export competitiveness is of Indian Apparel are poor Economies of Scale, Apparel industry comprises 80% of exporters with



around 10 cr. turnover. Average machines in Indian apparel manufacturing units are 250-400 whereas competing countries have an average of 800- 1000 machines. Also, there are hardly any vertically integrated units unlike in Vietnam and other competing countries. Both these factors limit the capacity for the industry to invest in productivity enhancement technologies.

Replying to queries of the industry on scale and infrastructure Rohit Kansal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Textiles said, "The global market is trillion dollar and so even when we reach 100 billion of textiles exports, we will be only 10% of total textiles trade. From that perspective the target 40 billion seems to be eminently achievable. Our PM MITRA initiative seeks to address the issues flagged by the industry such as scale, investment and infrastructure. The size of the PM MITRA Park is at least 1000 acres which are supposed to be vertically integrated. It addresses the issue of land acquisitions as land is all acquired. It addresses issues of clearances because all clearances have been provided, it also addresses the issue of state support as SPV is being headed by state as they run the park." We are looking at 10 billion USD of investment in the park and half billion USD of support has already been given either by infrastructure support or development support to the set up business in the park, Kansal added.

Gold trophy for the highest global exports 2021-22 & 2022-23 (above Rs. 500 cr. in each year) went to Shahi Exports Pvt. Ltd. Faridabad, Silver trophy to Richa Global Exports Pvt. Ltd. Gurugram, Arvind Limited, Ahmedabad gets Bronze.



Dr. A Sakthivel Chairman, President FIEO gets the award for mentor of the Indian Apparel Industry and Deepak Seth Founder and Group Chairman Pearl Global Industries Limited awarded as Icon of the Indian Apparel Industry.

Chairman AEPC underlined that to reach this target, we will need to; focus on Innovation, expand our market and product basket, practice sustainability and responsible business practices, foster strategic partnerships and empower our people.

### Grant of Awards for Excellence Honours – Entrepreneurship and Business Success for the Financial Years 2021-22 & 2022-23

#### Highest Global Exports 2021-22 & 2022-23 (Above Rs. 500 cr. In Each Year)

Tapaswi PVN, Head – Exim, Arvind Limited, Ahmedabad (Gold)  
Virender Uppal, Md, Richa Global Exports Pvt. Ltd., Gurugram (Silver)  
Anbazhagan T., Chief Operating Officer, Shahi Exports Pvt. Ltd., Faridabad (Bronze)

#### Highest Global Exports 2021-22 & 2022-23 (Above Rs. 100 cr. and upto Rs. 500 cr. in each year)

R. Gopalakrishnan, Chairman, Royal Classic Mills Pvt. Ltd., Tirupur (Gold)  
S Guhanvel and S Sughanvel, Executive Directors, Sakthi Infra Tex Pvt. Ltd., Tirupur (Silver)

#### Highest Global Exports 2021-22 & 2022-23 (Less than 100 cr in each year)

Rakesh Magu and Kamal Kishore Magu, Partners, Jyoti Apparels, New Delhi (Gold)  
Manivannan Anbukani, Vice President - Marketing, Penguin Apparels Pvt. Ltd., Madurai / Chennai (Silver)

#### Highest Exports in Knitted Garments 2021-22 & 2022-23

Rajkumar Ramasamy, MD, Best Corporation Pvt. Ltd., Tirupur  
(In case of delay in flight from Dubai, Arunadevi Rajkumar Director will receive the award on behalf of Rajkumar Ramasamy, MD)

#### Highest Exports in Woven Garments 2021-22 & 2022-23

Pallab Banerjee, MD, Pearl Global Industries Ltd., Gurugram

#### Highest Exports in Mmf Garments 2021-22 & 2022-23

D Manohar, General Manager- Technical Textile Garments, Loyal Textile Mills Ltd., Chennai

#### Highest Exports to FTA Countries (2021-22 & 2022-23)

Vishal Maheshwary & Rohit Maheshwary, Directors, Somani Fabrics Pvt. Ltd., Jaipur

#### Highest Exports by New Entrepreneur 2021-22 & 2022-23

S. Govindaraj, Founder & MD, Sri Vaari Knit Wear, Tirupur

#### Award for Most Dynamic Women Entrepreneur (2021-22 & 2022-23)

Anjana Pasi, Whole Time Director, First Steps Babywear Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore

#### Award for Highest Employment (2021-22 & 2022-23)

Sivaramakrishnan Ganapathi, Vice-Chairman & MD, Gokaldas Exports Ltd., Bengaluru

#### Award for Highest Workwear Exports (2021-22 & 2022-23)

Shreyesh Soni, Director, Rama Overseas Ltd., Kolkata

#### Award for Environmental Compliance (2021-22 & 2022-23)

K.M. Subramanian, Founder & Director and K S Vishnu Prabu, MD, Jeyavishnu Clothing Pvt. Ltd., Tirupur

#### Award for Excellence in Social Compliance (2021-22 & 2022-23)

T. K. Chandiran, Chairman Cum Director, SCM Garments Pvt. Ltd., Tirupur

#### Mentor of the Indian Apparel Industry

Padma Shri Dr. A Sakthivel, Chairman, Apparel, Made-Ups & Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council and India Knit Fair Association & Hon. Chairman, Tirupur Exporters' Association & President, Federation Of Indian Export Organizations

#### Icon of Indian Apparel Industry

Deepak Seth, Founder and Group Chairman, Pearl Global Industries Limited, PDS Limited, Lerros Moden GmbH





# Pioneering partnership sets India on Path to Next-Gen Textiles Leadership

Leveraging insights from *Wealth in Waste*, Fashion for Good releases a toolkit designed to revalorise textile waste in India. Celebrating the closure of the Sorting for Circularity India Project, a conference in New Delhi on December 1 and 2, hosted in collaboration with Laudes Foundation, IDH, Canopy, and Reverse Resources will focus on developing a roadmap to circularity. The event marks the launch of “Re-START”, a textile recovery alliance aiming to position India as a leading Next-Gen solutions hub.

“The Sorting for Circularity India toolkit is a milestone in our journey towards a waste-free world. We have mapped the textile waste landscape, unpacking the huge potential, as well as the roadblocks and commercial opportunities in India’s textile waste industry. We are excited to move beyond rhetoric with this powerful coalition of partners and translate our findings into a roadmap for concrete actions.” — Katrin Ley, Managing Director, Fashion for Good.

## The Journey Thus Far

In 2021, Fashion for Good launched the Sorting for Circularity India Project to organise the Indian textile waste market in a three-phase approach so as to streamline, strengthen and foster the Indian textile waste market to drive the transition to a more circular economy that recaptures value to its maximum potential.

The project brought together various industry players including Fashion for Good partners adidas, Levi Strauss & Co., PVH Corp., Target, Arvind Limited, Birla Cellulose, and Welspun India, as well as Fashion for Good innovators Reverse Resources, PICVISA, and Matoha; H&M, Primark, and TESCO also joined as external partners. The project is supported through catalytic funding provided by Laudes Foundation and IDH, and knowledge support from Canopy and Circle Economy Foundation.

Drawing upon the invaluable insights gained throughout the project, Fashion for Good unveils a toolkit designed to harness the untapped potential of textile waste in India. Together, these resources provide valuable insights, assessments, and practical guidance to advance recycling in India’s textile industry.

“This incredibly strategic collaboration between three of our partners will be a game-changer in that it brings together three critical ingredients needed to scale the adoption of next-generation fashion materials globally – textile waste as the feedstock, the market in terms of brand commitments, and sizable investments. All of which India is abundant in, making the region ripe with potential.” — Anita Chester, Managing Director, Laudes India

## India’s Post-Consumer Textile Waste Landscape

According to Fashion for Good’s *Wealth in Waste* report, every year, 1,720 Ktons of 100% cotton post-consumer domestic (PCD) textile waste remains unvalorised in India due to the lack of proper collection and sorting systems. With the upcoming surge of legislation on textile waste management, the value of post-consumer waste is expected to rise, making it crucial for India to focus on PCD waste and develop the necessary infrastructure for collection, sorting, and pre-processing.

In the context of the Sorting for Circularity India Project Post-consumer Pilot Program, several pilots were carried out with Fashion for Good innovators Matoha, PICVISA, and Reverse Resources, as well as Greenworms, Saahas Zero Waste, Uptext, and Hasiru Dala Innovations as the sorters, and Arvind Ltd., Usha Yarns, Vardhman Textile Ltd., Kakkar Spinning Mills, and Kay Gee Enterprises as the recyclers. In parallel, the commercial viability of sorting hubs using these sorting technologies was assessed by Sattva and Circle Economy Foundation.

The pilot worked with 33 tons of textile waste, exploring innovative sorting technologies, the nuances of post-consumer waste, and the potential for a closed-loop system in India’s textile industry. The business case assessment, on the other hand, explored the infrastructure and investment requirements, the scenarios of financial success and the roadblocks, serving as a framework to enable well-informed decision-making for sorting hubs to implement these technologies.



**■ This is an incredibly strategic collaboration. It will be a game-changer in that it brings together three critical ingredients needed to scale the adoption of next-generation fashion materials globally.**

“IDH is happy to have supported the Sorting for Circularity India project, which aligns with our aspirations to unlock opportunities within India’s textile waste landscape. This initiative has provided the foundation for the Re-START Alliance, marking a significant milestone in collaborative endeavours. We recognise the gap between pilots and scaling, and believe that unified strength and pre-competitive collaboration pave the way for scalable solutions.” — Jagjeet Singh Kandal, Country Director, IDH India.

## A Roadmap towards Circularity

The “Reimagining Textile Waste” conference, which will take place on 1 and 2 December in New Delhi, India, is a significant event that will bring together the key stakeholders of the new textile ecosystem, as well as international innovators who look towards India as a pioneering recycling destination.

