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IBTEX No. 101 of 2017 May 20, 2017

USD 64.46 | EUR 72.24 | GBP 84.03 | JPY 0.58

Cotton Market (19.05.2017)

Spot Price (Ex. Gin), 28.50-29 mm

Rs./Bale	Rs./Candy	USD Cent/lb
20007	41850	**82.44**

Domestic Futures Price (Ex. Gin), May

Rs./Bale	Rs./Candy	USD Cent/lb
21300	44555	**87.77**

International Futures Price

NY ICE USD Cents/lb (May 2017)	79.24
ZCE Cotton: Yuan/MT (July 2017)	15,625
ZCE Cotton: USD Cents/lb	**91.35**
Cotlook A Index – Physical	**89.65**

Cotton guide:

Cotton price has finally come back to the average level where the rally had actually started from. Cotton for ICE July contract ended the Thursday at 79.24 cents per pound.

Major action that took place at glance:

1. The US net export sales dropped to 285.80K bales down by 22K bales from the previous week. The rumor of cancellation of exports is still in the market believed the coming week export sales figure would suffice the logic.

2. The unfixed on call sales figure for the week ending 12th May was released on Thursday which shows a marginal decline to 112,230 contracts vs. 113,144 contracts inCTN7 the previous week. Unfixed call sales for July dropped by 4960 contracts to 41,255 contracts while for December the same rose by 1235 contracts to 32,437.

The detailed analysis is available in our daily Report.

Compiled By Kotak Commodities Research Desk , contact us : mailto:research@kotakcommodities.com,
Source: Reuters, MCX, Market source

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

USA: Cotton Has Unique Strengths

Lubboc, USA: Cotton is pre-sold on its comfort attributes. In addition, it has certain environmental benefits.

With planting in serious mode on the High Plains of Texas, stakeholders of the industry gathered at 7.30AM in the office of Lubbock-based Plains Cotton Growers.

The meeting kicked-off with discussions about planting accomplished so far and then shifted to discuss about certain benefits of the natural fiber.

On an average about 20-30% of acreage has been planted in the High Plains. In Lubbock County, 30% of acres have been planted. Wind has been strong recently and has deterred some producers from going on a high gear. As usual in the region, it is the rain, which will determine the amount of production. It is the not number of acres planted, ultimately, weather and the number of bales produced are what matter and will influence the price and hence the demand.

"Rain fixes a lot of things," stated Shelley Heinrich, a cotton producer, who farms about 3000 acres in South of Lubbock. With higher prices, producers are expected to plant more cotton acres. In High Plains, this year, 60% of acreage will be dryland and 40% will be irrigated. In recent years we had slipped a little and irrigated acreage had dipped to around 35% stated Shawn Wade, Director of Policy Analysis at Plains Cotton Growers.

While discussing the benefits of cotton, it's not only the comfort on which cotton is pre-sold, there are also environmental benefits. More and more consumers are aware of the problems caused due to the bioaccumulation of micro synthetics in marine lives and ocean floors. Cotton being biodegradable can be a natural alternative to address this issue.

With the help of technology and good environmental stewardship, producers these days, use fewer resources such as water and chemicals in production. Even in the case of irrigation, High Plains' producers practice supplemental irrigation techniques and are quick to adopt to water-savings management strategies.

Cotton's natural benefits and improved manufacturing practices are enabling it to penetrate into high performance and active wear markets. The cotton sector needs to focus on imparting desirable functional characteristics to the fiber, without sacrificing its comfort to make it more attractive to these markets.

Source: TexSnips- May 19, 2017

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USDA talking cotton improvement with Pakistan

Agricultural experts from the US Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service are in talks with Pakistani government, agriculturists and private sector on improving cotton productivity, mainly by combating losses to cotton production due to the Cotton Leaf Curl Virus (CLCuV), under the US-Pakistan Cotton Productivity Enhancement Programme.

The two sides discussed the US-Pakistan Cotton Productivity Enhancement Programme (CPEP) at a recent meeting in Pakistan. Pakistani government officials, representatives from public and private sector and farmer organisations participated in the meeting, according to a Pakistani news agency report.

The CPEP programme's is a partnership between the US Agency for International Development, US Department of Agriculture (USDA), consortium of Pakistani government and university research facilities, and the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA).

