Dear Friends,

As the new financial dawned upon us, many exporters looked forward to getting back to normal business. However, a resurgent “second wave” of the pandemic has put many plans on hold with the spectre of lockdowns, migration of labour and a general slowdown of economic activities looming large on the horizon. There have been various reports suggesting that the gain in economic activity made since November, 2020 may have already been wiped out. The possibility of lower actual output in the current quarter compared to the two previous quarters could significantly delay the economic recovery.

Let us hope that unlike the first wave which engulfed all of us for almost a year, we are able to overcome the destructive impact of the second phase at the earliest.

Exports of Cotton Textiles

As per the quick estimates released by the Ministry of Commerce, Cotton Textile exports reached a level of USD 1,104 million in March 2021 marking a growth of 55.67% against the corresponding month of March 2020, wherein exports were valued at USD 709 million.

Exports of cotton textiles during the period April – March 2021 have shown a decline of (-) 2.12% reaching a level of USD 9.81 billion over the previous year with exports of USD 10.02 billion during the period April – March 2020. The decline of 2.12% is mainly because of steep falls in April/May. It may also be noted that exports of cotton textiles have shown positive growth from June 2020 onwards till March 2021.

This performance is exceptional considering the difficulties faced by all our exporter friends on account of the COVID-19 pandemic. It shows the sheer commitment and resilience of our exporters in overcoming adversities.

In fact as per our estimates, exports of cotton textiles during 2020-2021 should end on a positive note with growth of (+) 2%, instead of a negative growth.

When the pandemic first caused businesses to shut down, there was a lot of confusion and fear. Now, stuck by new mutations of the virus, there is still a lot of uncertainty as to what the future holds for them and what support the textile businesses need to stay afloat in the ‘Second Wave’?

To know more read the ‘SPECIAL FEATURE’ article on PAGE 6.
Meeting with Ministry of Commerce
Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Railways, Shri Piyush Goyal held an online meeting with various Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) on April 21, 2021.

I along with the Executive Director of the Council attended the meeting. We raised issues relating to announcement of RoDTEP rates, (which have already been delayed), removal of import duty on Cotton, extension of interest subvention scheme till the end of fiscal year 2021-2022, dispensing with the requirement of maintaining the Average Export Obligation under the EPCG scheme, among others. The Hon'ble Minister heard all the suggestions and assured that these will be taken up with the Ministry of Finance (wherever applicable) at the earliest.

The Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal, also appreciated the efforts of the exporters in reaching an export performance of US$ 290.63 in 2020-21 marking a decline of around (-) 7.26% over the previous year.

Shri Goyal said that most of the sectors have larger export potential, which need to be identified and harnessed. He also called upon the exporters to strive to attain ambitious growth of more than 25% to reach US$ 400 billion merchandise exports during the current year.

Meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Textiles
The Hon’ble Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani held a meeting on 23rd April with various stakeholders to discuss issues relating to yarn prices and the RoDTEP rates. The meeting was attended by me along with Shri Sunil Patwari, Vice Chairman and Executive Director of the Council. As regards, rising prices of Cotton Yarn, I pointed out that they have been declining and exports have also been flat. The Hon’ble Minister was concerned about reports of hoarding and cartelising by some spinning mills and assured necessary action to address these issues.

As regards the meeting on RoDTEP, we requested the Hon’ble Minister to use her good offices to get the rates announced at the earliest. We also requested that the RoDTEP rate for Madeups should be maintained at the level of the RoSCTL rates in force earlier. The Hon’ble Minister wanted to know the impact of the delayed announcement on exports in terms of loss of opportunities. The necessary data is being compiled and will be sent to the Ministry of Textiles, shortly.

Way forward
Friends, as the pandemic resurfaces in our country again, we are back to balancing lives and livelihoods. Fortunately, the Governments both at the Centre and State are conscious about the devastating impact of total lockdowns on the economy. That’s why we have partial lockdowns, imposition of restrictions, definitions of essential services etc. which are aimed more at movement of individuals rather than commodities and goods.

This is a recognition in these trying times, of the fact that all businesses need to survive and maybe even thrive in order to create economic value add.

With their being no guarantee that a “third wave” or even “fourth wave” will not emerge in the future (as only 8% of the population has received vaccination so far and since at least 70% of the population is required to be vaccinated in order to achieve herd immunity), we need to be prepared for such unforeseen eventualities and think of ways to ensure a brighter future for all across the industry.

Manoj Kumar Patodia
Chairman
::TEXPROCIL::

TRADE NOTICE

TEXTILE INDUSTRY SURVEY

Dear Member,
The resurgent "second wave" of the pandemic is raising different questions in our mind related to the spectre of lockdowns, migration of labour and a general slowdown of economic activities and the span required for recovery.

Rather than relying on speculation, kindly respond to this survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.com

The Survey aims to assess the true situation of the textile industry - demand, prices, labour situation, which can help everyone to understand how to move forward together.

Since the survey will take less than 5 minutes of your time, members are requested to kindly fill the details given in the Survey.

Regards,
Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal
Executive Director
::TEXPROCIL::

JOIN US... NOW!
& avail of our
Membership Benefits
To know more, please write to us on email: info@texprocil.org
The resurgence of the second Covid-19 wave has the potential to disrupt fabric demand. With the closure of retail spaces, malls, shopping centres other than essentials in urban cities there is bound to be a delay in the pick-up of domestic demand. Lately, several state governments have imposed localized lockdowns to curb the rising cases of Covid-19 infections while several state governments have also gone in for weekend curfews.

According to the Federation of Gujarat Weavers’ Association (FOGWA), since the beginning of April, production of fabric in the State has gone down from around 5.50 crore metres to almost 4 crore metres per day. In Surat alone, production of grey fabric has gone down by 1 crore meters; from 4.5 crore meter to less than 3.5 crore meters per day.

Closer home, Ichalkaranji which is often referred to as the “Manchester of Maharashtra” and famous for its grey cloth production is also facing problems of its own with the resurgence of the Covid virus. The city with the presence of latest machinery in powerloom, air-jet, knitting and handloom exports fabric across the world but with the latest lock down and curfew measures imposed in the country, the processing of the grey cloth which is generally sent to different cities like Surat, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Bhiwandi and Delhi has also taken a hit. Due to sudden & unexpected rise of the second COVID wave, the movement in the markets have come to a screeching halt with major markets of Mumbai, Delhi, Meerut and Kanpur are not placing any new orders. A few of them have also cancelled their orders due to rise in Covid cases.

