Dear Friends,

The last fortnight of January saw the release of the Annual Economic Survey as a run up to the Union Budget for the F.Y. 2018-19 which was presented on 1st February, 2018. The Economic Survey pointed to an accelerated GDP growth in the coming year clearly emphasizing the need to focus on the two sustainable engines propelling growth viz. private investment and exports.

The Union Budget 2018-19 presented by Shri Arun Jaitley, Hon’ble Finance Minister is pragmatic, growth oriented and all-inclusive in our opinion. The Budget has increased the financial outlay under the comprehensive textile sector package for apparel and made ups from Rs. 6000 crore to Rs.7148 crore. Also the funds allocation under the TUF Scheme have been increased from Rs.2013 crores in 2017-18 to Rs. 2300 for 2018-19. These measures will certainly go a long way in increasing the exports and production, besides strengthening the confidence of the exporting community.

On the export promotion front the Council successfully organized participation in COLOMBIATEX, Medellin, Colombia from 23-25 January. Colombiatex is the largest fair in South America for ‘Fibre to Fashion’, encompassing the entire Textile value chain, attracting buyers from all over LAC region to source their requirement of Textile. The Council organised group participation of its members to take advantage of this event to gain further access into the Colombian market and the LAC region.

Economic Survey

A flagship annual document of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, the Annual Economic Survey reviews the developments in the Indian economy over the previous 12 months, summarizes the performance on major development programs, and highlights the policy initiatives of the government and the prospects of the economy in the short to medium term. Economic Survey 2018-19 expects FY19 growth to be 7-7.5 percent vs 6.75 percent for FY18. Remarkably the Survey has stated that the biggest source of upside potential is the export sector. After remaining in negative territory for a couple of years, growth of exports rebounded into positive one during 2016-17 and are expected to grow faster in 2017-18. On the flip side, however, on account of higher expected increase in imports, net exports of goods and services are slated to decline in 2017-18. The Survey also highlighted that Rebate of State Levies (ROSL) has increased exports of readymade garments (man-made fibers) by about 16 per cent but not of the others.

Further, the Survey highlighted that India has jumped 30 places to break into the top 100 for the first time in the World Bank’s ‘Ease of Doing Business’ ranking. With regard to global challenges, the Survey expressed concerns about growing protectionist tendencies in some countries, but it remains to be seen as to how the situation unfolds.
Union Budget 2018-19
The Union Budget 2018-19 has made the mandatory allocations towards previously announced schemes; interest equalization (Rs. 2,500 cr), Textiles Upgradation Fund (Rs. 2,300 cr), Refund of State Levies (Rs. 2,164 cr). The extension of Sec 80 JJA to other labour intensive industries like leather/footwear is a good step — the rationalization of the 150 day rule is welcome; the reduction of corporate tax to 25% where company turnover is less than Rs. 250 crores is also welcomed by the textile industry at large, where over 90% are in the MSME sector and below this turnover level.

We also appreciate the Finance Minister’s incentive to encourage participation of women in formal sector employment by reducing their PF contribution to 8% (for the first 3 years of employment) — again of special importance to our industry which employs a high percentage of women.

While the recent Economic Survey had stressed that the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council should comprehensively review ‘embedded taxes’ and expeditiously eliminate them along with the taxes that get blocked because of tax inversion in order to boost India’s manufacturing exports, however, much to the expectations of the exporting community, this most important policy change did not find a mention in the Budget.

We have, on our part, urged the Government to cover fabrics in the ROSL Scheme and also include cotton yarn in the MEIS Schemes. Colombia accounts for 5.87% of imports of Cotton Textiles in the LAC region. India is the 2nd largest supplier of Cotton Textiles with a share of 20.24%. It may be noted that, Colombia imported US$ 2.03 Billion worth of Textile & Clothing, of which import of Cotton Textiles was US$ 494 million in the year 2015-2016. Cotton Fabrics dominate the import market with a share of 64% followed by Yarn and Made-ups. In order to further tap the potential for trade in this market, the Council successfully organized participation in ColombiaTex, Medellin, Colombia from 23-25 January.

