



THE COTTON TEXTILES EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

(Sponsored By Government of India)

Engineering Centre, 5th Floor, 9, Mathew Road, Mumbai - 400 004. Maharashtra State, INDIA

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Sub : Visit of Composite Trade Delegation to Australia

Dear Member,

As you are aware, India and Australia have signed the India-Australia ECTA which came into force from 29th December 2022. Under this agreement, India will get tariff concessions on 6367 tariff lines accounting for 98.3% of the total tariff lines in Australia. The balance 113 tariff lines, contributing to 1.7%, will get the concession in 5 years. Australia has provided concessions on 100% tariff lines without any exclusion and hence, all Indian exports will enjoy a tariff advantage in Australia.

The textile, apparel, leather sectors have gained zero duty benefits with immediate effect. As regards raw cotton import from Australia under HS 52010020 (Cotton, other than Indian, of all staple lengths) – there is an Annual Tariff Related Quota (TRQ) of 3 lakh bales approx. 51 mn kgs (1 Bale = 170 kg) for ELS cotton of Minimum 28 mm length at zero duty.

Keeping the above in mind, the Council vide its earlier Circular dated 23rd January 2023 had proposed the visit of a Composite Trade Delegation to Australia which was scheduled from 20th to 24th February 2023. However, in view of the non-availability of Visas and Air-Tickets, the Council now proposes the visit of the delegation from 17th to 21st April 2023 to Melbourne and Sydney.

The objective of the delegation is:

- 1) To inform the Australian textile and apparel community about India as a sourcing hub for finished goods like made-ups and apparel.
- 2) To reinforce India's commitment to service the Australian requirements in sustainable, organic and traditional goods.
- 3) To inform Australia about new product developments in made-ups and apparel
- 4) To discuss the import of Raw Cotton from Australia.

The Council has hired the services of an Australian based agency to engage with the importers in Australia and towards this end the proposed meetings will be with

1) Importers / Wholesalers of made-up items and apparel

2) Leading Associations like the Retailers Association of Australia / Cotton Australia / Textile, Clothing and Footwear (TCF), Fashion Council etc.

3) Sourcing personnel of top retail chains / stores like Myers, David Jones, Target etc.

4) Govt. agencies related to trade

The delegate fees for participating in this Trade Delegation is Rs 70,000 + 18% GST = Rs 82,600 which will cover administrative and logistic costs. Hotel costs and air fares will have to be borne by the individual delegates.

Members interested in exploring the Australian market for finished good items and wish to participate in this delegation, may kindly send in their confirmation along with the payment to Mr Shailesh Martis / Ms Kalavathi Rao at shailesh@texprocil.org / kala@texprocil.org latest by 18th February 2023 in order to make all the necessary arrangements in the matter.

Regards,

Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal
Executive Director

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