Textile production has decreased in India’s textile city of Surat with the onset of the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. The factors adversely affecting textile production and trade in the city are the restriction in working hours, migration of workers, and also many workers and textile traders testing Covid positive. The workers’ strength in factories has gone down by an average of 25-30 per cent!

Ichalkaranji is seeing the migration of many workers as they do not wish to get stranded in case of a complete lockdown, which can potentially be imposed if the viral infections do not reduce. The traders from other states are therefore very hesitant to place orders in Ichalkaranji as supplies could be affected in case there is an exodus of a large number of migrant workers who are working in 13,000 small and big power loom factories.

The textile industry in Ichalkaranji was recovering after the strict lockdown last year and reduction in orders had severely hit the textile hub, but the fear of a complete lockdown and rise in Covid cases is driving migrant workers back. In many cases the owners of the factories have decided to provide food and shelter along with some advance payment to the migrant workers in an effort to retain them thereby adding to the overall costs in an already profit deprived scenario.

The fabric industry was already hit by the increase in yarn prices for the past many months but the recent Covid surge and subsequent impact has led to the weaving job rates touching last year’s bottom with the yarn rates also suddenly falling by approx. 10~15%. With the fluctuation in the yarn costs, the factory owners are hesitant to place orders in case if yarn prices go down further as it will then be difficult to recover the amount. Due to this the dealers from other textile producing cities like Surat, Mumbai, Bhiwandi, Delhi, Meerut and Kanpur are not placing any new orders. A few of them have also cancelled their orders due to rise in Covid cases.

In the case of exports, the increase in cotton yarn prices, coupled with an increase in prices of accessories and dyeing charges had made the manufacturing cost of fabrics costlier which further had an impact on the cost of the finished garments.

In the current scenario, the fabric importing countries are taking advantage of the situation in India by delaying further purchases and negotiating very low rates for yarns & fabrics leading to increased selling pressure on the manufacturers. Buyers of garments are being requested to reconsider the prices of garments due to the overall increase in the prices of fabric so as to achieve a win-win situation.

The second wave of Covid in India has potentially created a huge mismatch in fabric demand and supply due to reasons mentioned above and has also put severe pressure on the competitiveness of fabric exports. As mentioned in my earlier article, fabric exports had maintained a positive growth since the month of September 2020 and I sincerely hope that we don’t lose the momentum in the wake of the new Covid surge!

:: TEXPROCIL ::

Fabrics Sub-Committee at TEXPROCIL discusses in a collectively manner the current trends in the textile trade in order to bring out ideas useful to suggest the way forward for businesses.

Kindly send your feedback on email: shailesh@texprocil.org
Smart textile applications for apparel & home textiles

FROM AYURVASTRA TO COSMETOTEXTILES

About Cosmetotextiles
Cosmetotextile is a concept of releasing cosmetic ingredient to the human skin. Though the term “Cosmetotextiles” is new but it originated from Ayurveda which is an ancient medical treatise, summarizing the art of healing and is practiced in India for more than 5,000 years. The technology of Cosmetotextile is at the neonatal stage.

AYURVASTRA (A miracle mediherbal cloth)
‘Ayurvastra’ is a branch of the ancient form of medicine called ‘Ayurveda’. ‘Ayur’ is a Sanskrit term meaning health, ‘Veda’ means the wisdom and ‘Vastra’ is cloth or clothing. Ayurvastra involves an ancient technique of dyeing textiles using medicinal herbs. Ayurvastra is made from organic cotton fabric that has been permeated with special herbs and oils that promote health and cure special diseases depending upon the blends of embedded herbs and oils. Ayurvastra is used by Ayurveda health clinics in the treatment of a broad range of diseases such as diabetes, skin infections, eczema, psoriasis, hypertension and high blood pressure, asthma, arthritis, rheumatism and even some forms of cancer.

Post-Covid Demand
The Covid-19 pandemic has caused consumers to focus increasingly on beauty and wellness and will benefit the market for cosmetotextile products. Widespread changes in daily routines brought about by the pandemic and government measures imposed to stem its spread – such as the wearing of face masks, social distancing and working from home – have led to an increased focus on beauty and wellness, especially among younger consumers. They consider skin care and body care to be indispensable aspects of their overall wellbeing, and cosmetotextile products could have a significant role to play in achieving this.

Textile Construction
On contact with human body and skin, Cosmetotextiles are designed to transfer an active substance for cosmetic purposes. The principle is achieved by simply imparting the cosmetic and pharmaceutical ingredients into the fabric of the clothing so that with the natural movements of the body, the skin is slowly freshened, revitalized or cured according to the ingredient used.

Variety Applications
Cosmetotextiles combine the benefits of cosmetics with the functionality of textiles, and products made from cosmetotextiles represent an extremely convenient way of applying cosmetic substances, fragrances and health promoting minerals to the skin. Indeed, the range of cosmetotextile products available is broad, and it includes products designed to slim the silhouette, moisturise the skin, reduce the appearance of cellulite, and promote a sense of well-being through the use of fragrances. Such smart fabrics provide a convenient method of applying cosmetic substances, fragrances and health promoting minerals to the skin.
Consequently, cosmetotextiles are used in a vast range of products, including hosiery, athleisure apparel, casual apparel, sportswear and home textile products such as bedding and curtains.

Marketing Challenges
Despite their popularity, a number of factors prevent cosmetotextile products from enjoying the same success in generating sales as other product categories in the health, beauty and wellness market. Many consumers are confused as to where to purchase cosmetotextile products while others are unaware that the products even exist, as consumer awareness is raised by word of mouth and endorsements rather than by targeted advertising.

Reflecting this, very few of the brands which have experimented in the development of cosmetotextile products in recent years have enjoyed meaningful revenues from them and have therefore not committed to investing further in product development or sales and marketing. As a result, the number of companies which are active in the field remains small and sales of clothing with cosmetic functionality remain modest. Still, there are good reasons for optimism about the future for cosmetotextile companies.