The primary goal of the programme is to study and combat Cotton Leaf Curl Virus (CLCuV). CPEP has substantially decreased losses due to CLCuV through promoting best management practices among small farmers.

CLCuV resistant cotton lines are currently in advanced field trials at Pakistani government research institutes, the report said.

"Our Pakistani partners are leaders in CLCuV research and are creating innovative new strategies to mitigate the effects of CLCuV, to benefit Pakistan's cotton farmers. Our joint development of virus resistant cotton

lines will be of immense value, not only to Pakistan, but the world," Dr. Jodi Scheffler, USDA's CPEP coordinator, noted.
CLCuV has caused major losses to Pakistan's cotton industry, threatening both Pakistan's economic stability and food security. The programme is supported by the Pakistani government, university and institute members, the public and private sectors, and farmer organisations.

Source: fibre2fashion.com- May 20, 2017

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Pakistan: Govt urged to seek duty cut on machinery, raw material imports

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan should seek tariff reduction on high potential export products as well as cut in custom duties on machinery and raw material imports in the final negotiations on Pak-Turkey free trade agreement, a senior business analyst said on Thursday.

Ameen Jan, ex-management consultant at McKinsey & Company said trade should spur national economic growth, "but so far FTAs (free trade agreements) do not appear to be connected to the economic growth agenda."

"One reason for the increase in trade deficit is poor negotiation… for example, in the FTA with China many of Pakistan's leading exportable items were given lower concessions than Pakistan's competitors from ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), which worsened our competitive position," Jan told a select group of journalists.

"Sadly, recent free trade agreements with China and Malaysia have resulted in worsening the trade balance for Pakistan," he said.

Pakistan and Turkey have so far held six rounds of FTA's talks. The final round is expected by the end of the current month.

The analyst said trade managers are signing FTAs without proper homework, resulting into yawning trade deficit and causing losses to precious foreign exchange reserves. Local diaper industry is asking the government to provide concessions on raw materials at import stage and inclusion of finished products in the negative list for upcoming Pak-Turkey FTA negotiations.

"The reason behind this wish is to support Pakistan's manufacturing base and reduce trade deficit," Jan said. He said lower concessions in advantageous products (e.g. cotton, apparel, footwear) and higher concessions in disadvantageous products (manmade fibers, machinery, metals) are also among the reasons.

He added that infant industry might not develop if trade concessions are not carefully targeted, and as a result government's revenues may also be reduced because of a loss in sales tax paid on domestic manufactured products.

The analyst said the country's economic priority should be to strengthen its manufacturing base for value-added products, which can also find export markets. The proposed FTA should ensure that domestic industry gets strengthened, through reducing raw material and machinery import costs instead of cutting customs duties on value-added products that Pakistan can produce at a globally competitive cost and quality, he added.

Jan gave an example of Ontex Pakistan as a case study. Ontex Pakistan is a subsidiary of Ontex Global that manufactures and sells baby diapers in Pakistan with a brand name of Canbebe. It started local operation by importing and selling products from Turkey in 2011. In 2012, it invested in a manufacturing plant at Port Qasim and now it has three production lines with over 200 employees, making baby diapers at global quality standard.

The total investment to date in the plant and working capital by Ontex in Pakistan is $18 million, and its annual tax paid to the government is more than Rs700 million. With its local plant close to meeting domestic demand, Ontex now plans to export products to regional markets from 2017 onward.

"Ontex is an example of how foreign direct investment can be to Pakistan's benefit," Jan said. "This type of FDI has created local jobs and generated taxes for the government. It has also created a growing manufacturing hub whose products are at a global quality level capable of being exported to regional markets."

He said Pak-Turkey FTA should ensure that foreign investors like Ontex are supported through reduction of customs duties on raw material imports from Turkey, and not through reduction in the duty structure on finished goods which they are able to manufacture in Pakistan. “This will provide an incentive to companies like Ontex to continue manufacturing in Pakistan, rather than importing the same finished goods from their plants in Turkey under reduced tariffs.” —Mehtab Haider

Source: thenews.com.pk- May 19, 2017

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Pakistan: Insipid trading on cotton market

KARACHI: Listless conditions prevailed on the cotton market on Friday. The declining textile exports and energy crisis are keeping buyers away from the trading ring.

The textile sector is also facing liquidity crunch. The 10-day strike by goods carriers also had its toll with many exporters reported to have lost orders.