The report suggests that there was very good demand for Denims (including Printed & Stretched) Knitted Fabrics, Fine Count Yarns, Fashion Fabrics. We need to continue our engagement with the Colombian market and in fact the entire LAC region.

Other Promotional Events
Further, as part of our strategy to engage deeper with the other markets, the Council is also participating in the prestigious Premier Vision Fair, Paris (February 13-15) for the first time. Around 26 Indian companies manufacturing Yarn, Fabrics and Accessories have been selected to participate in this event.

This apart the Council is also organizing participation in the Preview in DAEGU fair, South Korea (March 7-9) and Cairo Fashion Tex fair, Cairo (March 8-10). Members should consider participating in these events in large numbers as good opportunities are discernible in these markets for Yarns & Fabrics.

Summing Up
Friends, a number of opportunities are opening up for our export products and we should make all out efforts to make the most of them. There are some policy areas where we do need support and we are confident of getting it as we redouble our efforts to overcome some of the challenges which have arisen on account of various factors.

Exporters are gradually adapting to the GST regime. After the implementation of Goods & Service Tax (GST) it was feared that locally manufactured fabrics will be costlier in comparison with the imported fabrics, and hence the demand to curb imports of fabrics was reiterated. Government has been supportive of the industry’s demands and has increased basic customs duty in this Union Budget on the import of silk fabrics and cotton quilts (HS 9404). The surcharge on imports has also been increased to 10 per cent from the earlier 3 per cent.

Friends, according to the IMF’s January update of the World Economic Outlook, the global economy is all set to record its best growth rate in seven years in 2018 following a pick-up since mid-2016. To take advantage of the recovering world economy what India needs is to plug-in this growth trajectory by developing strategies that can help the country sustain regional and global growth and secure it’s position amongst the fastest growing major economies in the World in the coming years.

Towards achieving this, we need exports to grow at the rate of 15 per cent for which the Government must — refund embedded taxes, streamline procedure for refunds, extend ROSL to Fabrics, give MEIS to Yarn along with the interest subvention, and ensure that price of Cotton remains stable and is not distorted by new formulae for MSP announced in the Budget.

Ujwal R Lahoti
Chairman
:: TEXPROCIL ::
Brief description of the event

January 2018 edition of Colombiatex was spread over approximately 12,000 sq mtrs floor area & it is a B2B event for textile producers and distributors for textile, clothing, textile machinery, equipment and textile designs. This is the largest Textile Fair in the entire Latin American Region, mainly for promoting textile products from the Central and South American countries. India is the only Asian country allowed to participate with sizeable number of exhibitors. Importers of Textiles from all over the American continent visits this Fair to source their requirement.

Exhibitor Profile

In the 2018 edition, over 530 exhibitors from 18 countries in the following product categories participated:

- Textile Fibers
- Cotton Yarn
- Spun Yarn
- Shirting Fabrics
- Denims
- Supplies for the Textile Industry
- Machinery and Equipment

Visitor Profile

Manufacturers of Clothing, Fabric Manufacturers, Private Label, Textile Retailers and Wholesalers, Garment Retailers and Wholesalers, Trading Companies, Agents, Designers, Buying Offices, Sales Representatives. Approximately 18,500 visitors from all over Colombia and other Latin American countries attended the three day event.

Purpose of participation at this event (with anticipated outcome):

- It is the largest and most comprehensive show for the textile sector in the LAC Region.
- It is the perfect opportunity to develop business relationship with national and international companies, importers, sales representatives and strategic partner.
- It is the perfect event to renew existing contacts and meet new buyers to discover needs of the market.

Details of Indian participants

(i) Number of participants: 38 companies through Texprocil and 5 companies directly.

(ii) Product profile of Indian exhibitors include: cotton and synthetic yarns, shirting fabrics, suiting, denim, grey fabrics, knits, prints etc.

This is one of the MAI events supported by the Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Commerce and the Embassy of India in Colombia.
Profile of Buyers/visitors at India Pavilion

Visitors to India pavilion include direct importers of textiles, agents representing sourcing requirement of weaving, knitting and garmenting companies. Apart from Colombian companies, a large number of visitors from Guatemala, Ecuador, Venezuela, Brazil, Portugal, Spain, USA, Canada and Peru also met the Indian exhibitors.