The conference will serve to share the toolkit and learnings, as well as formally announce the creation of Re-START Alliance (Recover by Sourcing, Tracing, and Advancing Recycling Technologies), a textile recovery alliance established by Fashion for Good, Laudes Foundation, IDH and Canopy. The alliance aims to take the learnings from the project to scale by developing a formal textile waste supply chain, systems, infrastructure, stronger policy intervention, and industry appetite to enable technology commercialisation. The alliance will officially launch in Q1 2024.

“India is very well positioned to become a global leader in low-carbon Next Gen textile production. Canopy is thrilled to be part of this new collaboration to help India realize that potential,” said Canopy Executive Director, Nicole Rycroft “With India’s abundance of textile waste, innovative industry leaders, and the collective buying power of our global network of brands, together we can transform unsustainable supply chains, reduce emissions, and create economic opportunities across India” ■



# Sourcery introduces ten new spinners in India who joined its Direct-to-Grower™ Programme

Sourcery welcomed ten (10) leading spinning mills and vertical manufacturers for apparel, denim and home textiles into its Direct-to-Grower™ Programme as Provisional Partners. These Partners, which include Markwell Spinning, Thiagarajar Mills, RSB Cottex, Leaspin Textiles, Sustainable Spinning & Commodities, L.S. Spinning Mills, S.A. Anandan Mill, Bio Spun, Bio Spinning and one additional manufacturer who chose to remain confidential, have been selected out of over 100 applicants based on their commitment to quality, transparency, fairness and efficiency in trade.

These new Partners, with a spinning capacity of over 400,000 spindles, have made minimum volume commitments on fibre to Sourcery's Grower Partners, committing to transforming trade for good and driving demand in the market with Direct-to-Grower™ Partners throughout the entire cotton value chain.

One of the primary benefits of joining the Direct-to-Grower™ Programme as a Provisional Partner is that Sourcery's commercial teams worldwide drive demand to these Partners on yarn and fabric sales without charging a commission fee while also supporting them with securing their fibre from our Grower Partners in a more transparent, fair and efficient manner. This not only means substantial potential cost savings for these Partners compared with traditional buying and sales approaches, it means being able to more confidently offer and sell products with the quality, integrity, traceability and verified impact at the farm level that is required by brands and retailers to ensure compliance to new international trade and 'greenwashing' legislation in the United States, Europe, and the United Kingdom. Through the Direct-to-Grower™ Programme, these Provisional Partners are already receiving inquiries on yarn and fabric from Sourcery's Brand, Manufacturing and Trade Partners around the world.

"Many of these spinners are not well known outside of India, but among the top textile engineers and buying teams in India they are considered best in class in

terms of quality, consistency and value.", says Amey Padma, Commercial Trade Director at Sourcery. "Like our Grower Partners, they too can now receive the recognition and reward they deserve from consumers, brands, manufacturers, which is all possible through Direct-to-Grower."

These Provisional Partners will undergo a year-long engagement with Sourcery and will be fully onboarded into the Direct-to-Grower™ Programme as they meet their sourcing commitments and continue to demonstrate their commitment to commercial and environmental excellence. Once they become full Manufacturing Partners, they will be among the first to experience Sourcery's next phase of Direct-to-Grower™ with the launch of its much-anticipated Impact and Assurance Programme, bringing to the market unmatched transparency, authenticity, and trust to the cotton trade using verified primary data that is collected for each individual grower enrolled in the Direct-to-Grower™ Programme.

"We are confident that this programme will shift the impact paradigm not only for cotton, but for all sustainable agriculture in terms of the fidelity of the data collected at the farm level.", says Crispin Argento, Managing Director of Sourcery. "Through our Sourcery Connect App powered by Bluenumber®, Sourcery puts the power of verified primary data into the hands of growers, giving the sector the needed assurances to make commitments and the growers a clear and compelling business case to grow cotton more sustainably and finally be recognised and rewarded."


Sourcery has extended this Provisional Partnership Programme in India through to the end of March 2024 inviting up to ten (10) additional spinners and vertical manufacturers to join without any upfront financial commitment in exchange for making purchasing commitments to Sourcery's Grower Partners

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# Southern spinning sector seeks immediate relief measures to retain workers

The Southern States, particularly Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana that account around 55% of the spinning capacity in the country have been facing a long-drawn recession during the last 18 months due to numerous external factors particularly the global economic slowdown and sluggish demand in the domestic market. The 11% import duty levied on cotton and the expensive man-made fibre and filament yarns added fuel to the situation and drastically reduced the exports of yarns, fabrics, garments and made-ups. The cotton yarn exports from the country decreased by 56% during 2023-24 (April to September 2023) when compared to 1304mn. Kg. exported during FY21-22.

The steep increase in the power cost ranging from Re.1/- up to Rs.2.50 per unit (MD charges for HT industrial units from Rs.350 per KVA to Rs.562per KVA and for LT and LTCT industrial units the fixed charges is increased from Rs.35 to R.77-562 per KW in various loads, and levy of 25% peak hour charges for LT and LTCT industries as like HT industries), greatly affected not only the global competitiveness but also in the domestic market when compared to the States like Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh that offer huge incentives under their new State textile policies. The high volatility in cotton and yarn prices and the new capacities added in the afore said States and drop in exports have made the production capacity surplus and affecting the existing production capacities in Southern States.

Considering the textile industry scenario, the Ministry of Textiles had recommended extending one year moratorium for the repayment of loans and extending adequate financial measures on a case-to-case basis based on the representations made by the spinning sector in across the country.

Under these circumstances, the long-drawn Ukraine-Russia war, recent Israel-Hamas war and the MMF QCO related issues caused severe financial stress in several countries and further reduced the demands for all the spinning mills across the country particularly the Southern States.

Import surge across the value chain at an abnormal degree, more specifically fabrics, garments and made ups from China, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Sri Lanka is dampening the core Schemes implemented by the Central Government to promote indigenous-quality manufacturing, in addition to paving way for achieving the targeted US \$ 350 billion textile business size (US \$ 250 billion domestic market and US \$ 100 billion export market). There has been an increase in import to the tune of 40% cotton fibre, 149% viscose fibre, cotton yarn 442%, polyester yarn 46%, viscose yarn 204%, polyester fabrics 46%, garment 44%, made-ups 27% respectively.

Permitting procurement of import dependent fibres, both cotton (ELS variety Pima & Giza) and speciality MMF fibres for catering to the nominated export business is a mode to garner our share in the international market.

In a press release issued here today, Dr. S. K. Sundararaman, Chairman, SIMA has stated that an urgent virtual meeting of the Office Bearers of all associations representing spinning mills and open-end spinning mills was held to discuss and decide the strategies for mitigating the unprecedented crisis. He has stated that the associations have jointly appealed to the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to roll back the power tariff hike brought in the recent years for a period of one year as a major relief measure from the State Government. They have also appealed the State Government to exempt 3rd party power and IEX power purchase from cross subsidy surcharge and additional surcharge so as to reduce the burden for the DISCOMS. Dr. Sundararaman has stated that the spinning mills' associations have appealed the Hon'ble Prime Minister to:



- Extend one-year moratorium for repayment of the principal loan amount;
- Convert three-year loans under ECLGS into six-year term loans;
- Extend necessary financial assistance to mitigate the stress on working capital, on a case-to-case basis;
- Remove 11% import duty on cotton
- Address the QCO related issues like exemption for fibre/filament yarns TT that are not manufactured in India, exemption of raw materials imported through advance authorization scheme, provide adequate testing facilities, reduce BIPS certification and testing charges, etc.

The Office Bearers of the Associations representing spinning sector have appealed to all State Governments across the country to suspend giving any incentive for the spinning capacity expansion or new investment till the oversupply issue is addressed. This is essential to prevent the closure of large-scale spinning mills already created in the country.

SIMA Chairman has stated that all the Office Bearers of the Spinning mills associations have proposed a stoppage of production initially for a period of one week to sensitize the Government and the urgent need for the aforesaid relief measures. They have also advised the spinning sector across India to cutdown production by 35% or one shift to avoid distress sale and reduce the losses.

The Office Bearers from The Southern India Mills Association (SIMA), Tamil Nadu Spinning Mills Association (TASMA), South India Spinners Association (SISPA), Indian Spinning Mills Association (ISMA), Recycle Textile Federation (RTF), Rajapalayam Spinners Forum (RSF), Andhra Pradesh Textile Mills Association (APTMA) and Telangana Spinning & Textile Mills Association (TSTMA) participated in the meeting ▣

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# Speed, sustainability, and safety reinventing fast fashion

Fast fashion has long been synonymous with negative impact that includes low-quality products and environmentally harmful, exploitative practices.

However, recent technological advancements can help rewrite this narrative, transforming the industry into one that is efficient, sustainable, and employee-friendly. This article explores different ways in which textile technology is reinventing fast fashion, making it a surprising force for good.

## High-Quality Production at Lightning Speed

The fundamental criticism against fast fashion items begins with the assumption that these are low-quality garments likely to become irrelevant quickly and find their way to landfills. The common belief is that there's little, if any, durability testing, and cheap materials are used in the production process. Considering how the equivalent of an entire truckload of clothes reaches landfills each second, the environmental damage is clear.

Technology saves the day with the ability to produce high-quality garments quickly. Advanced textile manufacturing technologies, like the Kornit Atlas MAX, produce high-volume, high-quality jobs. New systems drastically reduced production times while maintaining and even enhancing the quality of garments.

Using emerging tech in design and production processes ensures precision and minimizes material waste. For instance, Adidas' partnership with Carbon 3D to create custom, 3D-printed soles for shoes is an excellent example of how precision technology can lead to high-quality, personalized products at scale. High-quality items are also long-lasting and durable, reducing the risk of them becoming unusable after a short period.

The materials are not just high-quality; they are also environmentally friendly by nature. Technological advancements help develop and utilize sustainable materials. Patagonia, for example, is constantly investing in sustainable materials, reaching a 94% utilization of recycled materials. This speedy manufacturing process checks all the boxes.