Cotton analyst Naseem Usman said that the government was not serious to resolve the issues faced by the trade and industry and resultantly the trade deficit has soared to an all-time high level.

Consequently, the trading activity remained slow as leading buyers were conspicuous by their absence. Though there is an increase in cotton sowing acreage the government has yet to announce any incentives for growers who have been demanding minimum price of Rs3,000 per 40 kg for phutti.”Against this the Indian government has already announced incentives for cotton growers by increasing support price for phutti (seed-cotton),” brokers said.

The world leading cotton markets for second consecutive session closed easy under the lead of New York Cotton Exchange.

The following are Friday's Karachi Cotton Association (KCA) official spot rates for the crop (2016-17) local dealings in Pak rupees for base grade 3 staple length 1-1/16" micronair value between 3.8 to 4.9 NCL.

Rate for	Ex-Gin Price	Upcountry Expenses	Spot rate Ex-Karachi
37.324kg	6,800	135	6,935
Equivalent 40kg	7,288	145	7,433

The Karachi Cotton Association (KCA) readjusted its spot rates downwards by Rs50 to Rs6,800 per maund.

On the ready counter only one deal of 803 bales from Khanewal was finalised at Rs7,000.

Source: dawn.com- May 20, 2017

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Textile: Europeans' proposals to stop the plight of Tunisians

Changing the rules of origin is a win-win solution for complementarity to be efficient between Tunisia and Europe in terms of trade in textiles and clothing since these rules have become obsolete, not adapted to the current industrial reality of EU partners and discriminate between countries, said Constantin Livas, senior expert at Unit DG Grow F4- Tourism, Emerging and Creative Industries at the European Commission in Brussels (Belgium).

"The principle of the new rules of origin will have to allow a better control of the quality of the manufactured product which would be exchanged only in the Mediterranean zone, without passing through a third country", he added.

“Tunisia, which is going through a bad period in the textile-clothing sector, will lose if it tries to compete with Asian countries such as Bangladesh which has a labor cost of $ 0.5 against 2, 5 dollars for Tunisia, hence the need to find immediate solutions with Europe, notably through the implementation of trade measures,” said the expert, who took part in a conference organized on Thursday in Tunis, on the sidelines of the festival of young fashion designers on the theme “Tunisia, a platform for Euro-med cooperation in the fashion and clothing sector”.

In this regard, the expert pointed out that, in general, Euro-Mediterranean trade has recorded a relative decline against an increase in exports from Asia to Europe.

“Tunisia, for its part, has lost its competitiveness and its position on the European textile-clothing markets,” according to Livas.

“Among the actions relating to the Tunisian textile-clothing sector, a dialogue should be launched between the industrialists and the administrations on both sides, while examining the possibility for Tunisia to participate in European programs, such as the one relating to SME or COSME, “he said.

For his part, Mathieu Gamet, President of MMMM (The Mediterranean Office for the Fashion Industry) in France, emphasized Tunisia’s fashion identity, which remains strong but little integrated in the Mediterranean, calling for showcasing the Tunisian creation to ensure its dissemination.

He recalled that four Tunisians were laureates in the fashion contest “Open My Med Prize”, launched since 2010 in France. The main objective of this competition is to bring together a new generation of fashion entrepreneurs in 19 countries of the Mediterranean.

President of the Professional Apparel and Clothing Group at the Confederation of Tunisian Citizen Enterprises (CONECT) Samir Ben Abdallah said the fashion sector is the best locomotive to revive the textile and clothing sector, given that young creators are the future of this sector.

A partnership agreement between the CONECT Professional Apparel and Clothing Group and the CNA Federmoda (Italy) will be signed to exchange experiences and information, to carry out joint actions and to ensure openness on the outside," he announced.

Fashion shows for young Tunisian fashion designers as well as international designers will be organized during the second edition of the Young Fashion Designers' Festival 2017.

The parades will be followed by the presentation of the Best Tunisian Young Designer Award, best model for the year 2017 and best jewelry designer.

Source: africanmanager.com- May 19, 2017

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Japanese market undeterred despite high price of Australian wool

Australian wool prices have doubled in Japan over the past year but it has not deterred the Japanese market from buying. As the quality they require is always of the highest standard, a Japanese wool broker said.