Pre and post event Publicity

Texprocil and the Indian Embassy undertook an extensive publicity publisizing participation of Indian exhibitors at ColombiaTex by means of:

- E-mail blasts to importers
- Tele-marketing
- Social media, such as Facebook and Twitter
- Press release with the help of the Organisers of the Fair

Branding of India Pavilion

Focused and targeted branding efforts were undertaken with MoT approved tag line “Incredible Textile of India” at each of the stands of Indian exhibitors and banners at strategic points at the Venue.

Trend Forum at ColombiaTex

One of the fringe programs at ColombiaTex was Trend Forum, in which sample swatches of 10 Indian exhibitors were accepted for display. Many designers and importers browsed through swatches at Trend Forum, noted down supplier details and met with exhibitors of the product of their interest, thereby increasing visibility for Indian products and exhibitors.

Visit of Indian Ambassador

H.E. Shri Ravi Bangar, Ambassador of India to Colombia visited the Fair and interacted with each of the Indian exhibitors and discussed concerted strategy to be adopted by the Indian exhibitors in increasing their export to LAC region and in particular to Colombia. During discussion with the Organisers of the Fair, he made a request to consider more space allocation for India pavilion in the forthcoming editions and also to undertake value added services, such as, B2B business matchmaking program exclusively to the Indian exhibitors.

Interaction with Press / Media personnel

A large number of Colombian Press /Media personnel interacted with H. E. Shri Ravi Bangar, Ambassador of India to Colombia and explained them about the strengths of Indian Textile sector, importance of LAC market and in particular Colombian market for Indian textile suppliers, opportunities for mutual business prospect etc. He also emphasized on vast opportunity in exploring Indian market for the Colombian companies.

Minimum import price stipulated by Colombian authority on import of certain varieties of T & C products

The Colombian government, vide notification dated 27th December 2017 has imposed Minimum Import Price on import of cotton yarn, cotton fabrics, denims, knitted fabrics, synthetic fabrics, staple fibres, filaments, home textiles and apparel, irrespective of country of origin. Purpose of imposing Minimum Import Price was mainly to combat undervalued import, in particular from China as well as to counter money laundering by trading companies.

Even though importers opined that the Minimum Import Price is close to present market prices, the major hindrance is extra documentation involved for imports.

Market potential for T & C products in Colombia

In the year 2016-17, Colombia imported US$ 1.89 billion worth of T & C, as indicated in Table below and import from India was valued at US$ 177.12 million (9.37%). India is the largest supplier of Cotton Yarn to Colombia.
Top 10 suppliers of Textile & Clothing to Colombia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year Ending March</th>
<th>Year To Date (April - November)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>2,483.75</td>
<td>2,030.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1,034.57</td>
<td>841.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>234.72</td>
<td>181.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>197.06</td>
<td>186.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>99.35</td>
<td>61.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>96.62</td>
<td>74.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>72.97</td>
<td>59.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>71.18</td>
<td>46.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>56.98</td>
<td>42.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>46.31</td>
<td>45.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>43.10</td>
<td>27.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source of Data: Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales de Colombia – DIAN

India is the 2nd largest supplier of T & C to Colombia for the period April – November 2017, with a market share of 8.68 %. However there is an overall decline of 0.57% in the total import of T & C into Colombia and import from India also declined by 11 % during this period.

Colombian Peso has depreciated by 5% against US$ over the past one year resulting in imports becoming expensive. It has been reported by the importers that the Duty paid price of some varieties of grey fabrics & denim fabrics is at par or slightly lower than domestic prices thereby prompting higher levels of consumption of imported fabrics for domestic consumption also.

While discussing with visitors, it was observed that there is a growing negative sentiment in the entire LAC region against growing import from China thereby hurting the domestic manufacturers, not only in textile but all types of products.

