

IBTEX No. 81 of 2023

May 3, 2023

CLICK HERE CLICK HERE CLICK HERE CLICK HERE CLICK HERE CLICK HERE CLICK HERE CLICK HERE	NEWS CLIPPINGS GB	Currency Watch	
		USD	81.85
		EUR	90.17
		GBP	102.19
		JPY	0.60

	INTERNATIONAL NEWS		
No	Topics		
1	Global textile-garment unions seek mandatory EU due diligence policy		
2	Turkiye's apparel exports rise slightly in Jan-Mar 2023		
3	US-Kenya announce \$55 mn co-investments in apparel sector at roadshow		
4	Sri Lankan economy to shrink by 2% in 2023, grow by 3.3% in 2024: CBSL		
5	Reserve Bank of Australia increases key interest rate by 25 bps		
6	Pakistan: APTPMA demands continuity of subsidy on Gas/RLNG for textile industry		

DISCLAIMER: The information in this message be privileged. If you have received it by mistake please notify "the sender" by return e-mail and delete the message from "your system". Any unauthorized use or dissemination of this message in whole or in part is strictly prohibited. Any "information" in this message that does not relate to "official business" shall be understood to be neither given nor endorsed by TEXPROCIL - The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council.

NATIONAL NEWS		
No	Topics	
1	India's foreign trade policy offers an export roadmap	
2	Cotton arrivals rising in India, prices likely to drop: ICAC	
3	India's cotton imports from Australia multiply over past year	
4	India amends schedule of RoDTEP; may affect cotton & other T&A items	
5	Govt likely to come up with draft rules on angel tax issues in 7-10 days	
6	Cotton yarn demand remains sluggish in south India; prices down in Mum	
7	Flipkart launches new fulfilment centre in Telangana	





INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Global textile-garment unions seek mandatory EU due diligence policy

Trade union leaders from the textile and garment sector in Cambodia, Myanmar, Bangladesh and Tunisia recently met members of the European Parliament in Brussels and called for mandatory due diligence legislation and Europe's support to prevent Rana Plaza-like disasters in future.

They made three key demands that rely on European action and support: mandatory due diligence legislation that includes access to legal redress; European companies offering living wages throughout their global supply chains; and more brands joining the International Accord to improve workplace safety for garment workers, according to a statement issued by the unions.

The meeting was part of a European advocacy tour calling for mandatory due diligence in the sector and the need for safe factories.

The union leaders also visited the International Labour Organization (ILO) office in Geneva and attended a conference hosted by the German ministry for economic cooperation and development in Berlin.

Accompanied by representatives from the IndustriALL Global Union and IndustriALL Europe, the team included Bangladesh Sammilita Garment Sramik Federation president Nazma Akter, Cambodian Apparel Workers' Democratic Union president Athit Kong, Tunisian Textile, Clothing, Shoes and Leather Federation general secretary Habib Hazami and Industrial Workers Federation of Myanmar president Khaing Zar Aung.

Aung said the European Union's 'MADE in Myanmar' project, while well intentioned to promote decent work, legitimises the military and provides a front for workers' rights violations and that income from the project helps fund the military. Nazma reiterated the need for all brands sourcing from Bangladesh to sign the International Accord.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– April 30, 2023

Turkiye's apparel exports rise slightly in Jan-Mar 2023

Turkiye's apparel exports saw a slight increase of 0.26 per cent year-onyear (YoY) in January-March 2023, bringing the total exports to \$4.916 billion compared to \$4.903 billion during the same period in 2022, as per the Turkish Statistical Institute and the country's ministry of trade. In February 2023, exports experienced a growth of 3.22 per cent, totalling \$1,895.377 million.

Knitted and crocheted clothing and accessories (HS chapter 61) accounted for \$2.625 billion in exports during January-March 2023, a decrease of 3.7 per cent from \$2.625 billion in the same period of the previous year. Meanwhile, non-knitted apparel and accessories (HS chapter 62) were valued at \$2.291 billion, showing an increase of 5.2 per cent compared to \$2.178 billion in exports during January-March 2022.

In March 2023, the latest month for which data is available, Turkiye's total exports of knitted and non-knitted clothing and accessories increased by 3.22 per cent to \$1.895 billion compared to \$1.836 billion in March 2022.

The exports of knitted and crocheted clothing and accessories rose by 1.2 per cent to \$1,003.177 million in March 2023 compared to \$990.938 million during the corresponding period in the previous year.

The shipment of non-knitted apparel and accessories (HS chapter 62) also experienced growth of 5.6 per cent in March, increasing from \$845.225 million in March 2022 to \$892.200 million in March 2023.

Turkiye's apparel exports rose by 6.46 per cent to \$19.475 billion in 2022 compared to \$18.294 billion in 2021.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– May 03, 2023

US-Kenya announce \$55 mn co-investments in apparel sector at roadshow

US Government's Prosper Africa initiative and the US embassy in Kenya kicked off the 2023 US-Kenya Business Roadshow in New York City, which convened leading businesses and investors along with a delegation of Kenyan government officials. As part of the US' commitment to strengthening economic partnership with Kenya, ambassador Meg Whitman announced six new Prosper Africa co-investments with Kenyan and American apparel companies, worth \$55 million.