Mike Kuritani from Itochu, one of Japan's largest trading companies, said that demand will remain due to an appetite for high quality fine micron wool from Australia despite the high prices.

He said that in fact a new market is coming up from sports apparel, for socks and innerwear. Hence the overall the demand on wool will not decrease for the next couple of years.

Mr Kuritani said that a combination of high wool prices and a weak Japanese Yen are behind the overall rise.

Itochu is sourcing high quality lambs wool from Hamilton in western Victoria and is using the region's reputation as a marketing tool. There are many factors that makes Hamilton's wool unique.
The environment in this region is different from any other region in Australia, Mr Kuritani said. The humidity and moisture is very adequate, grass is plentiful and the nutrition makes the wool quality better than any other country.

According to Paul Ferrenato, the wool trading manager for Victoria Wool Processors, the number one priority for Japanese wool buyers was quality. Price will be a slight deterrent but if they need product then they're going to have to pay the price.

The price is not deterring the Japanese market but it is making it a little bit more difficult to digest the current levels as their biggest concern is need wool to keep machinery operating and to keep orders moving. The industry was focused on keeping up with demand.

Source: yarnsandfibers.com- May 19, 2017

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Finland: Eco friendly fabric being made from wood fibers

Spinnova, based in Jyvaskyla, Finland has invented a fibre yarn technology which spins yarn directly from wood fibers without complex chemical processes. The yarn manufacturing process Spinnova has pioneered reportedly uses 99 percent less water and 80 percent less energy than the cotton process.

As impressively, the wood fiber method does not require extra chemical treatment of the pulp fiber. And, the yarn is recyclable.

With the Spinnova process, the amount of wood used annually in Finland could reportedly be enough to replace the world's entire cotton production. Perhaps that's far-fetched, but if the yarn-making method were to gain major traction, then it could, revolutionize both the textile and forest industry.

After all, innovations in synthetic fabrics led to polyester and poly-blended performance wear – a category that has absolutely taken over the promo market. As more corporations and consumers focus on sustainability, demand for apparel created with wood fiber yarns could one day rise, provided it's cost-effective and adopted widely at retail, among other considerations.

Sure, there's probably a long way to go before that might happen, but production of the wood fiber is expected to be upgraded to industrial scale in 2017-18.

Spinnova, an offshoot of VTT Technical Research Center of Finland, got the idea for its process by combining the web-weaving method of spiders with paper manufacturing.

Source: yarnsandfibers.com- May 19, 2017

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NATIONAL NEWS

GST rates on textiles deferred to June 3

With the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council unable to arrive at a consensus on Friday on the textiles sector, the rate announcement has been deferred to June 3. The deferment is understandably due to complexities within the entire textiles value chain, in addition to the industry's anticipation of a fibre neutral taxation across the chain.

According to textile industry representatives, differed rates for different parts of the textile value chain with some being taxed and some being exempt has led to tax evasion and flourishing of the unorganised sector. In addition, India has been a cotton heavy region in terms of fibre as compared to the global trend of a skewed in favour of man-made fibre (MMF).

Tax variation in textiles has been such that currently, while fabrics do not attract excise duty or sales in most states in India, branded apparels are subject to both excise duty and sales tax. On the fibre front, natural fibre like cotton is exempt from any tax in the country though man-made fibre draws a 10 per cent excise duty.

While most states want zero duty on cotton yarn to continue, it is anticipated that man-made fibre may still attract a five per cent incidence.

However, the real contention is with regards to input credit. "We are awaiting clarity on what kind of input credit would be given in case the branded garments vertical attracts a higher rate of 18 per cent," said A Sakthivel, former chairman of Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC). This gains significance amidst unorganised sector forming a large part of the textile industry, creating a gap in flow of input tax credit since the credit is not availed of, in case registered taxpayers procure inputs from unorganised sources.

The textile industry's other concern is compliance issue which may get aggravated in case of a higher rate fixed, especially at the end of the value chain.

According to the garmenting sector, the definition of 'branded garment' has also been a contentious issue. While, currently a large part of the unorganised sector also goes along in the name of branded garments by placing private labels, it is to be seen how the same would be defined under GST for better compliance across the industry.

Source: business-standard.com- May 19, 2017

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Textile machinery to attract 18% tax under GST

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) rate for textile machinery has been decided at 18 per cent by the GST Council at its two-day meeting, scheduled to conclude today in Srinagar. The Council has broadly approved the GST rates for goods at nil rate and 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent to be levied on certain goods. Rates for textiles and footwear are yet to be decided.