Arguably, the companies which have enjoyed the greatest commercial success in the field of cosmetotextile products are those which focus solely on this area and have established dedicated production and research and development facilities.

Future Prospects
Innovation is key, and much investigation is being conducted into the development of active substances and high-performance microcapsules derived from natural formulations rather than synthetic formulations. There is also much scope for environmentally sustainable cosmetotextiles based on natural formulations. The use of natural formulations is gaining in importance as consumers are becoming increasingly aware of environmental sustainability and are actively seeking plant-based products.

Looking to the future, there is much potential for innovative cosmetotextiles - not least - because consumers have become increasingly focused on wellness as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Indeed, consumers consider skin care and body care to be indispensable aspects of overall wellness and so cosmetotextile garments could have a significant role to play in achieving this.
As per reports, the UK has re-opened, and has emerged as the “one
Rising Demand in some markets
entire population.
the developed countries like USA, UK, Europe, Canada have emerged
exports to be maintained, considering that many of the markets in
Given this scenario, it is imperative to put in place an Action Plan
of COVID-19 management.
Thus a delicate balance between all the variables defining an
economic activity needs to be forged while adhering to the protocols
for goods and services.
According to Government sources, the impact of the second wave
of COVID-19 on the Indian economy may not be very large”. Acknowledging that making predictions on the pandemic are extremely difficult, the Government nevertheless has ruled out a second “nationwide lockdown”, as enforced last year. In its place, we have local lockdowns, mini containment zones and definitions of “essential services” in order to ease the movement of goods and services rather than individuals. Given this change in strategy, there is hope of minimum economic disruption.
Need for policy support
While the real economic impact of the “second wave” remains to be seen, all indicators do suggest that there is an emerging and urgent need for Government policy support within a “short to medium term framework” so that any unanticipated disruptions in demand and supply chain networks can be addressed.
As economists argue, if supply chains are affected and inflation rises, it would lead to reduction in purchasing power and thereby demand for goods and services.
Similarly cutbacks in production activities on account of requirements of “social distancing” in certain labour intensive sectors like garments and textiles are likely to adversely affect incomes and lockdowns.
Thus a delicate balance between all the variables defining an economic activity needs to be forged while adhering to the protocols of COVID-19 management.
Given this scenario, it is imperative to put in place an Action Plan which can enable the momentum of economic activity especially exports to be maintained, considering that many of the markets in the developed countries like USA, UK, Europe, Canada have emerged from a "third wave" and also have enough vaccines to inoculate their entire population.
Rising Demand in some markets
As per reports, the UK has re-opened, and has emerged as the "one
bright spot" for demand, with department stores reporting brisk sales and households having enough disposable income in bank accounts for spending. The UK is a very important finished goods market, especially for Garments and Made-ups that is larger than Germany or France. It’s reopening, is an extremely positive sign for demand. Simultaneously, the retail spending in the USA is also reported to have surged in March following the stimulus package and the accelerated rollout of vaccines. This rebound is a very strong boost for global demand, benefitting the leading garment and textile producing countries like China, Vietnam, Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan. This rebound in the retail sales in USA, UK, Canada, and some parts of Europe augurs well for Indian exporters of finished apparel and home textiles products. Volumes are also expected to be high as any spending after a prolonged period of lockdown is being termed as ‘revenge spending’ with consumers splurging on products that they had not purchased for some time. The European and the US households are also reporting high savings rate facilitated by liberal stimulus packages and thrifty consumption.
Challenges ahead
While the overall impact on the economy in terms of GDP growth, as per the current estimates may not be as severe as in 2020 and opportunities may beckon in the overseas markets, we must not lose sight of the likely impact on the viability and wellbeing of the MSME’s (backbone of our manufacturing) who may get severely impacted by the disruptions in economic activity on account of a prolonged pandemic.
According to a survey released by Dun & Bradstreet on the "Impact of Covid-19 on Small Businesses in India and the Way Ahead", over 82% of small businesses surveyed have experienced a negative impact, and 70% believe it will take them almost a year to recover demand levels prior to COVID-19. Around 60% of the companies surveyed expect more measures and support, including government initiatives.
The survey adds that three topmost challenges that might hinder small businesses to scale up their businesses are market access (42%), improving the overall productivity (37%) and having access to more finance (34%).
The granular firm level data captured through the Dun & Bradstreet Commercial Disruption Tracker indicates that around 95% of the firms were impacted in April 2020, when the national lockdown was imposed. Even with progressive unlocking, 70% of the businesses remained disrupted till August 2020 and 40% till the end of February 2021.
In view of the above, the Government [as many Economists suggest] should come out with policy support more in the form of fiscal measures, rather than aiming for more structural reforms and easing of compliance burdens.
Considering the evolving situation and the uncertainty arising from a hugely contagious pandemic, the Government should take a few immediate measures especially to keep up the momentum in the export sector in order to mitigate both the foreseen/unforeseen hardships. Following measures are suggested in this regard:

1. **Release all the pending claims of the exporters.**
   At present, a lot of refunds are due to the exporters under the export promotion schemes like, MEIS, ROSL, RoSCTL and GST, Duty Drawback etc. Government should release all these dues amounting to around Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 45,000 Crores immediately and clean up their account books.

   In this connection, it needs to be noted that the Government has cleared for example, the fertilizer subsidy dues to the industry amounting to Rs. 133,000 Crores, with additional allocations in the Union Budget 2021-22. Further, in the same spirit, the Government has cleared Rs 1.5 lakh Crores of Food Corporation of India’s dues to the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF). All these actions of the Government have been applauded by the experts and the industry.

   Similarly, the Government should clear the dues of the exporters so that issues of cash flow at the unit level can be addressed in these trying times.

   Alternatively, the Government should also seriously examine the request by Federation of Indian Exporters Organization (FIEO) to issue tax-free bonds at 6% rate of interest with a three year lock-in period to provide certainty of refund and ensure liquidity for exporters in case of difficulties on account of revenue shortfalls.