These co-investments build on the 14 deals announced by Kenyan president, William Ruto, at the American Chamber of Commerce Summit (AMCHAM) in March in Nairobi.

Among the participants were NBA, Mastercard, Copia Global, Equity Bank, The Children's Place, and PVH, which leads iconic clothing brands like Calvin Klein and Tommy Hilfiger, Prosper Africa said in a press release.

The six new co-investments with American and Kenyan apparel companies will create more jobs in Kenya and the US by making it easier to do business together. They include MAS Intimates, which will create jobs in the formal sector and provide training for Kenyan workers to increase production of high-quality Kenyan-made apparel; UAL, which will increase apparel exports to the US market by building a one-stop-shop in Kenya that harmonizes all steps in the production process from 'farm to fashion;' Mega, which will expand the company's production capacity by adding new production lines; Coast Apparel, which will purchase machinery to increase production and export capacity, creating new jobs for women and youth; Best Lifestyle, which will hire and train new employees by expanding its manufacturing in Kenya; and NexGen, which will set up a factory in Kenya to manufacture tags and labels, branding products in apparel and footwear for sale within and outside Africa.

"The US-Kenya partnership is strong, built on sixty years of shared values and interests. Our partnership has enhanced security, increased prosperity, and improved the lives of Kenyans and Americans," said ambassador Whitman.

HOME

"Prosper Africa is proud to connect US buyers with African suppliers and drive US investment into Kenya and countries across Africa," said Prosper Africa acting coordinator Scott Cameron. "Together, we are creating jobs and fostering shared prosperity on both sides of the Atlantic."

Source: fibre2fashion.com- May 02, 2023

www.texprocil.org

Sri Lankan economy to shrink by 2% in 2023, grow by 3.3% in 2024: CBSL

'Several inherent weaknesses' and 'policy lapses' helped trigger the severe economic problems that engulfed Sri Lanka, the country's central bank said in its annual report released recently. The economy will shrink by 2 per cent this year, but expand by 3.3 per cent in 2024, it projected.

The prediction is more optimistic than the International Monetary Fund's prediction of a contraction in 2023 of around 3 per cent and growth of 1.5 per cent next year.

"Although the corrective measures affected the vast citizenry in the near term, they were necessary to safeguard the economy and economic agents from potentially devastating consequences of unrestrained economic instability, such as hyperinflation, collapse of economic activity to a much deeper level, and a complete disconnect of the country from the rest of the world, with far worse consequences to the people and businesses," the report by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) noted.

However, debt restructuring could pose near-term challenges in the financial sector that need to be addressed proactively by the government and the central bank, it said.

The envisaged normalisation of foreign exchange flows and the completion of the debt restructuring process during 2023, and the sweeping reforms in the public sector, are expected to pave way for the country's progress towards improved and sustainable economic prospects, it added.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– May 02, 2023

Reserve Bank of Australia increases key interest rate by 25 bps

The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) has announced an increase in the cash rate target by 25 basis points (bps) to 3.85 per cent. This move comes after the RBA held interest rates steady last month to assess the state of the economy and the outlook. It has also increased the rate paid on Exchange Settlement balances by 25 basis points to 3.75 per cent.

Inflation in Australia, currently at 7 per cent, has passed its peak but remains too high, and the RBA has judged that a further increase in interest rates is warranted to return inflation to its target range within a reasonable timeframe.

While goods price inflation is slowing due to a better balance of supply and demand following pandemic disruptions, services price inflation remains high, and unit labour costs are rising, with productivity growth remaining subdued. The labour market remains very tight, with the unemployment rate at a near 50-year low. However, many firms continue to experience difficulty hiring workers, although there has been some easing in labour shortages and the number of vacancies has declined a little.

"The Board's priority remains to return inflation to target. High inflation makes life difficult for people and damages the functioning of the economy. And if high inflation were to become entrenched in people's expectations, it would be very costly to reduce later, involving even higher interest rates and a larger rise in unemployment. Medium-term inflation expectations remain well anchored, and it is important that this remains the case. Today's further adjustment in interest rates will help in this regard," Philip Lowe, governor of RBA, said in a statement.

The RBA has stated that some further tightening of monetary policy may be required to ensure that inflation returns to its target range in a reasonable timeframe.

Source: fibre2fashion.com– May 02, 2023

HOME



Pakistan: APTPMA demands continuity of subsidy on Gas/RLNG for textile industry

All Pakistan Textile Processing Mills Association (APTPMA) has demanded continuity of subsidy on Gas/RLNG for export-oriented textile industry which is already facing multifaceted challenges.

Chairman APTPMA Muhammad Pervez Lala in a statement here on Tuesday said that it was hard fact that textile industry was backbone of the national economy but it was running at very low capacity due to high input cost.