As per the information uploaded after the GST Council's decision on the website of Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), the rate of 18 per cent has been decided for the following textile machinery mentioned along with their 4-digit HS code:

- 8444 - Machines for extruding, drawing, texturing or cutting man-made textile materials

- 8445 - Machines for preparing textile fibres; spinning, doubling or twisting machines and other machinery for producing textile yarns; textile reeling or winding (including weft-winding) machines and machines for preparing textile yarns for use on the machines of heading 8446 or 8447

- 8446 - Weaving machines (looms)

- 8447 - Knitting machines, stitchbonding machines and machines for making gimped yarn, tulle, lace, embroidery, trimmings, braid or net and machines for tufting

- 8448 - Auxiliary machinery for use with machines of heading 84.44, 84.45, 84.46 or 84.47 (for example, dobbies, Jacquards, automatic stop motions, shuttle changing mechanisms); parts and accessories suitable for use solely or principally with the machines of this heading or of heading 8444, 8445,8446 or 8447 (for example, spindles and spindles flyers, card clothing, combs, extruding nipples, shuttles, healds and heald frames, hosiery needles)

- 8449 - Machinery for the manufacture or finishing of felt or nonwovens in the piece or in shapes, including machinery for making felt hats; blocks for making hats

- 8451 - Machinery (other than machines of heading 8450) for washing, cleaning, wringing, drying, ironing, pressing (including fusing presses), bleaching, dyeing, dressing, finishing, coating or impregnating textile yarns, fabrics or made up textile articles and machines for applying the paste to the base fabric or other support used in the manufacture of floor covering such as linoleum; machines for reeling, unreeling, folding, cutting or pinking textile fabrics

- 9024 - Machines and appliances for testing the hardness, strength, compressibility, elasticity or other mechanical properties of textiles.

"As per the announced GST rate, there is no drastic difference in the existing purchase and sales of machineries. Earlier also, the rate for machinery was 12.5 per cent with 5 per cent VAT which totaled to 17.5 per cent. With 18 per cent GST on machinery, there is neither loss nor gain. However, it is too early to say anything as we are yet to have the rates for services and textiles," CB Chandrashekar, CFO, Lakshmi Machine Works Limited, told Fibre2Fashion.

Home textile products wholly made of quilted textile materials will attract 12 per cent tax under the new tax regime.

Source: fibre2fashion.com- May 19, 2017

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As branded as it can get: Raymond launches India's first branded khadi label

MUMBAI: What can be called as a formal ushering of the textile Khadi into corporatisation, RaymondBSE -3.43 %, the Indian textile and apparel conglomerate launched India's first branded Khadi label- 'Khadi by Raymond' today.

Raymond seeks to use its brand value to sell Khadi in a range of fabric blends and ready to wear apparel.

"It is indeed a moment of pride to have Khadi – the fabric of our nation as a part of our product portfolio. Embodying some of the latest design trends and enhancing its quality Raymond Khadi is set to reposition Khadi as a fabric of choice, in line with the Hon. Prime Minister's vision of promoting Khadi for Fashion and reinstating our commitment to Make in India initiative," Gautam Hari Singhania, CMD, Raymond, said.

As reported by ET in March, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) had received its largest ever order worth Rs 2 crore from Raymond for the supply of 98000 metres of the fabric. This was following an agreement that was signed between Raymond and KVIC in December, 2016 in which the KVIC had certified Raymond to use the Khadi mark to sell ready-made garments and fabric which would be available at both KVIC as well as Raymond outlets, also select international markets and e-commerce portals.

"It is a historical moment that the best brains are coming in to get involved with Khadi. Today the agreement between KVIC and Raymond is bearing it's first fruit and the exclusive display of Khadi apparels will open a new avenue for Khadi market and this will serve the cause of rural artisans of our country and support the cause of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for greater use of Khadi by every Indian," VK Saxena, chairman, KVIC, said at the launch.

The mainstreaming of the Khadi fabric is a result of the thrust provided by the Modi-government. Early in January, 2016 the government introduced the use of solar energy to power 'charkhas' to make the spinning of the khadi yarn a sustainable affair.