2. **Notify the rates under the RoDTEP Scheme.**
   The Government had announced the RoDTEP Scheme during the last year’s budget (2020-21) and implemented it without notifying the rates on January 1, 2021. This scheme which is WTO compatible replaces the erstwhile MEIS Scheme. Government should expedite the announcement of the rates for all the textile and garment products so that exporters can factor them while negotiating business. As the overseas markets are looking up, this needs to be done without further delay. While announcing the rates, the Government should also ensure that the rates for Garments and Made-ups are on par with the ROSCTL rates in force earlier. A Gazette Notification dated 17th April 2020 has also been issued in this regard by the Ministry of Textiles.

3. **Interest Equalization Scheme**
   At present, the scheme has been extended by 3 months till June 30, 2021. It should be extended till March 31, 2022 in order to ease the fiscal burden on the exporters.

4. **Exports under Refund of IGST**
   As per the Union Budget for 2021-22, Government is to notify the category of exporters (on a case by case basis) who will be eligible for the option to “Export under IGST Refund”. Government should reconsider this provision and permit the earlier optional arrangement, (especially in view of the present hardships on account of resurgent pandemic), as a large number of labour intensive MSMEs, having low margins and with production (including job work) taking place in the decentralized and un-organized sector will otherwise be adversely affected. No fiscal outgo is involved but in fact it will ease the doing of business.

5. **Provide access to raw materials at international prices**
   Availability of raw materials at international prices always facilitates the process of value addition thereby strengthening the manufacturing base in the country.

   In this regard the Government should –
   
   i) **Remove the import levy of 11% imposed on Cotton in the Union Budget 2021-22.**

   The import duty levied does not serve either the interest of the farmers nor does it hurt domestic production in any manner. Most of the imports are of Extra Long Staple Cotton (ELS) which is not grown, at present in the country in viable commercial quantities.

   While efforts are in full swing to produce this variety of Cotton in India, it may take 4-5 years to reach self-sufficiency. In the meantime, the Country stands to lose it’s competitive edge and market share in high value-added products. It is thus imperative that the duty is removed forthwith so that India can take advantage of emerging export opportunities in brand conscious markets like UK and USA and parts of Europe.

   ii) **Remove the anti-dumping duty on spandex yarn imposed in 2017.**

   With almost 60% to 65% of garments being sold having a component of spandex in the fibre mix, imposition of anti-dumping duty only increases the costs.

   Further with only two producers of spandex fibre manufacturing in India (one of them being the largest in the world), the anti-dumping duty has contributed to increasing the import parity price at which the domestic suppliers are offering spandex fibre.

   The domestic spinners and weavers are sandwiched in a “spandex-trap” where imports are viable, if anti-dumping duty is removed and domestic prices are unviable on account of a “duopoly”.

   In view of the large requirements of spandex yarn and fabrics in garment and textiles consumption (as per prevailing fashion trends), the Government should allow the anti-dumping duty to at least lapse during the sunset review which is due shortly, if not acting immediately to remove the anti-dumping duty.

   iii) **Duty-free imports against Madeups Exports**

   The facility of duty free imports of trimmings & embellishments and other specified items which were allowed against exports of Cotton Made ups and Garments at the rate of 1% and 5% respectively of the fob value of exports in the preceding year was withdrawn in the Union Budget for 2021-22. This facility should be reinstated.

   The revenue forgone by permitting duty free imports of these select and notified products is negligible but the facility has helped exporters to value add and meet with the specifications of the importers and the suppliers of labels, trims are nominated by them and also form part of the Letter of Credit (L/C) conditions negotiated for payments.

**Conclusions**

As can be seen the measures suggested are partly to extend fiscal support (mainly release of government dues); implementation of announced policies, (RoDTEP, interest subvention); putting in abeyance certain policies (import duty on Cotton and GST rule change); and easing rules (lapse of anti-dumping duty on spandex yarn, permitting duty free imports of trimmings etc.).

It is strongly felt that, if these changes are made immediately, as part of a short to medium term policy framework, Indian exporters will be able to withstand the head winds of a rampaging pandemic.

The Indian textile sector is the sixth largest exporter of textiles and apparel in the world. It has a 12 per cent share in merchandise exports and is the second largest employment generator after agriculture. The sector has all the potential to spur the economic recovery in the country and save jobs.
Prospects for trade in Textile & Apparel with Russia

Economy

Russia has undergone significant changes since the collapse of the Soviet Union, moving from a centrally planned economy towards a more market-based system. Both economic growth and reform have stalled in recent years, however Russia remains a predominantly State controlled economy with a high concentration of wealth in officials’ hands. Economic reforms in the 1990s privatized most industry, with notable exceptions in the energy, transportation, banking, and defence-related sectors. The protection of property rights is still weak, and the State continues to interfere in the free operation of the private sector. Major industry segments in Russia are: complete range of mining and extractive industries producing coal, oil, gas, chemicals, and metals; all forms of machine building from rolling mills to high-performance aircraft and space vehicles; defense industries (including radar, missile production, advanced electronic components), shipbuilding, road and rail transportation equipment; telecommunications equipment; agricultural machinery, tractors, and construction equipment; electric power generating and transmitting equipment; medical and scientific instruments; consumer durables, textiles, foodstuffs and handicrafts.

Textile & Clothing import into Russia:

Top 5 types of cotton yarn account for 85% yarn import into Russia. As shown at Table 5A, it may be noted that demand is more for cotton yarn up to 30s count single carded. 28% of Russia’s yarn imported into Russia is blended with less than 85% cotton with other MMF fibres. As can be seen at Table 3 in the data sheet, China is the major supplier of made-ups to Russia. It is important to note that goods brought in illegally across the land borders are a major chunk of the business. Cumbersome customs procedures and forex remittance restrictions are deterrents in direct import business by private companies. Hence retail distributors prefer to source more from wholesalers who manage to bring in textile and apparel goods across the borders.

In the year 2020, Russia imported US$ 1.4 billion worth of made-up articles from all sources. Like most of the countries in the world, import of masks under HS code 6307 is a major product imported accounting for 57% of total import of made-ups, as can be seen at Table 3 in the data sheet. China is the major supplier of made-ups to Russia. It is important to note that goods brought in illegally across the land borders are a major chunk of the business. Cumbersome customs procedures and forex remittance restrictions are deterrents in direct import business by private companies. Hence retail distributors prefer to source more from wholesalers who manage to bring in textile and apparel goods across the borders.