## On-Demand Technology: The Environmental Game-Changer

Speaking of fashion being tossed away, studies find that fashion brands have destroyed millions of dollars worth of unsold garments in recent years. Within five years, £90 mn worth of undesired goods were burned, including items from leading fashion houses like Burberry, which in 2018 destroyed £28.6 mn worth of unsold items.

A real environmental turning point in fast fashion is the rise of on-demand production. This approach involves producing garments only when there is a demand, significantly reducing overproduction and waste. It is fast by definition, as answering immediate market needs must be. Companies use real-time data to produce, print, and ship garments only when an order is placed, drastically cutting down on excess inventory and waste.

## Empowering Employees through Technology

Another painful truth about fast fashion involves the people behind the garments. Employee exploitation is a widespread problem, as many workers do not earn a living wage and have their safety and health compromised too often.

The integration of technology in fast fashion manufacturing has the power to significantly improve working conditions, creating a safer and more comfortable workplace. Automated machinery has taken over many of the labor-intensive, repetitive tasks, reducing the risk of workplace errors and injuries. This shift allows employees to focus on more skilled and rewarding aspects of production.

Modern technology in the workplace is not just about automation; it's also about empowering employees through skill development. Today's tools and



machines are intuitive and user-friendly, requiring minimal training. This has opened up opportunities for workers to upskill, leading to more fulfilling and higher-paying roles.

With efficiency also comes the luxury of time. Automated processes mean less need for long working hours, contributing to a better work-life balance for employees. This change is not just beneficial for the workers but also results in higher productivity and better-quality products.

The fast fashion industry is undergoing a positive transformation driven by technological innovation. While challenges still exist, the path forward is clear, and we have every reason to believe that technology will continue to play a pivotal role in shaping a more sustainable and responsible fashion industry ■



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sustainable Textiles Summit organized by PHDCCI in New Delhi



Prajakta L Verma, Joint Secretary at the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, underscored the imperative of traceability, recycling, and the promotion of sustainable practices within the textile industry during her address at the 2nd Sustainable Textiles Summit organized by PHDCCI in New Delhi.

Highlighting the pivotal shift towards sustainability and circularity in the textile sector, Prajakta L Verma, Joint Secretary at the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India emphasized the critical role of forums like the Sustainable Textiles Summit in bringing key issues to the forefront. She shed light on the paradoxical nature of the textile industry, being the second-largest global employer yet also ranking as the second most environmentally polluting sector.

While acknowledging ongoing efforts to align the sector with sustainability standards, Verma identified key areas for enhancement. Traceability, exemplified by initiatives such as the Kasturi Cotton Initiative, was stressed as a foundational step. Public procurement emerged as a crucial factor to enhance visibility for upcycled and circular products. Addressing the challenge of textile waste management, Verma advocated for a dual approach of recycling and upcycling, proposing pilot projects with support from organizations like PHDCCI to create tailored solutions.

Verma concluded by calling for increased awareness and compliance with Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles, emphasizing the importance of distinguishing between fear-driven compliance and genuine concern for workers. She also provided insights into ongoing efforts, including an upcoming scheme focused on sustainability and circularity, targeting capacity building for MSMEs and awareness creation. This scheme involves stakeholder consultations, resource efficiency assessments, and budgetary interventions, with a suggestion to align with the World Bank's RAMP initiative for the inclusion of Indian MSMEs. In her multifaceted approach, Verma sought collaboration and assistance from PHDCCI in navigating challenges and promoting sustainable practices within the textile sector.

Madhu Sudhan Bhageria, Chairman of the PHDCCI Textiles Committee and Chairman and Managing Director of Filatex India Ltd, highlighted the pivotal role of Target Initiatives in empowering Indian textile companies amid the global shift towards sustainability. Urging the Ministry of Textiles to consider PHDCCI's recommendations, he stressed the importance of financial support and tax initiatives for sustainability. His plea encompassed the establishment of dedicated R&D grants to support investments in sustainable technology, material innovation, and circular solutions. Bhageria further advocated for the enforcement of eco-friendly practices, such as organic cotton cultivation, water conservation measures, and responsible waste management.

Additionally, Bhageria proposed investments in green certification programs and the promotion of recognized certifications for sustainable textiles. Focusing on transparency, consumer trust, and awareness, he suggested launching education campaigns to inform consumers about the benefits of sustainable textiles. Bhageria expressed confidence that implementing these recommendations would position the Ministry of Textiles as a key player in propelling the Indian textile industry towards a sustainable future, enhancing competitiveness, creating green jobs, and contributing to a healthier environment. He also urged the Ministry to play an active role in fostering a thriving and sustainable textile sector in India.

Dr. (Prof.) Abhijit Majumdar, Institute Chair of the Department of Textile and Fibre Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, underscored the immense scale of the textile industry, amounting to a \$1,700 bn sector responsible for emitting 8% of the world's greenhouse gases and utilizing 4% of global freshwater withdrawal. He drew attention to the concerning trend of doubled clothing production coupled with a 36% reduction in the average number of times a garment is worn.

Discussing strategies for a triple-helix approach, Dr. Majumdar outlined recommendations for the Textile & Clothing Industry, including designing for longevity and recycling, fostering consumer awareness, and collaboration with sorting and recycling agencies. He emphasized research and development in chemical recycling and automated sorting. For academia, he suggested focusing on less energy-intensive technologies, renewable fibers, circular business revenue models, and the social impact of circular practices in the textile and clothing curriculum. Dr. Abhijit called for long-term R&D funding for automatic sorting and recycling technologies.

Engaging with the government, he recommended subsidizing the high costs of circularity, providing tax rebates, making recycled fibers competitive, promoting public procurement of circular textiles, and launching awareness programs to reduce consumption. Dr. Abhijit emphasized the importance of a comprehensive and collaborative approach to address the environmental impact of the textile industry.

During the session, other prominent speakers made presentations were Debabrata Ghosh, Vice President & Sales Director, Oerlikon Textile India Private Limited, Anil Jadhav, Regional Director, South Asia & Middle East, Ecocert, Abhishek Jani, CEO, Fairtrade India, Dr. Srikanta K Panigrahi, Director General, Indian Institute of Sustainable Development (IISD) & Former Secretary, Govt. of India and Vineet Kumar, CEO, KVIC.

The 2nd Sustainable Textiles Summit received sponsorship from Oerlikon, Ecocert, and Filatex India as an Associate Partner. Fairtrade & CSM served as the Delegate Kit Partner, and the event garnered support from the Polyester Textile Apparel Industry Association and C&R Textiles. The Summit's Knowledge Partner was Fibre2Fashion, and CDP India took on the role of Sustainability Partner.

Finally, the Vote of Thanks was presented by R K Vij, Co-Chair of the PHDCCI Textile Committee and Secretary General of the Polyester Textile Apparel Industry Association. The day-long Summit witnessed about 25 speakers, and over 250 delegates attended the Summit. The moderation of the Summit was done by Rakesh Kumar Sangrai, Director, PHDCCI.

The 2nd Sustainable Textiles Summit was sponsored by Oerlikon, Ecocert, Filatex India as Associate Partner, Fairtrade & CSM as Delegate Kit Partner, and supported by Polyester Textile Apparel Industry Association & C&R Textiles. The Knowledge Partner of the Summit was Fibre2Fashion and Sustainability Partner was CDP India. And PHDCCI annual sponsors: DLF Ltd, Jindal Steel & Power, KLJ Group, Multani Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Marble City, MMG Group, Radico Khaitan Ltd, Uflex Ltd, Vestige, Eazy ERP Technologies, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd, Sagar Group of Industries, Superior Industries Limited, Samsung India Electronics, Oswal Greentech, Apeejay Styra Group, Blossom Kochhar Beauty Products Pvt Ltd, DCM Shriram, R E Rogers, Trident Group, Ajit Industries Pvt Ltd, Bhagwati Plastic and Pipes Industries, Central Coalfields Ltd, DD Pharmaceutical Ltd., Hindware Sanitary, Jindal Steel, Modern Automobiles, and P S BEDI & Co ■



# What's new from REVECOL® by ERCA textile chemical solutions



What's new for REVECOL® by ERCA Textile Chemical Solutions? After the inspiring and productive meetings last June at ITMA where synergies with Patagonia® and YKK were announced, REVECOL® resumes its dialogue with professionals from the textile world, keeping its promise not only to "share" this responsible innovation with stakeholders, customers and the general public, but above all to illustrate its evolution and ongoing development. We are talking about a company and a range of products capable of "transforming problems into solutions" with the aim of bringing a new culture of sustainability and circularity within textile production, and inevitably leading to innovations that follow one another at an incessant pace.

Thanks to a 100% Made in Italy, highly technological, pioneering and end-to-end certified production process, REVECOL® transforms critical waste materials (in this case, used vegetable oils) into a complete range of innovative and responsible chemical auxiliaries designed for the entire textile industry and its various applications.

Conveying the values of the new generation REVECOL® chemicals to the public - from customers within the textile production chain to final consumers – is not an easy task, even more so if we then add the "many" unique characteristics defining REVECOL® such as circularity, safety, high performance, competitiveness and its ability to be used on any type of textile fibre, both virgin and recycled...we are clearly facing a challenge.

For this reason - and this is the first notable feature - the brand has chosen to present itself through an image that makes immediate not only the idea of responsible innovation in the REVECOL® range of products, but one that also shows its values, representing them as "bricks" which together and in combination constitute the uniqueness of this range.

The new image captures the essence of responsible innovation: each shade in the vibrant colour composition tells a story about the company's commitment to making a positive impact on the environment and on society. Chemical auxiliaries play a crucial role in different phases of the textile production cycle, but at the same time they represent a complex challenge in terms of reducing environmental impact. The bottom blocks in the image represent specific choices made by ERCA TCS: the use of recycled materials, the vocation for circularity, competitiveness in the market. Attention to safety is built on this foundation, and it is combined with exceptional performance, as well as the ability to use the range of chemical auxiliaries on all textile fibers. Everything is then guaranteed by end-to-end

certifications. It is this combination of values and features that brings solutions to the textile market, solutions that mark a real revolution in the name of circularity.