Feedback from Indian exhibitors

- There was an increase in overall trade enquiries over the previous years.
- More number of small quantity buyers of denim fabrics have shown keen interest to source from India.
- Large volume importers were keen to reduce their dependence on China and start sourcing more from Indian suppliers.
- Some of the Indian exhibitors were able to book orders on the spot with top three importers of shirting fabrics in Colombia.
- There is an increasing demand for cotton yarn for knitting and weaving in Colombia and Peru.

Conclusion

- This is one of the Fairs in the world restricting participation of Asian exhibitors, in particular, China, fearing intense competition to the domestic manufacturers. Indian exhibitors need to be careful to avoid comparison with Chinese suppliers.
- There is an increasing demand for cotton yarns, synthetic yarns, shirting fabrics and denims.
- It is important to maintain continuity in showcasing presence of Indian companies at this Fair in coming years with a clear objective of complementing each other’s strengths.
- In the present market condition, it will be beneficial to organize more number of export promotion programs in LAC region in addition to participation in ColombiaTex.
The Union Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley announced the Union Budget for 2018-19 today.

Welcoming the Budget, Shri Ujwal Lahoti, Chairman of The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL) said, “the Budget is pragmatic, growth oriented and all inclusive”.

The Government had approved a comprehensive textile sector package of Rs. 6000 crore in 2016 to boost the apparel and made-up segments. The budget has provided an outlay of Rs. 7148 crore for the textile sector in 2018-19. Shri Lahoti expressed hope that the increased funds allocated for the textile sector will cover fabrics also under the ROSL scheme.

The budget has increased the financial outlay under the comprehensive textile sector package for apparel and made-ups from Rs. 6000 crore to Rs. 7148 crore. This will promote exports and production in the two labour intensive sectors, according to Shri Lahoti.

The government will contribute 12% of the wages of the new employees in the EPF for all the sectors for next three years. Also, the facility of fixed term employment will be extended to all sectors. Shri Lahoti said, these measures will lead to employment generation and contribute significantly towards “Make in India”.

To incentivize employment of more women in the formal sector and to enable higher take-home wages, the Budget has proposed to make amendments in the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 to reduce women employees’ contribution to 8% for first three years of their employment against existing rate of 12% or 10% with no change in employers’ contribution. Shri Ujwal Lahoti welcomed this measure as it will lead to employment opportunities for women in the textiles sector especially in the value added segments like garments and made-ups.

The budget has increased the funds allocation under the TUF Scheme from Rs. 2013 crores in 2017-18 to Rs. 2300 crores for 2018-19. This is a positive step and will help in clearing some of the committed liabilities under the TUF Scheme, according to the Chairman, TEXPROCIL.

The increased budget allocation for infrastructural developments and the encouragement provided to organize farming in the Budget are all steps in the right direction, according to the Chairman, TEXPROCIL.

However, to promote exports of cotton textiles, the Chairman TEXPROCIL urged the government to cover yarn and fabrics under the MEIS and ROSL schemes respectively.

:: TEXPROCIL ::

Highlights : Economic Survey 2018

The Hon’ble Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley has tabled the Economic Survey 2018 in Parliament on January 29, 2018. Some of the highlights of the Economic Survey are enclosed below:

- Economic Survey expects FY19 growth to be 7-7.5 percent vs 6.75 percent for FY18.
- The Economic Survey has called the prevailing high oil prices are a matter of concern.
- Foreign exchange reserves grew by 14.1% on a year-on-year basis from end of Dec 2016 to end of Dec 2017.
- The biggest source of upside potential is the exports sector, the Economic Survey states.
- After remaining in negative territory for a couple of years, growth of exports rebounded into positive one during 2016-17 and expected to grow faster in 2017-18.
- Due to higher expected increase in imports, net exports of goods and services are slated to decline in 2017-18.
- The Economic Survey says economy management is likely to be challenging in FY19.
- Top one per cent of Indian firms account for only 38% of exports unlike in other countries where they account for substantially greater. 
- Rebate of State Levies (ROSL) has increased exports of readymade garments (man-made fibers) by about 16 per cent but not of others.
- Five States — Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Telangana — account for 70% of India’s exports.
- A preliminary analysis of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) data reveals that there has been a 50% increase in the number of indirect taxpayers, besides a large increase in voluntary registrations, especially by small enterprises that buy from large enterprises and want to avail themselves of Input Tax Credits (ITC).
- Indian logistics industry worth around $ 160 billion has grown at a CAGR of 7.8% during last five years.
- India jumped 30 places to break into the top 100 for the first time in the World Bank’s Ease of Doing Business ranking, but it continues to lag on the indicator on enforcing contracts, marginally improving its position from 172 to 164 in the latest report.
- Concerns have been expressed about growing protectionist tendencies in some countries, but it remains to be seen as to how the situation unfolds.