In the year 2020, Russia imported US$ 37.87 million worth of cotton-textile articles from India include US$ 17.68 million worth of home textiles and US$ 3.98 million worth of cotton yarn and fabrics (HS 52), as shown at Table 2 in the data sheet. There was a declining trend in import of made-ups and cotton textiles from India to Russia. India’s share in supply of cotton yarn & fabrics (HS 52) was only 1.76% in the year 2020. In the year 2020, Russia imported US$ 1.4 billion worth of made-up articles from all sources. Like most of the countries in the world, import of masks under HS code 6307 is a major product imported accounting for 57% of total import of made-ups, as can be seen at Table 3 in the data sheet. China is the major supplier of made-ups to Russia. It is important to note that goods brought in illegally across the land borders are a major chunk of the business. Cumbersome customs procedures and forex remittance restrictions are deterrents in direct import business by private companies. Hence retail distributors prefer to source more from wholesalers who manage to bring in textile and apparel goods across the borders.

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To avail of detailed data on Russian Textile & Apparel referred in this Report kindly click on the following link:
( Data Analysis - Textile and clothing business with Russia )
Textile & Clothing export from Russia:
In the year 2020, Russia exported US$ 1.21 billion worth of T&C products, recording a growth of 11.26% over the previous year as shown at Table 6. Major markets for export of T&C from Russia are CIS region and to EU countries. Export of Apparel, Home Textiles and non-woven textiles account for 72% of total export from Russia.

Textile & Clothing manufacturing in Russia:
Total manufacturing of all products in Russia in the year 2019 was valued at 47,436 billion Roubles, of which, Textile manufacturing was valued at 239 billion Rouble (0.50%) and Apparel manufacturing was valued at 197 billion Rouble (0.41%) indicating very low importance for T&C manufacturing and high level of dependency on imports. Details of major products of T&C manufactured in Russia are given at Table 7.

Main problems of the T&C industry are the following:
- Technical backwardness (more than half of the equipment in Russian factories are over twenty years old);
- Shortage of skilled workforce (the number of workers in the industry over the past seven to eight years has decreased from 400 thousand to less than 250 thousand);
- Dependence on imports of raw materials.

The industry is mainly dependent on the government procurement, producing uniforms for law enforcement agencies and departments, with up to 80% of products being made from Russian fabrics – mostly with imported yarns.

More than 50% of the country’s garment factories are manufacturing work-wear, bed linen, as well as other products for hospitals, rest homes, boarding houses and other institutions.

It has been reported that the production of technical textiles and “smart fabrics” can become a real driver for the development of the industry in present conditions as only 15% of the country’s requirement is produced domestically. There is an increasing demand for geo-textiles and nanotechnology based fire retardant and other safety fabrics.

Bank lending is available to only those enterprises working under state orders, having a significant amount of tangible assets or collateral. Another significant problem in obtaining loans is that banks are reluctant to take highly specialized machines and equipment as collateral, which greatly lose their value in bankruptcy proceedings (the last stage of bankruptcy of an enterprise), that is, they are low-liquid assets.

Lending periods available to small and medium-sized businesses are also low and averaging 2.5 to 3 years for revolving loans and 5 to 7 years for investment in plant and machinery. Other sources of financing are practically inaccessible to small and medium enterprises due to the underdeveloped capital market in the country. Hence, T&C sector is experiencing significant difficulties in attracting financial resources to invest in its modernisation.

Asian countries that are highly competitive in textile and clothing manufacturing offer significantly cheaper products. At the same time, the quality of Russian fabrics is often significantly higher. The share of domestic fashion apparel products today is no more than 30% of the market. It is almost impossible to determine the market size due to the presence of “gray” imports.

Conclusion
According to available reports, the only competitive segment is the production of uniforms & work-wear, supported by government orders.

Russian manufacturers are experiencing a shortage of capital for the development and modernization of enterprises. In the absence of State support for modernisation and development of textile industry, the country will be a net importer of yarn, fabrics and fashion apparel.

There is a scope to increase export of carded single 100% cotton and cotton blended yarns upto 30s count & cotton fabrics of less than 200 gsm from India to Russia.

Owing to Covid pandemic related economic conditions, demand for fashion apparel has significantly reduced, by at least 40%. Indices of entrepreneurial confidence have reached record lows in the past few years thereby indicating the domestic textile manufacturing will shrink further and thereby offering greater scope for increase in import of textile and clothing products.

(Source: Rosstat; CIA factbook; Russian Customs data; GTIS)
Brazil is the largest economy in the Latin American region with a population of approx. 212 million. The Textile and Apparel industry contributes almost 5% to the GNP of Brazil and the sector plays a very significant role in the economy of the country. There are approx. 30 thousand companies of textile and apparel that operate in the country producing mainly beachwear, jeans, shirts, knits, home textiles besides few technical textile items. Brazil is mostly known for their summer clothing in the fashion world, though they also have influence in other fashion areas. They also have several luxury brands that sell across the globe.

With regard to cotton fibre, Brazil is currently the 2nd largest exporter of raw cotton. The high demand for ‘Contamination Free’ cotton has led Brazil to grow slowly and steadily in its global export. During the pandemic, as was evident in most textile producing countries, the production of T&C in Brazil was also severely affected and over 140 companies took on the task of producing masks and PPE kits to avoid closures.

The Brazilian government also came to the rescue of the companies by providing several financial measures to help the manufacturing industry survive the pandemic period including the lowering of interest rates from 4.25% to 2%.

### Trade Data

In 2020, Brazil imported T&C worth US$ 4338 million from the world and US$ 267 million from India with a share of 6.1%. The top 5 sourcing countries of T&C import were China, India, Paraguay, Vietnam and Bangladesh.

Brazil imported US$ 3224 million worth of textiles of which US$ 757 million were cotton based and the balance US$ 2467 million were of mmf and other fibres. Brazil imported US$ 44 million worth of cotton textiles from India with a share of 5.7%. India is ranked second behind China as leading cotton textile suppliers to Brazil.