The REVECOL® by ERCA TCS range now includes 18 new generation chemical auxiliaries. For all of them, thanks to its unique and innovative characteristics, REVECOL® has obtained the most important certifications: GRS, RCS, ZDHC Chemical Gateway, bluesign® and GOTS. In particular, with the support and analysis of bluesign® Academy, it is creating, where possible, the Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) for some REVECOL® products, certifying the reduction of CO2 emissions compared to the use of conventional chemistry.

Last, but not least, this great effort in the search for profoundly innovative and increasingly environmentally friendly production processes has earned ERCA the prestigious European Responsible Care® Award 2023, awarded by Cefic-the European Chemical Industry Council, the largest European chemical industry association, founded in 1972. The award recognizes ERCA TCS' commitment, through the REVECOL® range, to climate neutrality, circularity and the transition towards safe and sustainable chemicals. And it reiterates that the REVECOL® range paves the way for a new generation of chemical auxiliaries capable of transforming critical waste, massively present in the environment, into a range of certified, high-performance, safe and competitive products designed for textiles and suitable for any fiber, with a strong focus on sustainability and carbon neutrality, as confirmed by analyses and certifications. The REVECOL® revolution continues; see you soon for other new developments ■



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# How to upgrade existing rope dyeing ranges with a double operational system

During ITMA/23 Master S.R.L. has launched revolutionary machines “CRAFTYFLOW” and “CRAFTYROPE” for the dyeing of denim warps with indigo and sulphur dyes: they are the only ones, thanks to their dual-technology can work both in air, as usually done today, and in nitrogen atmosphere with ecological and economical advantages.

These machines are the results of several trials and the evolution of the concepts utilized in their original dyeing system in nitrogen atmosphere, based on the insertion in classic dyeing ranges of special modules (Genius). This system had been first adopted by M/s Bluref, pioneer of this technology, and, afterwards by other famous producers such as Covolan Ind. Textile, Candiani Denim, Sasha Denim, Advance Denim.

In order to develop “CRAFTYFLOW” and “CRAFTYROPE”, we, at Master, have carried out several trials and experiments that have confirmed our new concepts and construction design, and that have also highlighted that the new multi-box concept is assuring many advantages in the process adjustment and higher flexibility compared with the previous idea of inserting specific modules.

Master thanks to all these researches and experiments, they are glad to announce that they have developed and patented the possibility to extend the concept of dual-technology also to existing and already running indigo rope dyeing machines, the most commonly used, giving them a new future.

This technology upgrading on existing dyeing ranges requires a limited investment and can be realized on site in a simply way and with short machine down time. Basically, it consists of completing a number of dyeing boxes (we suggest up to 50%) with special devices and components allowing, from one side, to continue to work in the traditional way and, on the other one, using the nitrogen atmosphere.

In this way, it is possible to continue producing classic running qualities, but also to introduce new exclusive developments with better quality, less cost and ecologically sustainable. In fact, thanks to this upgrading, existing machines will be able to continue to run usual indigo dyeing processes, but with the possibility to add bottoming or topping (or both of them) using nitrogen technology, as well as to dye pure sulphur colors without the need of a steamer achieving the highest quality levels, better fastness and brightness.

Using this advanced nitrogen technology, in case of sulphur colors, especially in case of black, a higher dye stuff use efficiency can be achieved, and it can be estimated, at a visual check, approximately +40% compared with traditional dyeing technology.

Moreover, the same upgrading allows to dye indigo in an ecological way, with a reduced number of boxes, using only one fifth of dye bath, saving up to 70% of hydrosulphite and caustic soda. The process can be designed both with low and high indigo concentration and temperature. In any case, thanks to the better indigo fixation, the result will bring also to a higher dye stuff use efficiency, better fastness and a saving of water in washing boxes with consequent reduction of production costs.

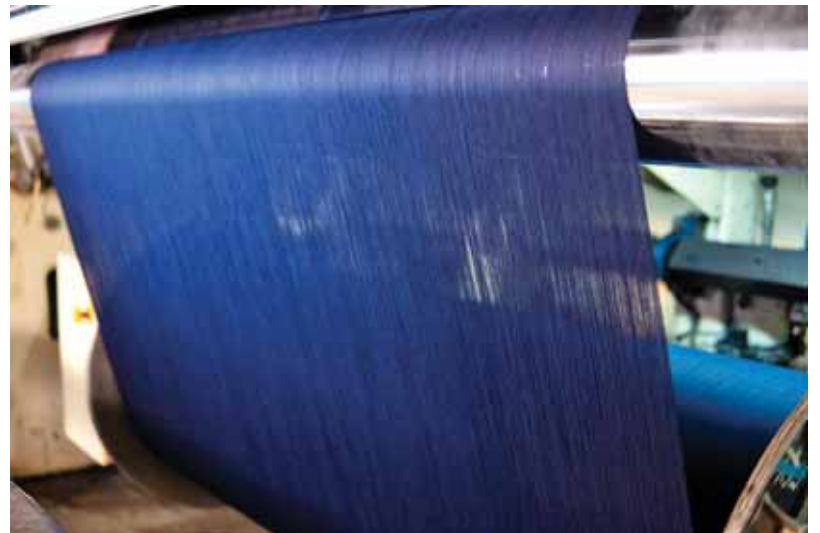
Thanks to nitrogen technology, indigo in the dye bath is totally and perfectly reduced up to a nanometric level and, in this condition, the resulting color fixation is much better and stronger compared with traditional system operating in air. This is the reason why, in this way, it is possible to achieve a better dye stuff use efficiency, a better fastness, intensity and brightness.

All what above explains why this innovative dyeing system is the only one that they can call “ecologic” as it brings to a reduction of dyeing bath volume, number of dips and oxidators, all conditions necessary for a drastic reduction of polluting chemicals, power and water consumption, being this last one of the most critical topics nowadays.

Concerning ecology issues, among the most urgent worldwide, many consumers protection organization are asking for an international law, to be introduced as soon as possible, to impose the reduction of chemicals consumptions and the respect of regulations to protect health and the environment.

Further, it is important to underline that this new dyeing system allows, in any case, to play with all those typical parameters - physical, chemical, mechanical and technical – of dyeing processes to achieve the desired final results.

Unfortunately, over nearly twenty years after its invention, dyeing with nitrogen technology has not spread as expected due to a few reasons, the first one, the lack of technical knowledge and the underestimation of the enormous advantages they were offering by the potential utilizers.



In fact, many producers, although sensitive to ecology, have believed that they could achieve the desired eco-targets by simply applying some devices to their machines, such as ultrasound, etc., which are, actually, only palliatives capable to bring limited improvements, but nothing that can allow the reduction of dangerous and polluting chemicals.

Today, even if this new modern, experimented and suitable nitrogen technology is available, analyzing actual denim production, it comes out very clearly that, despite everyone making of ecological issues their banner, the majority, or rather almost all, of the denims on the market, are still dyed with the old classic method in open air, that is to say, anti-ecological.

Unfortunately, this situation persists even if many brands are asking for a more sustainable and ecologic denim and despite the fact that the new fabrics that can be obtained with the nitrogen technology may offer designers the possibility to offer new and innovative garments. All together, it is evident that this anomalous situation can not be supported for long in the globalized environment they are living.

Denim producers have to face the imperative ecological and moral obligation to change their production mentality, to innovate/update their classic dyeing machinery to reduce the consumption of chemicals, water and power and to adopt everything necessary to offer ecological and sustainable products, achieving, by the way, cost reduction advantages.

Summarizing, the updating of existing rope dyeing machines for the use of the dual-technology, will assure the possibility to operate as shown in the attached drawing no.12825, that is to say:

- a) Indigo dyeing as per traditional method, in air, using all the available boxes at full level with low dye bath concentration. These dyeing processes can be completed, with bottoming, topping, sandwich sulphur colors dyed with nitrogen technology, for never-before achieved results.
- b) Indigo dyeing – new ecological system with high dye stuff use efficiency – using nitrogen technology, half of the dye boxes, low dye bath level (one sixth of the total volume) and higher dye stuff concentration, achieving:
  - 50 to 70% reduction of caustic soda and hydrosulphite
  - 30% reduction of power consumption
  - Reduction of total production costs
  - Higher dye bath circulation rate (thanks to its reduced volume) with the result of a better exchange dye bath-fibre and, thus, better general dyeing results
  - Possibility to develop new, original and exclusive articles, not achievable on traditional machines
  - Sulphur dyeing processes with high dye stuff utilization efficiency, better fixation, no need of steamer and better brightness compared with those on traditional dyeing machines operating in air.

To be noted that there is absolutely no nitrogen consumption during the dyeing process, except for the initial filling. The upgrading above described is the bright, smart and economic solution to give life to the eco-sustainable denim for the future ■



# ColorJet, the ‘Pride of Surat’ to display advanced digital textile printers at SITEX

ColorJet, India’s leading futuristic textile printing solutions providing company, announced its participation in the Surat International Textile Expo (SITEX) from January 6-8, 2024, at the Surat International Exhibition and Convention Centre, Surat. ColorJet will unveil its innovative textile printers, VastraJet K2 and SubliXpress Plus during this textile expo.

Surat, renowned as the hub of the textile industry, holds significant importance for the company. The ColorJet has installed over 100 digital textile-printing machines in the city. This achievement is not just a number it's a trust and confidence of their customers have bestowed upon them over the years.

Speaking about this achievement and the importance of Surat in India’s textile geography, Arun Varshney, Vice President and Business Head, ColorJet Group, said, “As Surat's Preferred Choice, ColorJet takes pride in having successfully installed more than 100 textile printing machines in the city. We express sincere gratitude to all our customers for their trust. We are a customer-centric brand, and this achievement underscores ColorJet's unwavering commitment to innovation and customer satisfaction.”