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

| Membership Services | Rate Here | Trade Development | Rate Here | Trade Promotion | Rate Here | Trade Services | Rate Here | Trade Intelligence | Rate Here | Trade Int. | |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------| |
| Procedure for New Membership | | Publication: E-Newsletter | | | | Certificates of Origin | | Interactive Website | | | |
| Membership Renewal | | E-serve | | Seminars & Workshops | | Grievance Redressal Services | | E-News Clippings | | | |
| RCMC Amendment | | Circulation | | Trade Enquiries/ Award | | MDA/MAI Schemes | | Information on Exim policy/Amendment DBK | | Information Disseminated | |

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

   YES [ ] NO [ ]

   **Suggestions:**

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

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.

Join Us... Now! Avail info. on Membership Benefits on email: info@texprocil.org
The Registration as well as Renewal fees for membership of the Council has been revised w.e.f. 01.04.2017.

Accordingly New Registration Fee Structure is as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Membership</th>
<th>Amount (Rs.)</th>
<th>GST @ 18%</th>
<th>Total Amount (Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member (with Voting Right) (including Rs.6000/- as Entrance Fee)</td>
<td>17000/-</td>
<td>3060/-</td>
<td>20060/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Textile Exporter (including Rs.3000/- as Entrance Fee)</td>
<td>9000/-</td>
<td>1620/-</td>
<td>10620/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Annual Renewal Subscription amount for the financial year 2017-2018 (due from 1st April, 2017) is as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Membership</th>
<th>Amount (Rs.)</th>
<th>GST @ 18%</th>
<th>Total Amount (Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</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>

Note for Members:

Members are also requested to submit the CA Certificate as per the format given below certifying the Export Turnover for F.Y. 2015-2016 & F.Y. 2016-2017 i.e. the amount of actual FOB value of exports of Cotton Textiles excluding Readymade Garments and Handloom Textiles.

Members may note that the eligibility criterion of annual export turnover is minimum Rs. 2 Crore. Those not fulfilling the criteria will automatically be renewed as RTE i.e. Registered Textile Exporter.

RTEs are not required to submit the CA certificate.

Format of Chartered Accountant Certificate to be submitted by Members only:

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT CERTIFICATE
(on C.A.’s Letter Head)
TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that M/s. _____________________________________ (Name and full address of the Member) having IE code No. __________________ have exported Cotton / Cotton Yarn / Cotton Fabrics / Cotton Madeups (Excluding Handloom Items / Readymade Garments and Silks, etc.) during the financial year 2015-2016 & 2016-2017 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2016-2017 (Rs. FOB Value)</th>
<th>2015-2016 (Rs. FOB Value)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cotton Yarn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cotton Fabrics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Cotton Made-ups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Stamp & Signature of Chartered Accountant)
(Membership No. of Chartered Accountant)
(Firm Registration No. of Chartered Accountant)

PLACE:
DATE:

Note to Members & RTEs whose RCMC has expired on/before 31.03.2017:
Please apply immediately for renewal of RCMC with the following documents:
[1] Copy of your Import-Exporter Code (IEC)
[2] In case of Manufacturer Exporter, a copy of Manufacturing Licence
[3] In case of changes in Partners, a copy of revised deed of partnership
[4] In case of changes in Directors, a copy of Form 32/DIR-2 or Board Resolution for those who have resigned or newly appointed.

(For any further queries please write to Mrs. Smita Dalvi on email : smita@texprocil.org)