Cotton made-ups dominate the cotton textile import market in Brazil with US$ 480 million, a share of 63.4% followed by fabrics at US$ 237 million with 31%. India was ranked third behind China and Paraguay in supplying cotton made-ups to Brazil. Import of made-ups from India were US$ 20 million with a share of 4.2% and fabrics were US$ 5.7 million with a share of 2.4%.

Brazil imported cotton yarn worth US$ 40 million from the world in 2020 of which India was the largest supplier with US$ 18 million, a share of 45%. The cotton yarn imported from India were mainly in the counts group 25s to 32s.

The complete details of the T&C import by Brazil are available at Table 1 (see box at the bottom of page 10 for table links).

Brazil is part of the MERCOSUR group (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela and Bolivia) who India has a Preferential Trade Agreement with but since Brazil has an established textile industry it adopts a highly protective policy keeping the duties for imports very high. The duties for fabrics are 26% while that for made-ups are 35%.

### Virtual Buyer Seller Meet between India and Brazil:

To understand the potential opportunities of sourcing textiles from India, Texprocil with support from the Consulate General of India in Sao Paulo organised a virtual Buyer Seller Meet (BSM) between India and Brazil on 11th March 2021 which was followed by individual one-to-one B2B meetings between the registered Indian suppliers and Brazilian buyers.

The virtual BSM event on 11th March was inaugurated by Consul General of India, Sao Paulo, H.E. Shri Amit Kumar Mishra and had in attendance representatives from various Brazilian Textile Associations including Sindiceticos SP, The Brazilian Association of Textile Retail (ABVTEX) and Sindtex Blumenau.

There were over 40 Brazilian buyers who participated in the online opening session of the BSM.

The Inaugural Session saw participation of 11 Indian suppliers and the products being showcased included yarns, fabrics and home textiles of 100% cotton and other blends.

### Current textile market scenario:

During the last year i.e. 2020 at a time when the pandemic was in full force, especially from September to the end of 2020, the government had extended financial support to all the companies including insurance for the unemployed. These steps resulted in higher market sentiments leading to an unexpected consumption boom.

However, there was also a shortage of raw materials in Brazil, making it necessary to source the products from other markets such as India. Suppliers from India offered cotton products at very competitive prices compared to China, the major textile supplier to Brazil. However, Indian suppliers need to be wary of tough competition in terms of sustaining their market share from other competing markets such as Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Indonesia. Paraguay which is part of the MERCOSUR group is second ranked in exports of cotton made-ups to Brazil.

During the pandemic period, the volatile fluctuations in the price of raw materials as well as the exchange rate coupled with the high cost of freight were major factors in creating a tough atmosphere for businesses.
The Brazilian buyers on their part look at building business reliability as a first step in maintaining stable relations with the supplier. Overcoming factors like logistical delays, poor communication, non-adherence to contractual clauses and complicated financial transactional operations are key towards achieving stable business reliability.

In the current year i.e. 2021, the Brazilian market is currently experiencing many difficulties due to the large proportion of Covid cases in the country. The various restrictions, slowdown in consumption and consequent fall in production over the past few months has resulted in extensions of loan repayment, accumulated debts and possible closure of companies.

However, there is still hope that with the ongoing roll-out of the vaccination drive in Brazil, the pandemic situation is likely to wane during the next 2-3 months, and the market is expected to rebound bringing normalcy to trade during the second-half of 2021.

Opportunities
The hopeful return of consumption and subsequent demand will provide an opportunity for Indian suppliers of both raw materials as well as manufactured goods. As seen from the above statistics there are trade opportunities in cotton based products in the made-ups category.

A summary of the top HS items of cotton textiles imported by Brazil from the world and India is given in Table 2 (see box at the bottom of page 10 for table links).

Opportunities also lie in luxury & branded products mainly in Children’s wear, Mid to high casual wear and denim and for Work wear for men and women.

But it must also be emphasized that China, Vietnam and Indonesia are fast expanding their footprints in the Brazilian market by offering very competitive prices in textile products.
Join Us... as TEXPROCIL takes yet another step to bolster India’s domestic & international trade in cotton & cotton textiles!!

TEXPROCIL ‘Marketplace’ - the newest section being introduced on the Council’s website (www.texprocil.org) will facilitate online generation of buyer leads and B2B business. The platform will act as ‘Vocal for Local’ and enlist the companies interested in obtaining a global exposure to promote their businesses, products & services to worldwide buyers.

Online Marketplace will include a searchable company listing on Texprocil’s website along with facility for the listed companies to upload their contact details, business & product information with photographs.

TEXPROCIL ‘Marketplace’ will be popularised across the global textile industry using digital communication means. Prospective Buyers will be able to view your product profile, business details and communicate directly with your company. The facility thus ensures that you don’t miss out on any enquiries for your products & services.

TEXPROCIL ‘Marketplace’
A Global Opportunity !

- The website (www.texprocil.org) attracts 40,000 visitors annually
- B2B Platform for Direct Sourcing
- An Online B2B virtual platform of listed sellers with photographs
- Includes Customised Search

STANDARD Package
(INR 6,000/- + GST 18% = INR 7,080/- per annum)

- Secured Login (Login name & password provided)
- Directory Listing (Profile page as per user choice)
- Name / Email / Contact Number
- Profile with Images
- Featured area highlighting special product / services
- Social Media Links, Google Map
- Booking any Online Meeting Request
- Enquiry Form for connecting with User

GOLD Package
(INR 9,600/- + GST 18% = INR 11,328/- per annum)

- All inclusions as listed in Standard Package
- Preferential access in the product search by the Buyers
- Corporate Video / Promo Film as additional feature

Inviting you to Register your Company at the earliest & avail of the benefits presented by TEXPROCIL ‘Marketplace’

For further Assistance Email: mktg@texprocil.org
Whatsapp: +91-9152009163
An overview
The facility of the Advance Authorization Scheme can be used by textile exporters if they use imported inputs in the manufacture of export products. The scheme can be used by the exporters of Yarn, Fabrics and Made ups (including home textiles).

Scheme
Advance Authorization Scheme allows duty free import of inputs for production of export products. In addition, fuel, oil, catalyst which is consumed / utilized in the process of production of export product can also be imported duty free.