He further added, “Surat is one of the oldest and most promising markets in India for the world. Their understanding of textiles is at par with global standards. Perhaps, it is one of the reasons ColorJet is the preferred brand over others. With our presence at SITEX, we are going to further strengthen this bond with the city and showcase the future of digital textile printing to the visitors.”

ColorJet sees SITEX Surat as an opportunity for industry professionals and enthusiasts to witness their advanced VastraJet K2, High Speed, High



Quality direct to fabric printer and High-speed sublimation printer SubliXpress Plus in action. The expo will be an immersive experience, allowing visitors to explore the advance features and capabilities of these advanced textile printers



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# Coats Digital embarks on a new era of innovation by adopting Microsoft's Azure Open AI Service



Coats Digital, the leading digital transformation partner for the fashion supply chain is pleased to announce that it is propelling its technology solutions into the AI era with the launch of a new AI Assistant to improve customer service and open up innovative, new opportunities across the fashion supply chain.

Taking just six weeks to develop the new AI service using Microsoft's Azure AI solutions, Coats Digital's developers have quickly introduced advanced capabilities for robust natural language queries across Coats Digital's knowledge repositories. Customers worldwide can now access information instantly on any of Coats Digital's solutions using natural language questions relating to product documentation, training materials, and more. Introducing an AI-powered knowledge base has greatly enhanced the customer experience, delivering a more seamless, user-friendly and productive experience to customers.

John Powell, Senior Director of Software Engineering, Coats Digital, said: "The collaboration with Microsoft has helped Coats Digital to embark on a journey to ultimately shape AI solutions that specifically address fashion sector needs rather than conforming to a one-size-fits-all approach. Our priority is to deliver value to our customers so I am excited about the potential of AI. We have a powerful ecosystem of solutions that we can now look to elevate with the use of AI tooling, the Azure infrastructure, and with the support provided by the Microsoft team.

"The most compelling thing is that the AI revolution is in full flight at the moment. By coupling the capabilities of Microsoft with Coats Digital's knowledge and skills in the apparel industry, we've been able to bring AI's benefits directly to shop floor workers across the globe. This is just the beginning and we look forward to pioneering innovation for the fashion supply chain in the years to come."

Coats Digital maintains a vast knowledge base of product documentation and training materials, known as Docs. The company's engineers saw a great opportunity to harness this information to enhance customer self-service and productivity, especially for new customers, with the use of AI. Drawing on its strong working relationship with Microsoft spanning numerous projects, Coats Digital explored innovative ways to tackle this development challenge. Microsoft proposed an eight-week innovation sprint focused on emerging Microsoft Azure capabilities, like Azure AI Services and Azure Open AI Service.

Jonathan McCormack, Director of Software Engineering, Coats Digital, said: "In a nutshell, we wanted to use AI to improve customer on boarding and offer an optimum navigation experience with regards our extensive database of product information and training materials.

**▣ The most compelling thing is that the AI revolution is in full flight at the moment. By coupling the capabilities of Microsoft with Coats Digital's knowledge and skills in the apparel industry, we've been able to bring AI's benefits directly to shop floor workers across the globe.**

"With our new AI Assistant, a customer can now instantly discuss their needs conversationally with a customer-facing virtual assistant within Docs, which responds with the most applicable training materials or documentation from the company's extensive catalogues. By understanding user intent, Docs delivers highly relevant results—which is a vast improvement over traditional keyword searches."

The AI-powered assistant has immediately benefited Coats Digital's customers by making the company's knowledge base more accessible and user-friendly. By simplifying exploration of its knowledge base, Coats Digital has increased engagement with its tools and features. Customers can, consequently, now fully use resources that they had underused before. The assistant has also unlocked capabilities that were easily missed in extensive documentation, guiding users to maximise Coats Digital's reference materials.

Steve Ede, Director of Customer Support, Coats Digital, notes: "Docs is our first port of call when dealing with customer inquiries. We can now input customer questions directly in the AI assistant to quickly access the wealth of knowledge available, while encouraging customers to do the same themselves. Azure AI will continue serving as the launch pad for rapid innovation at Coats Digital so we can build on robust, enterprise-grade AI services and explore bold new scenarios tailored for the apparel industry in the years to come."

Spurred by the overwhelmingly positive customer response to the AI assistant, Coats Digital plans to expand AI capabilities across the business. Next on the road map is employing similar strategies to enhance the internal experience from production systems and sales channels.

"Microsoft's commitment to working with partners and customers are helping to drive real digital transformation for people, organisations and industries across the globe", said Eric Kalin, Chief Data Officer, Manufacturing at Microsoft. "Coats Digital is designing a future where productivity gains and customer delight are business as usual and where companies across the fashion industry can take advantage of aligned technology collaborations not as a bonus, but as an indispensable growth strategy" ▣



# Textile recycling industry set to skyrocket

## Anticipated worth of \$ 6.6 bn by 2033

The US is amongst the biggest manufacturers of textile-related products – as stated by the National Council of Textile Organization. The Council for Textile Recycling states that a US citizen, on the whole, does throw away nearly 70 pounds of textiles every year. This is where textile recycling comes to the rescue.

The textile recycling market is worth US\$ 4.8 bn as of now and is expected to reach US\$ 6.6 Billion by 2033 at a CAGR of 3.2% between 2023 and 2033.

Tyton Biosciences has its water-based hydrothermal solution for recycling garments made from polyester, cotton, and polycotton blends. Cotton thus gets segregated from polyester by having it disassembled into monomer components; thereby letting it gets re-assembled into brand new polyester. Tree pulp could also be replaced with MMCs (Man Made Cellulosic Fibers).

It has been observed that recycled polyamide, as compared to virgin polyamide/nylon, gives lower emissions of carbon dioxide. Patagonia makes use of recycled polyamide in more than 80% of the apparel created by them.

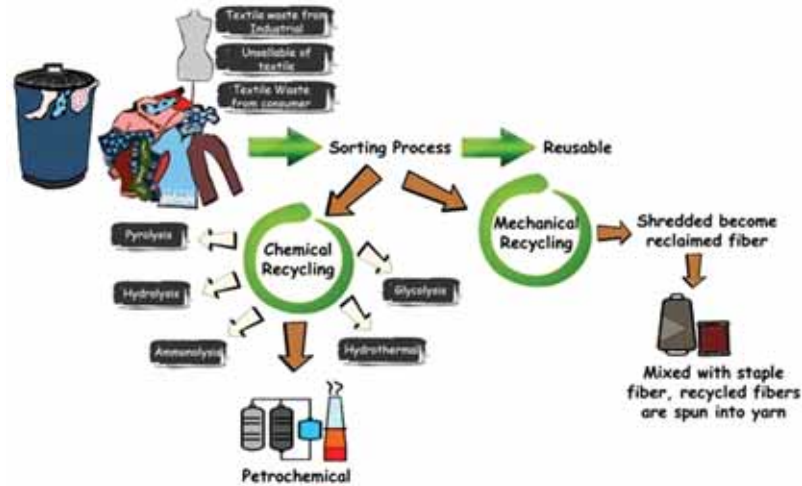
At the same time, the fact that different materials need specialized handling methods can't be ignored. This factor could restrain the textile recycling market.

Future Market Insights has walked through these facts with future prospects in its latest market study entitled 'Textile Recycling Market'. It has its team of analysts and consultants to look through a 360-degree approach in its primary, secondary, and tertiary modes of research.

"The Government of the US has decided upon increasing awareness amongst consumers regarding recycling of textiles. It did launch an initiative for achieving zero waste by the year 2037 under guidance of the Council of Textile Recycling (CTR)", says an analyst from Future Market Insights.

### Key Takeaways from the Textile Recycling Market

- North America holds the largest market share with the US being subject to growing awareness regarding impact of textile waste on the environment. Various public awareness campaigns are being conducted regarding textile recycling.
- Europe holds the second-largest market share with Germany, France, and the UK opting for something like Sustainable Clothing Action Plan. The government of the UK has put forth Textile 2030 initiative.
- The Asia-Pacific is expected to grow at a rapid pace in the textile recycling market with South Korea, Japan, and China leading from the front. This is evident from the fact that Hyosung, in May 2021, did collaborate with various municipal governments for manufacturing nylon fabrics made out of recycled fishing nets. Vegan Tiger has come up with several textiles made out of materials like stickers, gift wrap, and paper.



### Competitive Textile Recycling

- Birla Cellulose, in May 2023, entered into collaboration with TextileGenesis™ for providing transparency and traceability solutions in garments vertical. The orchestrators include Fashion for Good, Canopy, and Circular Fashion Partnership for scaling the circular business model.
- Lenzing Group, in 2023, did announce launching LENZING™ ECOVERO abreast with REFIBRA™ technology that would help it in transiting toward circular economy in textile vertical.
- Circ, in April 2023, entered into collaboration with Zara for launching womenswear collection made from recycled polyester and Lyocell separated from the mixed residue in the form of textile waste.
- Indorama Ventures Public Company, in June 2020, completed acquisition of AG ResinasLtda's PET recycling facility.
- TRI Group, in May 2022, completed acquisition of Soex UK for strengthening the presence in Europe.
- Saint-Gobain, in April 2022, announced planning to spend US\$ 32 Million toward upgradation of CertainTeed's Chowchilla glass wool plant based out of California. It estimates that this upgradation would be curtailing emissions of carbon dioxide by 4000t/yr.
- HYOSUNG TNC, in March 2022, did ink an agreement with TOPTEN for working together to develop high-class eco-friendly products.