Then, later in the year, the Indian Railways and the government passenger airline Air India were encouraged to use khadi products in trains and aeroplanes. KVIC's sales grew by 24% in 2015-16 and 33% to Rs 2,00f crore in 2016-17.

"The ministry of MSME has been undertaking numerous measures to not just revive but also strengthen the ailing units of Khadi. Public-Private Partnerships such as the one with Raymond boosts industry confidence by ensuring market linkages that can lead to demand generation. The increase in demand for Khadi will thus be a positive measure for the economy creating numerous employment opportunities for artisans," Giriraj Singh, minister of state, MSME, who was also present at the launch, said.

Source: economictimes.indiatimes.com- May 19, 2017

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As Indians, we take our cotton heritage too lightly

A tree that grows wool is how the Greek and Roman texts described what we call cotton. To this day, the German word for cotton, baumwolle, means exactly that: treewool! Ancient Indians and Peruvians – the original cultivators of cotton, though at opposite ends of the world — knew better. Yet, ironically, neither of the most internationally prized varieties of cotton are immediately associated with these two countries.

Egyptian and Sea Island cotton, valued for their extra long staple or ESL, command a premium. Remember the outrage last year in the US when an Indian supplier of "Egyptian cotton" bedsheets to major department stores was found to have used other cotton? The disgust and horror was akin to sturgeon caviar being found to have been diluted with dyed salmon roe or horsemeat being detected in so-called beef products in UK.

But how many know that India also produces – alas in ever-diminishing quantities – an equally wonderful ESL cotton variety, albeit rather unimaginatively named Suvin, the result of a "marriage" of a local cotton gal 'Sujatha' with a Caribbean cotton lad called St Vincent in the mid-1970s? Today we cultivate abysmally little amounts of Suvin, though it is heartening that we grow a lot of the world's organic (if short staple) cotton.

The fact is, we Indians take our cotton heritage too lightly, like so many other indigenous marvels. Though ancient Indians grew and wore fine cotton while Europeans were still cladding themselves in crude animal pelts and scratchy wool.

It is unfortunate that the language of the ancient Indians who lived along the Indus and Saraswati rivers remains unknown to us still. So the 5000 year old cotton fragments found at excavations remain tantalisingly mysterious.

And it is shameful that a few thousand years on, we are now slaves to blended textiles and silk, in the name of convenience.

How many times have we forsworn cotton in the past few decades because it is “so difficult to maintain”, forgetting that our own recent forebears managed the material quite well? The softest, purest cotton needs no ironing or starching, and those wearing it need no airconditioning or heating either. So why do we diss it?

Textiles Minister Smriti Irani’s campaign to get Indians to reaffirm #CottonIsCool has come not a moment too soon. While magazines like Femina have highlighted Indian celebrities from Kareena Kapoor Khan to Twinkle Khanna stepping out in cotton, we tend to undervalue this amazing natural fibre.

No wonder Indian cotton has absolutely no brand recall, unlike Egyptian or Sea Island, though those varieties are less than 200 years old!

Given our extreme weather conditions, cotton is truly the fabric of India. It is cooling and lets our skin breathe in the most scorching and sultry weather and yet it can also retain heat, making it the fabric of choice in the coldest places too. Is it surprising that Rajasthan, a land of extreme heat and cold, not only has beautiful traditional printed and tie-dyed cottons but also thick quilts and jackets also made of the same natural fibre?

Khadi, whose most passionate advocate of our times Martand Singh or Mapu passed away this month, is but an extra special version of this same super fibre, handspun and handwoven. The journey of khadi cotton from Bapu to Mapu was both heroic and tragic because each revived it only for a time, the first during the Independence struggle and other in the 1980s. After that, cotton – khadi or otherwise – got lost in the public perception again.

Internet campaigns have high visibility among certain sections, but limited longevity.

It serves the purpose of highlighting so it's a welcome first step. A more sustained awareness campaign on the benefits of cotton, and a debate on its socalled negative qualities is needed. A cachet for cotton – especially Indian cotton – has to be recreated and disseminated. That #CottonIsCool is a fact, it should not become merely a fad.

Source: blogs.economictimes.indiatimes.com- May 20, 2017

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Karwatkathi saree receives GI registration

Maharashtra State Handloom Corporation (MSHDC), Nagpur goes for Geographical Indication (GI) registration for Karwatkathi saree and Karwat material in order to preserve the traditional art and give it a worldwide recognition and increase employment of the weavers.