Duty Exemption
Duty Exemptions are allowed by the Customs department against valid Advance Authorisations issued by the Regional offices of DGFT based on applications filed online by the exporters.

Relevance of the Advance Authorisation scheme to exporters of Cotton Yarn
The Union Budget for 2021-22 has imposed a Basic Customs Duty (BCD) of 5% and an AIDC (Agricultural Infrastructure and Development cess) of 5%. In addition, there is a SWS (Social Welfare Surcharge) of 10% on the aggregate of BCD Plus AIDC. If Cotton Yarn is imported against an Advance Authorisation, BCD, AIDC and SWS are exempted (effectively zero customs duty).

Details of Duties exempted
Imports under Advance Authorisation are exempted from the payment of all types of Customs duties including IGST, Compensation Cess and AIDC. Pre-import condition to avail exemption from IGST and Compensation Cess for imports under Advance Authorisation has been removed.

Value Addition
Minimum value addition required to be achieved under Advance Authorisation is 15%.

Eligibility
Manufacturer Exporters and Merchant Exporters with Supporting Manufacturers are eligible to avail the benefit of the Advance Authorization Scheme.

Options available to an Advance Authorization holder
An Advance Authorization holder got an option to export first (before effecting imports) by using imported inputs / indigenously procured inputs. Alternatively, the Authorization holder can import first and then export the resultant products.

Non-transferability of Advance Authorizations
Advance Authorisation as well as material imported under Advance Authorisation cannot be transferred even after the completion of export obligation. However, the finished products manufactured out of duty free inputs can be sold in the domestic market by the Authorisation holder after the fulfilment of the export obligation.

Admissibility of Drawback
Exports against Advance Authorizations are not eligible for the All Industry Rates of Duty Drawback. However, there is a provision for refund of the duties paid on imported or indigenous inputs used in the export product through the Brand Rate mechanism in terms of the Rules framed by the Department of Revenue.

Execution of Bond / LUT
The Advance Authorization Holder is required to execute a Bond / LUT with the Regional Authority and also with the Customs before the clearance of the first consignment against the Authorization. If the Export obligation have been completed before imports, then the RA gives a Bond Waiver to the Authorization holder.

Validity period for import and Revalidation of Authorisation
Validity of an Advance Authorisation for imports is 12 months from the date of issue of the Authorisation. There is a provision for two revalidations of six months subject to the prescribed conditions in this regard.

Export Obligation (EO) Period and its Extension
The Export Obligation must be completed within a period of 18 months from the date of issue of Authorisation. There is a provision for two extensions of six months each subject to the payment of the prescribed composition fees.

Redemption / Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC)
After the completion of exports and imports, the Authorisation holder should submit online application for EODC / Redemption. If the Export Obligation has been fulfilled, the Regional Authority would issue the EODC / Redemption Certificate to Authorisation holder.

Regularisation of Bona fide Default
In case of shortfall in the fulfilment of the prescribed export obligation, such shortfall need to be regularized by paying customs duty with interest by following the procedure as laid down by the Hand Book of Procedure.

Advisories to the Exporters operating under the Advance Authorization Scheme
For smooth operation under the scheme, exporters are advised as follows:
(i) The Advance Authorization No. and date must be mentioned on all the shipping bills related to the export obligation.
(ii) The description of the export product on the shipping bills related to the export obligations should tally with the description of the export product mentioned on the Advance Authorization.
(iii) The description of the inputs used in the export products must be mentioned on the relevant shipping bills related to the export obligation. The description of the inputs must match with the description on the relevant Bill of Entry. 

( For any clarifications on the Advance Authorisation Scheme please contact TEXPROCIL on email: ravikumar@texprocil.org )

:: TEXPROCIL ::
**Trade Notice**

**DGFT ‘COVID-19 Helpdesk’ for 'International Trade related Issues’**

*Dear Members,*

DGFT has put in place a ‘COVID-19 Helpdesk’ to support and seek suitable resolutions to issues arising in respect of International Trade. DGFT has issued Trade Notice No. 02 / 2021-22 dated April 26, 2021 in this regard.

As per the Trade Notice, Exporters, Importers and other stakeholders can submit information in the ‘COVID-19 Helpdesk’ on issues related to the Department of Commerce/DGFT, Import and Export Licensing Issues, Customs clearance delays and complexities arising thereon, Import/Export documentation issues, Banking matters etc.

Helpdesk would also collect and collate trade related issues concerning other Ministries/Departments/Agencies of Central Government and State Governments and will co-ordinate to seek their support and provide possible resolution(s).

The copy of DGFT Trade Notice No. 02/2021-22 dated April 26, 2021, is circulated by TEXPROCIL vide EServe No. 32 Dated April 26, 2021 ([click here](https://www.texprocil.org)). The process to be followed to submit the information have been specified in the Trade Notice.

You are requested to please take a note of the above and do the needful.

*Regards,*

Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal  
Executive Director | TEXPROCIL

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**Advertisement Package for promoting products and solutions in the E-publications of TEXPROCIL**

*Dear Madam/Sir,*

As a part of TEXPROCIL’s knowledge sharing initiatives, the Council is coming up regularly with various E-publications. The circulation of these publications, averaging to over 3000 avid readers, includes the Council’s strong database of 2,000 nos. membership comprising manufacturers, exporters, traders of Indian cotton fibre, yarn, fabrics and madeups range of products. The readership database also includes the contacts of textiles trade associations, government representatives, foreign missions, etc. which are being updated from time to time.

The Council has planned to offer an ‘Advertisement Package’ for the various E-publications with a view to enhance the exposure of products and solutions being offered by various entities. We request you to kindly consider the advertisement opportunity as per details attached.

E-publication details are as follows:

1. **E-Newsletter** – Published every fortnight – Launch of New Volume in the last fortnight of January 2021.

2. **IBTEX** – Published daily – Includes news clippings on articles of interest in T&C appearing in various publications.

Advertisement Package details are given below this column.

For further clarifications you may like to advise your office to kindly write to Mr. Rakesh Chinthal, IT Officer / Mr. Rajesh Satam, Joint Director on email: [rakesh@texprocil.org](mailto:rakesh@texprocil.org) / [rajesh@texprocil.org](mailto:rajesh@texprocil.org).