### What does the Report state?

- The research study is based on material (cotton, polyester, wool, polyamide, and likewise), source (apparel waste, home furnishing waste, automotive waste, and likewise), and process (mechanical and chemical).
- The textile recycling market is expected to grow with the objective of doing away with accumulation of textile waste in landfill space ■



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# Slight capacity growth and higher fibre consumption

## International Textile Industry Statistics n°65/2022

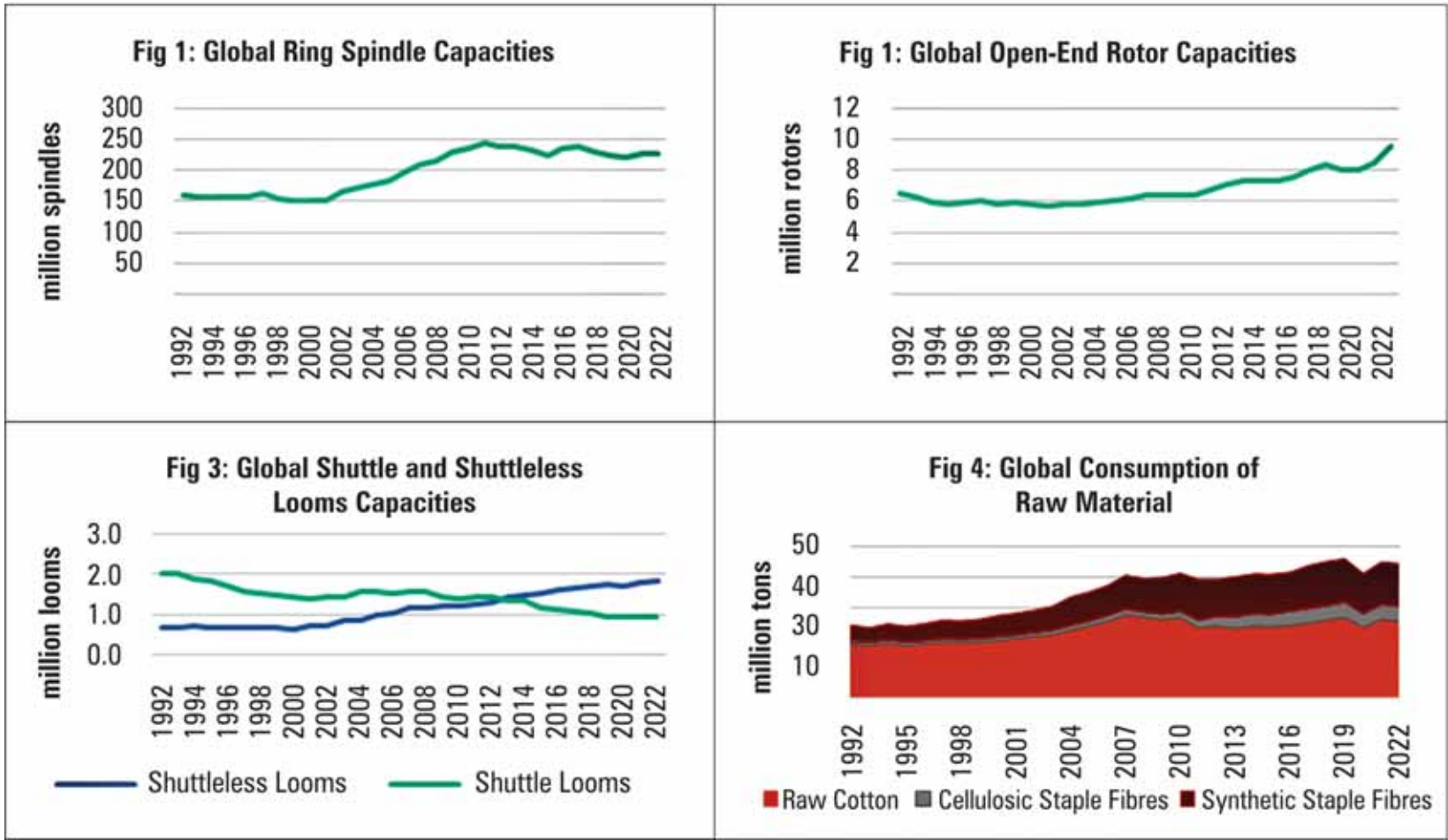
ITMF (International Textile Manufacturer Federation) has published its International Textile Industry Statistics (ITIS) on productive capacity and raw materials consumption in the short-staple organized (spinning mill-) sector in virtually all textile-producing countries in the world.

The global number of installed short-staple spindles has grown from 225 million units in 2021 to 227 million units in 2022 (see Fig. 1). The number of installed open-end rotors increased from 8.3 million in 2021 to 9.5 million in 2022 (see Fig. 2). This constitutes the strongest growth ever recorded in this market with investment disproportionately targeting Asia. The number of installed air-jet spindles continued to increase in all regions in 2022.

The substitution between shuttle and shuttle-less looms continued in 2022. The number of installed shuttle-less looms increased from 1.72 million in 2021 to 1.85 million in 2022 (see Fig. 3) while installed shuttle looms reached 952 thousand. Total raw material consumption in the short-staple organized sector slightly decreased from 45,6 million tons in 2021 to 44,26 million tons in 2022 (see Fig. 4). Consumption of raw cotton and synthetic short-staple fibers decreased by -2.5% and -0.7%, respectively. Consumption of cellulosic short-staple fibers increased by 2.5%.



Global Installed Capacities and Raw Material Consumption in the Short-Staple Organized (Spinning Mill-) Sector of the Textile Industries (1992-2022)



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# Intex India 2023 concluded in Delhi with leading Indian and overseas buyers



Intex India 2023 exhibition concluded successfully with leading Indian and overseas buyers who attended the show to explore new products and services for their domestic and export business, gather market intelligence about the latest innovations, trends and product diversification across the supply-chain and value-chain and connected with participating companies to explore textile sourcing opportunities across India and beyond.

The show was inaugurated by Shubhra, Trade Advisor, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, in the presence of senior representatives from the Vietnam Trade Office in New Delhi, Confederation of Indian Textiles Industry (CITI), Okhla Garment & Textiles Cluster (OGTC), Udyog Vihar Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Karnataka Innerwear Association and others.

Intex India saw the participation of leading manufacturers and suppliers from India and overseas who showcased a wide variety of textiles, trims & clothing accessories, dyes & chemicals, certification and business consulting services as well as trade and investment opportunities in Africa. Some of the leading buyers (apparel manufacturers, brands and retailers, buying offices, importers, etc.) who attended the show from across major cities of India were Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren, Benetton Sourcing, Pepe Jeans, Pentland USA, Arvind Fashion & Lifestyle, Reliance Brands Limited, Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail, Numero Uno, VIP Clothing, Bhartiya International, Celestial Lifestyle LLP, Celebrity Fashions, Go Go International and Newtimes Group to name a few. Apart from these, Intex hosted overseas buyers from 10+ countries who had successful meetings with the participants during the 3 days of the exhibition.

This year, two special forums comprising Intex Textile Conclave (ITC) and Interactive Business Forum (IBF) were organised alongside the exhibition. These platforms enabled business leaders and domain experts to present their insights to industry stakeholders, exchange ideas, unlock business opportunities and pave the way for future growth. The Intex Textile Conclave (ITC) under the theme Fibres of Fashion: Reimagining the future of Textiles was co-organised with DFU-Fashionating World as knowledge partner of the forum. The conclave brought in eminent speakers who shared their perspectives on the Indian and global outlook for textiles and apparel through panel discussions and presentations on the topics 'Mapping India's Fiber Market on a Global Canvas', 'Fibres of the Future' and 'Fabrics of Fashion & Functionality'. The Interactive Business Forum Seminar Series witnessed trends workshop by the world's leading trends forecasting agencies – WGSN from UK and Fashion Snoops USA. IBF also witnessed a session on the role of artificial intelligence in textiles and apparel. Both forums were well attended by participants, trade buyers, delegates and overseas visitors.

Intex India is endorsed by leading industry trade bodies and business chambers such as Confederation of Indian Textiles Industry (CITI), The Textile Association (India) Delhi Unit, Tirupur Exporters Association (TEA), Noida Apparel & Textile Cluster (NAEC), Garment Exporters Association of Rajasthan (GEAR), Okhla Garment & Textile Cluster (OGTC), Delhi Hindustani Mercantile Association (DHMA), Gurgaon Chamber of Commerce & Industry (GCCII), NCR Chamber of Commerce & Industry and many more.

We are proud to conclude that all the 3 editions of Intex which were held this year in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India saw participation of more than 400 exhibitors from 12+ countries who participated in our exhibitions to promote their latest collections of textiles, explore new business and market opportunities in South Asia, the 2nd largest market after China and connected successfully with more than 10,540 domestic and international trade buyers from 20+ countries.

The next editions of Intex – The Premier International Textile Sourcing Show of South Asia will be organised in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 30th May to 1st June 2024 and in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 7th to 9th August 2024 ■



# ITMA ASIA + CITME conclude on high note with visitorship of 100,000



ITMA ASIA + CITME concluded successfully on 23 November 2023 at the National Exhibition and Convention Centre (NECC) in Shanghai. The five-day combined exhibition featured an exciting showcase of textile machinery from the entire manufacturing value chain. It attracted the strong participation of textile professionals eager to explore the latest automation and sustainable technologies.

The eighth combined exhibition welcomed visitorship of 100,000 from 105 countries and regions. Local Chinese visitors from 31 provinces and cities formed the largest group of visitors, followed by India, Taiwan, South Korea, Bangladesh and Iran.

Visitors from outside mainland China accounted for more than 13 per cent of the visitors. There was a significantly higher number of overseas delegations, including more than a dozen large buyer groups, compared with previous editions.

Exhibitors at ITMA ASIA + CITME 2022 were impressed by the turnout. Georg Stausberg, CEO of the Polymer Processing Solutions Division and Chief Sustainability Officer of the Oerlikon Group, said: "We can look back on a successful show where we were able to meet many of our customers, not only from China, but also from Pakistan, India and Indonesia."

More than 1,500 exhibitors from 23 countries and regions took part in the exhibition which grossed over 160,000 square metres. Many local and international brand names staged product launches which were well received by visitors.