Nagpur and Bhandara districts has craved a niche for itself in the production of Tussar silk is also known for 'Karwatkathi' saree and Karwat material. It takes about 7 to 8 day in making one 'Karwatkathi' saree.

Taking serious cognizance of it, Maharashtra State Handloom Corporation, Nagpur submitted the proposal to Geographical Indication Registry Office, Chennai working under Government of India.

With GI registration, Karwatkathi saree and Kawrat fabric will get global recognition and their demand will increase offering employment opportunities to the weavers, said, Ujjwal Uke, Principal Secretary of

Textiles Department, Government of Maharashtra and Sanjay Meena, Managing Director of the MSHDC,informs a press release.

Subash Deshmukh, Maharashtra Minister for Textiles and Arjun Khotkar, Minister of State Textiles continuously took follow up of the issue.
Karwatkathi saree received the GI registration. This was declared at the recently held function at New Delhi. Present were Smruti Irani, Union Textile Minister, Development Commissioner Handloom, and senior officials.

Vijay Nimje, Joint Managing Director MSHDC and Dilip Kumbhare Senior Executive Director (Production) received registration certificate for Karwatkathi saree and Kawrat fabric.

Source: yarnsandfibers.com- May 19, 2017

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Garmenters assessing investment opportunities in Odisha

Garmenters in nearby Tirupur are exploring investment opportunities to set up manufacturing units in Odisha and had preliminary discussions with the Government Officials there to set up new textile park in Bhuvaneshwar city.

A delegation of Tirupur Exporters Association (TEA), which is on a three-day visit, held discussion about the park project also the Government's Apparel Policy, with Chief Development Commissioner, Textile secretary, Skill Development Corporation chairman in Bhubaneshwar, TEA general secretary T R Vijayakumar in a release said today.

The delegation today visited Ramdaspur, the place where park is being set up and observed the facilities and visited TITCO Industrial Corporation, which allocated 70 acres to textile park, with the availability of water, power supply and road facilities, Vijayakumar said.

On policy, Vijayakumar said that Central and State Government provides 60 per cent subsidy on building and common facilities under SITP (Scheme for Integrated Textile Park), 25 per cent subsidy for new machinery, Rs 1 crore interest free working capital loan, Minimum wages Rs 220 per 8 hours and reimbursement of Rs 1,500 for new giving employment for new labours.

Ten companies can join together and start a textile park in Odisha, he said.

Source: dnaindia.com- May 19, 2017

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Specialty Fibres & Yarns compendium from Fibre2Fashion

The textile industry is witnessing a new wave of innovation due to the advent of specialty fibres and yarns. To provide unique insight into the increasingly popular specialty fibres and yarns industry, and assist industry players in making the most of a plethora of opportunities, Fibre2Fashion is going to launch a 'Specialty Fibres & Yarns Compendium'.

Owing to technological advancements and the increasing demand for lightweight and high-strength composite materials, the specialty fibres and yarns industry is currently witnessing a high growth period. What makes these fibres and yarns immensely popular is that they come with a unique set of consumer-friendly qualities and mechanical properties, such as stain resistance, waterproofing, stretching, durability, and thermal stability.

"Providing a 360-degree coverage of the factors driving the specialty fibres and yarns market, the compendium will serve as a rich source of information for the industry. It will enable textile industry players to keep abreast with the shifts and trends in the specialty fibres and yarns landscape," explains Jose Daniel, executive director at Fibre2Fashion, the world's leading trade portal for the textile-apparel-fashion industry.

"While providing a platform to showcase a brand's strength and ramp up its visibility, the compendium will help companies connect with their target audience, thereby increasing engagement and also a chance to discover potential partnerships," he adds.

To be launched at Premiere Vision 2018, the compendium will provide exclusive coverage to the participating companies through an online showcase and a featured profile in print compendium covering strategic initiatives, offerings, white papers, case studies, and contact information.

It will also offer an integrated brand promotion approach for focused marketing. This will include the launch of the compendium at the prestigious trade fair, its subsequent circulation among the leading industry players, and its marketing via campaign newsletters and video on F2F TV.

Further, an online showcase and a downloadable version of the compendium will help in increasing awareness and boost brand recognition.

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