For queries related to booking your advertisement kindly write to Mrs. Mrunal Sawant on email: [mrunal@texprocil.org](mailto:mrunal@texprocil.org).

We look forward to receiving your enquiries / confirmation for availing the advertisement opportunity in E-publications of TEXPROCIL.

*Regards,*

Dr. Siddhartha Rajagopal  
Executive Director  
:: TEXPROCIL ::

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| **ADVERTISEMENT PACKAGE**  
For Advertisement in TEXPROCIL E-PUBLICATIONS |
<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TEXPROCIL E-NEWSLETTER (FORTNIGHTLY)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ad. Option</strong></td>
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<td>Double Spread</td>
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<th><strong>IBTEX E-NEWS CLIPPINGS (DAILY)</strong></th>
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<td>Click-on-Logo</td>
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For more information please contact:

Rajesh Satam,  
Joint Director  
The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council  
5th floor, Engineering Centre, 9, Mathew Road, Mumbai – 400 004 India  
T: 91-22- 49444000  
F: 91-22-23632914  
Email: rajesh@texprocil.org  
Website: [www.texprocil.org](http://www.texprocil.org)
Dear Member,

Kindly fill in your complete information below and respond to the questions below by tick (√) marking appropriate response in the space provided or with suggestions in brief wherever necessary. We value your association with us and prompt feedback.

**COMPANY INFORMATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Company</th>
<th>:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contact Person &amp; Designation</td>
<td>:</td>
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<tr>
<td>TEXPROCIL Membership (RCMC) No.</td>
<td>:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Address &amp; Website</td>
<td>:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1) Kindly rate the following services offered by Texprocil on rating of 1 to 5. in order to serve you still better.*

   1 = Excellent, 2 = Good, 3 = Satisfactory, 4 = Needs Improvement, 5 = Not Availed (N.A.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Rate Here</th>
<th>Trade Development Rate Here</th>
<th>Trade Promotion Rate Here</th>
<th>Trade Services Rate Here</th>
<th>Membership Renewal Rate Here</th>
<th>Trade Development Rate Here</th>
<th>Trade Promotion Rate Here</th>
<th>Trade Services Rate Here</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Procedure for New Membership</td>
<td>Publication: E-Newsletter</td>
<td>Int'l. Fairs &amp; Events</td>
<td>Certificate of Origin</td>
<td>Interactive Website</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Renewal</td>
<td>E-serve</td>
<td>Seminars &amp; Workshops</td>
<td>Grievance Redressal Services</td>
<td>E-News Clippings</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCMC Amendment</td>
<td>Circulation</td>
<td>Trade Enquiries/ Award</td>
<td>MDA/MAI Schemes</td>
<td>Information on Exim policy/ Amendment DBK</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2) a. Are you generally satisfied with the services actively availed by your company and marked above? Tick (√)

   YES ☑ NO ☐

   b. If you have replied ‘no’ above, please suggest how the Council can improve the services (use additional sheet if required)

   Suggestions:

3) How is your company benefitting from the Exhibitions / BSMs being organized by the Council? Tick (√)

   Accessing new Markets ☐ Generating additional business ☐
   Making new Contacts (Trade Enquiries) ☐ Any Others ☐

   Others (Pls. Specify):

4) How is your company benefitting from the Export Facilitation services being provided by the Council?

   Information on Export Policy / Procedures ☐ Responses to various EXIM queries ☐
   Redressal of Trade related grievances ☐ Any Others ☐

   Others (Pls. Specify):

5) Have you recommended TEXPROCIL Membership to other companies? Tick (√)

   YES ☑ NO ☐

6) Do you have any other suggestions to offer regarding TEXPROCIL Member Services? (use additional sheet if required)

   Suggestions:

*Kindly ignore this feedback form, if you have already responded.
TRADE NOTIFICATION

TEXPROCIL MEMBERSHIP
Annual Renewal Subscription

The Annual Renewal Subscription for the financial year 2021-22 has become due for payment from 1st April 2021. The Annual Renewal Subscription charges are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Membership</th>
<th>Amount (Rs.)</th>
<th>GST @ 18%</th>
<th>Total Amount (Rs.)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member (with Voting Right)</td>
<td>11000/-</td>
<td>1980/-</td>
<td>12980/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Textile Exporter</td>
<td>6000/-</td>
<td>1080/-</td>
<td>7080/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We would request you to kindly renew your membership by sending us the Annual subscription for the year 2021-2022 by way of Multicity cheque or Demand Draft in favour of ‘The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council’ payable at Mumbai or by Neft Transfer as per below bank details:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Name</th>
<th>The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank</td>
<td>Axis Bank Ltd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branch</td>
<td>Charni Road Branch, Mumbai-400004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Account No.</td>
<td>920010074659407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFSC Code</td>
<td>UTIB0002274</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

After transferring the payment, send the details of online payment along with a scanned copy of Bank Payment Advice by Email in the following format on: smita@texprocil.org

Renewal of RCMC

On expiry of Registration-Cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) on or before 31.03.2021, following steps to be followed:

1. Upload self-attested scanned copies of the following documents online on TEXPROCIL’s website (www.texprocil.org) through Member login and send a renewal request by Email on the Email ID smita@texprocil.org (In case the RCMC has expired):
   [1] Copy of your Import-Exporter Code (IEC)
   [2] In case of Manufacturer Exporter, a copy of Manufacturing Licence (MSME/SIA)
   [3] In case of changes in Partners, a copy of revised deed of partnership
   [4] In case of changes in Directors, a copy of DIR-12 or Board Resolution for those who have resigned or newly appointed.
   [5] Copy of old RCMC
   [6] Copy of GST Registration Certificate (if not submitted earlier)
   [7] Payment advice of Annual Subscription for the year 2021-2022

Alternatively, send self-attested scanned copies of the above documents by Email on: smita@texprocil.org

We solicit your support and co-operation in the matter and request you to please renew your membership with the Council at the earliest. This will also enable you to avail of uninterrupted benefits under the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 which has now been extended till September 30, 2021.

:: TEXPROCIL ::