Fritz Legler, Textile Marketing Officer of Stäubli, commented: "We enjoyed a tremendous level of high-quality customer traffic at our booth. Our automation technology in warp preparation, the latest generation of shedding solutions for high-speed weaving machines, as well as carpet weaving systems have found the acclamation of our Chinese and international customers."

Cédric Schlicher, Director, Fil Control, also acknowledged: "What an exciting moment for us to be back in Shanghai for ITMA Asia! The show was beyond our expectations and it allowed us to meet our partners in China and to build relationships with new ones."

Show owners, CEMATEX, together with its Chinese partners – the Sub-Council of Textile Industry, CCPIT (CCPIT-TEX), China Textile Machinery Association (CTMA) and China International Exhibition Centre Group Corporation (CIEC) were elated at the results of the combined exhibition.

According to the show owners, the high-quality showcase by two established ITMA and CITME textile machinery exhibition brands have contributed to the success. The extensive outreach programmes to more than 300 business associations and industrial clusters, media partnerships, roadshows and other promotional programmes have also yielded positive results.

The next ITMA ASIA + CITME exhibition will be held from 14 to 18 October 2024 at the NECC Shanghai. It is organised by Beijing Textile Machinery International Exhibition Co., Ltd. and co-organised by ITMA Services ■

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# Optimal outlook for Techtextil and Texprocess 2024

## A high level of demand and internationality coupled

The international textile industry is ready to look to the future at Techtextil and Texprocess from 23 to 26 April 2024. These two leading trade fairs are hotspots for innovations, textile solutions and networking. With over 1,600 exhibitors from around 50 countries, Techtextil and Texprocess reflect the extraordinary degree of innovation prevailing in the sectors.

Innovation, research, an exchange of ideas and information, inspiration and successful business transactions – these are the promises made to the international industry by Techtextil and Texprocess in Frankfurt am Main from 23 to 26 April 2024. The large number of current exhibitor registrations – over 1,600 from around 50 countries – confirms the relevance of the two trade fairs for the textile sector.

There, companies can look forward to meeting buyers and top decision makers from 95 (Techtextil 2022) and 86 (Texprocess 2022) countries. In addition to familiar and high-grade formats, such as the Techtextil Innovation Award and the Texprocess Innovation Award, as well as the Techtextil Forum and the Texprocess Forum, the coming editions will be distinguished by several new special areas, e.g., the Nature Performance area and the Future Materials special show at Techtextil, and the Denim Hub and an Emerging Markets area at Texprocess.

“The sectors are undergoing a rapid process of change. Participants at Techtextil and Texprocess will have the opportunity to stay in tune with the times, to present innovations to an audience of experts from all over the world and to find new solutions and business partners”, says Olaf Schmidt, Vice President Textiles & Textile Technologies, Messe Frankfurt.

The spectrum of textile solutions presented at Techtextil is unparalleled worldwide. Visitors can discover an extraordinary range of products in twelve areas of application, which are used in many different industries – from automotive to fashion, and from medicine to construction. The latest developments in fibres and yarns, nonwovens, composites, coated textiles, technologies, etc., will be presented by companies at Techtextil, in many cases for the first time in public. The companies registered to date include Carrington Textiles (Great Britain), Concordia Textiles (Belgium), Datacolor (Belgium), Everest Textile (Taiwan), Franz Miederhoff (Germany), Groz-Beckert (Germany), Kuraray (Japan), Kusumgar Corporates (India), Outlast Technologies (Germany), Sandler (Germany), Tanatex Chemicals (Netherlands) and Textilcolor (Switzerland).

Texprocess is the international platform for exhibitors of the latest machinery, equipment, processes and services for manufacturing garments, as well as textile and flexible materials. The spectrum of products to be seen ranges from sewing technology and materials, embroidery technology, fastening, CAD/CAM and cutting to recycling technologies and much more. The companies that have announced their participation in Texprocess 2024 include Amann & Söhne (Germany), Assyst/Style3D (Germany), ASTAS (Turkey), Barudan Co, Ltd (France), Brother Internationale Industriemaschinen (Germany), bullmer (Germany), Dürkopp Adler (Germany), IMA (Italy), Kai Corporation (Japan), Morgan Tecnica (Italy), natific (Switzerland), Orox Group (Italy) and Tajima Industries (Japan).

### Econogy: sustainability as a driver of innovation

Sustainability and economic efficiency go together and this objective is being promoted by the global trade fairs of Messe Frankfurt – the Texpertise Network – with the reorientation of the company’s sustainable formats. This encompasses not only the overarching heading, ‘Econogy’, which links ecology and economics, but above all the standardisation of sustainable evaluation criteria for the selection of resource-saving products, processes and exhibitors. Econogy thus creates transparency and comparability across the board. To this end, Messe Frankfurt works together with independent, external sustainability experts to take account of the latest approved seals and certificates, and to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals into the checks.



“The sectors are undergoing a rapid process of change. Participants at Techtextil and Texprocess will have the opportunity to stay in tune with the times, to present innovations to an audience of experts from all over the world and to find new solutions and business partners”, says Olaf Schmidt, Vice President Textiles & Textile Technologies, Messe Frankfurt.

The services associated with Econogy at Techtextil and Texprocess include the Econogy Finder, a directory of certified suppliers of sustainable products, which enables visitors to head straight for them. The best way to find ideal sustainable solutions is within the framework of an exchange of ideas and information, and the Econogy Talks offer the perfect setting for this.

Led by experts in the field of sustainability, the aim of the Econogy Tours at Techtextil is to introduce visitors to selected exhibitors of sustainable products and to give them the opportunity to obtain knowledge and ideas at first hand.

Can nature and performance be combined in a fibre or a material? Of course they can! At Techtextil, manufacturers of natural fibres and materials, as well as bio-based fibres and materials with future-oriented functional properties for a huge range of applications, will be showing what natural textiles can do. The sustainable performers can be found in a special Nature Performance area in the Fibres & Yarns product segment. A highlight for visitors is sure to be the presentation of progressive material innovations by renowned trend and future agency, Franklin Till, in the special Future Materials show.

Recycling is also gaining in importance with the increased relevance of sustainability and the growing appreciation and scarcity of resources, which gives it a unique potential for development and innovation. With the curated special show Recyclable Fibres & Yarns in Hall 9.1 and Recyclable Materials in Hall 12.1, Techtextil and Texprocess are putting the spotlight on future-oriented, reusable materials and recycling technologies.

### The future at a glance: Techtextil Innovation Awards and Texprocess Innovation Awards

The Innovation Awards are popular highlights at both events. Two high-calibre juries of experts honour the latest, most intelligent and outstanding innovations



from the industries. The awards reflect the future of the sectors in terms of new ideas and developments, which offer solutions for the various aspects of digitalisation and artificial intelligence, as well as sustainability, new materials and processes. The deadline for receipt of entries is 15 December 2023.

**Up to date at the Techtextil Forum and Texprocess Forum**

Visitors wanting to expand their knowledge, discover the latest research results, new product developments and progressive innovations should not miss the Techtextil Forum in Hall 9.1 and the Texprocess Forum in Hall 9.0. There, they will find a high-grade, curated programme on the latest themes, knowledge transfer and an exchange of ideas and information with renowned experts from research and industry. The spectrum of subjects covered at the Techtextil Forum ranges from bio-based functional materials to intelligent textiles. At the Texprocess Forum, it runs from automation to supply chains.

**Start-up stars: tomorrow’s A-listers**

Ambitious founders and young entrepreneurs have the chance to present their companies in the start-up areas at Techtextil and Texprocess, to find business partners and investors and thus carve out their way in the sector. For them, the leading trade fairs are the perfect place to put forward their ideas, to find partners and investors and thus find their way into the market. Young, innovative start-up stars show their products to an international audience in the attention-grabbing ‘Textile Production’ and ‘Functional Materials’ start-up areas at Techtextil and at the ‘Textile Processing Technologies’ area at Texprocess.

**All about denim**

At Texprocess, the Denim Hub puts the spotlight on sustainable jeans production, processing and recycling. Exhibitors offer first-class insights into their circular strategies while, in the Denim Talks, visitors can learn about sustainable approaches to washing, destroying, bleaching, lasering, dyeing, recycling and upcycling and customising jeans.



**Curtain up on Performance Apparels on Stage**

In the Performance Apparels on Stage special show, Techtextil 2024 presents the multifarious functionalities of textiles for the garment industry. Against this impressive background, the show illustrates the use of technical textiles in the apparel and fashion industry, in the field of sportswear and leisurewear and professional and safety clothing.

**Emerging Markets Area: finding global potential**

Texprocess 2024 sees the first Emerging Markets area with invitations going specifically to organisations from countries with a high development potential in the field of textile processing. In the Emerging Markets Lounge, visitors and exhibitors can hold discussions with the delegations, present their business ideas, intensify contacts and lever new potential

*The events Techtextil and Texprocess will be held from 23 to 26 April 2024.*

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# Forthcoming trade events...

## ▶▶ GARKNIT – X KOLKATA

05 – 07, January 2024  
Venue: Biswa Bangla Mela Pragan (Milan Mela), Opp. Science City, Kolkata  
Organizer: Vardaan Events Pvt. Ltd.  
Tel: 8023535859

## ▶▶ YARNFAB – TX KOLKATA

05 – 07, January 2024  
Venue: Biswa Bangla Mela Pragan (Milan Mela), Opp. Science City, Kolkata  
Organizer: Vardaan Events Pvt. Ltd.  
Tel: 8023535859

## ▶▶ SITEX '24

06 – 08, January 2024  
Venue: Surat International Exhibition and Convention Centre, Surat, Gujarat  
Organizers: SGCCI  
Tel: +91 261 2291111

## ▶▶ THE LONDON TEXTILE FAIR

09 – 10, January 2024  
Venue: Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, London  
Organizer: Textile Events  
Tel: +44 (0)7860 887447, 20 8347 8145

## ▶▶ PITTI IMAGINE UOMO 2024

09 – 12, January 2024  
Venue: Fortezza da Basso, Florence, Italy  
Organizer: Pitti Imagine  
Tel: +39 055 3693271

## ▶▶ GARMENT & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY EXPO

12 – 15, January 2024  
Venue: Chandigarh Exhibition Ground, Sector 34-A, Chandigarh  
Organizer: Paramount Exhibitors  
Tel: + 9814211848, 7837988914

## ▶▶ GARMENT TECHNOLOGY BANGLADESH 2023

11 – 14, January 2024  
Venue: International Convention City, Bashundhara, Dhaka  
Organizer: ASK Trade & Exhibition P. Ltd.  
Tel: +919003026654, +8801678 447822

## ▶▶ INDIAN TEXTILE TRADE FAIR BANGLADESH

11 – 14, January 2024  
Venue: International Convention City, Bashundhara, Dhaka  
Organizer: ASK Trade & Exhibition P. Ltd.  
Tel: +91 9003026654, +88 01678 447822

## ▶▶ PREMIERE VISION NEW YORK

17 – 18, January 2024  
Venue: Tribeca 360, New York City, USA  
Organizer: Premiere Vision SA  
Tel: +33 (0)4 7260 6555

## ▶▶ YARNEX/TEXINDIA / DYCHEM

18 – 20, January 2024  
Venue: Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan, Kolkata  
Organizer: S S Textile Media Pvt. Ltd.  
Tel: 98454 46570, 98451 19893

## ▶▶ INDIGO - KOLKATA

18 – 20, January 2024  
Venue: Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan, Kolkata  
Organizer: S S Textile Media Pvt. Ltd.  
Tel: 98454 46570, 98451 19893

## ▶▶ DYECHEM WORLD LUDHIANA

18 – 20, January 2024  
Venue: Ludhiana  
Organizer: Textile Excellence  
Tel: 9769007117

## ▶▶ GMMSA EXPO INDIA

19 – 22, January 2024  
Venue: Dana Mandi, Bahadurke Road, Near Jalandhar Bye Pass, Ludhiana, India  
Organizer: GMMSA  
Te: 98158 23182

## ▶▶ INTIMASIA

22 – 24, January 2024  
Venue: Bombay Exhibition Centre (NESCO), Mumbai, India  
Organizer: Peppermint Communications  
Tel: +919820504040

## ▶▶ TEXWORLD NEW YORK

22 – 24, January 2024  
Venue: Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, New York, USA  
Organizer: Messe Frankfurt Inc.  
Tel: +1 678.564.6310

## ▶▶ BLUEZONE - INTL. DENIM TRADE SHOW

23 – 24, January 2024  
Venue: Zenith - Die Kulturhalle, Munich, Germany  
Organizer: Munich Fabric Start Exhibitions  
Tel: +49(0)894522470

## ▶▶ SOURCENXT

23 – 25, January 2024  
Venue: Bombay Exhibition Centre, NESCO, Goregaon, Mumbai  
Organizer: Peppermint Communications  
Tel: +91 8830956895

## ▶▶ MUNICH FABRIC START

23 – 25, January 2024  
Venue: MOC, Munich, Germany  
Organizer: Munich Fabric Start Exhibitions  
Tel: +49(0)894522470

## ▶▶ KINGPINS NEW YORK

24 – 25, January 2024  
Venue: 299 South St. New York, NY 10002  
Organizer: Olah Inc.  
Tel: +1 212-260-9266

## ▶▶ PITTI IMAGINE FILATI 2024

24 – 26, January 2024  
Venue: Fortezza da Basso, Florence, Italy  
Organizer: Pitti Imagine  
Tel: +39 055 3693271

## ▶▶ FESPA MIDDLE EAST

29 – 31, January 2024  
Venue: Dubai Exhibition Centre, UAE  
Organiser: FESPA  
Tel: +44 1737 240788

## ▶▶ GARTEX TEXPROCESS

01 – 03, February 2024  
Venue: Jio World Convention Centre, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai  
Organizers: MEX Exhibitions & Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt Ltd.  
Tel: 9873993950, 91-22-61445990

## ▶▶ TEXWORLD EVOLUTION PARIS

05 – 07, February 2024  
Venue: Paris Porte de Versailles, Hall 7, Paris  
Organizer: Messe Frankfurt France S.A.S.  
Tel: +33 6 74 29 09 07

## ▶▶ PREMIERE VISION-PARIS 2024

06 – 08, February 2024  
Venue: Parc des expositions Paris Nord Villepinte, Paris, France  
Organizers: Premiere Vision SA  
Tel: +33 (0)4 7260 6555

## ▶▶ PAMEX 2024

06 – 09, February 2024  
Venue: Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai  
Organizers: Print Packaging.com P. Ltd.  
Tel: 91-22-27812093, 27812619

## ▶▶ GARFAB - TX JAIPUR

09 – 11, February 2024  
Venue: Jaipur Exhibition & Covnention Centre, Jaipur  
Organizer: Vardaan Events Pvt Ltd  
Tel: +91 8023535859

## ▶▶ ITMACH INDIA 2024

21 – 24, February 2024  
Venue: Helipad Exhibition Centre, Gandhinagar, Gujarat  
Organizer: K and D Communication Ltd  
Tel: 099090 41613

## ▶▶ BHARAT TEX 2024

26 – 29, February 2024  
Venue: Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhumi (New Delhi)  
Organizer: EPCS  
Tel: 9930837978

## ▶▶ BHARAT TEX 2024

26 – 29, February 2024  
Venue: Pragati Maidan, New Delhi  
Organizer: EPCS  
Tel: 9930837978

## ▶▶ F&A/APPAREL SOURCING FAIR

01 – 03, March 2024  
Venue: KTPO, Whitefield, Bangalore  
Organizer: S S Textile Media Pvt. Ltd.  
Tel: 98454 46570, 98451 19893

## ▶▶ INTERTEXTILE SHANGHAI APPAREL FABRICS

06 – 08, March 2024  
Venue: National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai), China  
Organizer: Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd.  
Tel: +852 2802 7728

## ▶▶ GTE - NEW DELHI

08 – 11, March 2024  
Venue: NSIC Exhibition Complex, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi  
Organizer: Garment Technology Expo P. Ltd.  
Tel: 011 – 41601663

## ▶▶ FESPA BRASIL 2024

11 – 14, March 2024  
Venue: Expo Center Norte, in São Paulo, Brazil  
Organiser: FESPA  
Tel: +44 1737 240788

## ▶▶ FESPA GLOBAL PRINT EXPO

19 – 22, March 2024  
Venue: RAI Amsterdam, Netherlands  
Organiser: FESPA  
Tel: +44 1737 240788

## ▶▶ GARFAB-TX HYDERABAD

12-14 April, 2024  
Venue: Classic Gardens, Hyderabad  
Organizer: Vardaan Events Pvt Ltd  
Tel: 8023535859

## ▶▶ FASHION INSTYLE

20 – 23, April 2024  
Venue: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Wan Chai, Hong Kong  
Organizer: HKTDC  
Tel: (852) 1830 668

## ▶▶ KINGPINS AMSTERDAM

24 – 25, April 2024  
Venue: Sugar Factory, Kristal Promenade 7, 1165 PD Halfweg, Nederland  
Organizer: Olah Inc.  
Tel: +1 212-260-9266

## ▶▶ TECHTEXTIL FRANKFURT

23 – 26, April 2024  
Venue: Frankfurt am Main, Germany  
Organizer: Messe Frankfurt GmbH  
Tel: +4969 7575-5869

## ▶▶ TEXPROCESS FRANKFURT

23 – 26, April 2024  
Venue: Frankfurt am Main, Germany  
Organizer: Messe Frankfurt GmbH  
Tel: +4969 7575-5869

## ▶▶ DRUPA 2024

28 May – 07 June, 2024  
Venue: Düsseldorf, Germany  
Organiser: Messe Düsseldorf GmbH  
Tel : +49 211 456001

## ▶▶ INTEX SOUTH ASIA –BANGLADESH

30 May – 01 June, 2024  
Venue: ICCB, Dhaka, Bangladesh  
Organiser: Worldex India Exhibition & Promotion Pvt. Ltd.  
Tel : + (91)-(22) 40376700

## ▶▶ DENIM PV

05 – 06, June 2024  
Venue: Superstudio Piu, Milan  
Organizer: Premiere Vision SA  
Tel: +33 (0)4 7260 6555

## ▶▶ KINGPINS NEW YORK

17 – 18, July 2024  
Venue: 299 South St. New York, NY 10002  
Organizer: Olah Inc.  
Tel: +1 212-260-9266

## ▶▶ FABRICS & ACCESSORIES TRADE SHOW

18 – 20, July 2024  
Venue: Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India  
Organizer: SS Textile Media P. Ltd.  
Tel: +91 8884564643

## ▶▶ GARTEX TEXPROCESS

01 – 03, August 2024  
Venue: India International Convention & Expo Centre (Yashobhoomi), Dwarka, New Delhi  
Organizers: MEX Exhibitions & Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt Ltd.  
Tel: 9873993950, 91-22-61445990

## ▶▶ INTEX SOUTH ASIA – SRI LANKA

07 – 09, August 2024  
Venue: BMICH, Colombo, Sri Lanka  
Organiser: Worldex India Exhibition & Promotion Pvt. Ltd.  
Tel : + (91)-(22) 40376700

## ▶▶ COMBODIA INT'L TEXTILE GARMENT INDUSTRY EXHIBITION

14 – 17, August 2024  
Venue: Diamond Island Convention & Exhibition Centre, Cambodia  
Organizer: Chan Chao Intl. Co., Ltd.  
Tel: +886-2-2659-6000

## ▶▶ INTERTEXTILE SHANGHAI APPAREL FABRICS

27 – 29, August 2024  
Venue: National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai), China  
Organizer: Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd.  
Tel: +852 2802 7728

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