When the government had allocated subsidy on supply of Gas/RLNG to five export-oriented sectors for Fiscal Year 2022-23, this industry took a sigh of relief, but now sudden withdrawal of this subsidy would aggravate the situation and push this sector at verge of total collapse, he added. He said that sudden withdrawal of subsidy on Gas/RLNG for textile industry would affect national export drive.

He said that the government should take immediate notice of this withdrawal and issue necessary directions to the quarters concerned for continuity of this subsidy in greater national interest. He further said that sudden withdrawal of subsidy had created panic amongst the textile sectors. He demanded continuity of subsidy on gas/RLNG for textile industry and said that it was imperative to stay in business for enhancing national exports and stabilizing the economy.

Source: dailytimes.com.pk- May 03, 2023

NATIONAL NEWS

India's foreign trade policy offers an export roadmap

The country's newly announced Foreign Trade Policy (FTP 2023), which took effect from 1 April this year, is a testament to the forward thinking and realistic approach of Indian policymakers. Launched with the aim of achieving a goal of \$2 trillion in exports by the end of this decade, it charts a path for international trade as a significant part of India's journey towards becoming a \$5 trillion economy.

The new policy has touched upon various aspects of foreign trade on the basis of developments that have happened over the last eight years. Under the new policy, special emphasis has been given to cross-border trade in digital spheres of economic activity and promoting the ease of doing business, as well as trade facilitation, with needs of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector kept especially in mind.

This policy is expected to have a significant impact on the country's MSMEs, which are set to benefit from several measures aimed at promoting exports. Within the scope of the new trade policy, e-commerce exporters now enjoy all the benefits offered to other exporters by the FTP.

Reduction in fees, inclusion of duty credit scrips, duty exemptions and remission schemes are some of the key provisions under the policy. These would be beneficial to small sellers and MSMEs, as they are aimed at making it easier and affordable for them to engage and operate in overseas markets.

In addition to that, even as the FTP 2023 aims to promote the ease of doing business, it encourages states and districts to address markets abroad and increase their export operations. These steps also make the FTP more dynamic and decentralized, which should create a more conducive ecosystem for the MSME sector to grow and integrate with global value chains.

Dak Ghar Niryat Kendras, which are post offices designated to facilitate exports by MSMEs, have been operationalized to work in tandem with Foreign Post Offices under the FTP 2023. This effort will help simplify logistics, facilitate the MSME sector's cross-border e-commerce thrust and aid small businesses as they aim to reach potential customers in

international markets. To further expand e-commerce exports under the scope of the FTP, the government will be setting up the information technology infrastructure needed to streamline such exports.

At present, the MSME sector faces several challenges in terms of exporting products and penetrating foreign markets. Among these, to name a few, are a lack of awareness about demand patterns in specific foreign markets and low acquaintance with market insights and incentive schemes, apart from relatively weak technology adoption and lack of access to affordable trade finance schemes.

To address these challenges, the government intends to conduct special outreach and training programmes aimed at Indian MSME exporters.

Another key measure introduced under the new foreign trade policy is the setting up of special e-commerce export hubs. These designated hubs will help e-commerce exporters in tackling various logistical costs and challenges, such as custom clearances, processing of returned goods and even warehousing. These special facilities will also allow for various lastmile activities, such as repackaging, labelling and testing, which will in turn reduce logistical costs for Indian exporters.

To promote this cause further, plans to sort out the challenges of inventory held for exports could also be incorporated in the trade policy, as this would help mitigate turnaround delays, apart from reducing logistical and warehousing costs, both of which are critical for Indian competitiveness in markets abroad . It would go well with the policy's broad thrust of creating a more conducive environment in general for MSMEs to engage in international trade and help them compete more effectively in global markets.

The new trade policy announced by the Union commerce ministry has also doubled the value limit for exports undertaken through courier services from ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh per consignment. Even though this raised cap is a relief for certain sets of Indian exporters, setting a value limit in itself for such exports acts as a limiting factor for businesses which export high-value goods. The overall impact of these measures, however, is expected to be significant, with the policy aiming to increase India's goods and services exports to \$2 trillion by 2030. This is a significant target and will require a nuanced approach, where both exporters and sellers will have to work together smoothly.

Given that the e-commerce model that is prevalent in the country is the platform-as-marketplace model, provisions such as simplified payment reconciliation procedures for e-commerce exporters, distinguishing sellers-on-record from exporters-on-record to reduce the compliance burden on small sellers, will help the cause of reaching the country's export target.

The dynamic nature of the policy, which can be revised as we go along, offers a great deal of flexibility and adaptability, enabling Indian policymakers to respond effectively to market shifts and the needs of sellers.

In conclusion, the FTP 2023 will help build India as an export hub by enabling and empowering the MSME sector significantly. The policy is expected to provide a significant boost to India's exports and help the country work towards becoming a developed economy within a quarter century, as envisioned for Amrit Kaal.

Source: livemint.com- May 02, 2023

Cotton arrivals rising in India, prices likely to drop: ICAC

The International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) on Tuesday lowered its global price outlook for cotton compared with its projections in December 2022.

In its May outlook, ICAC has projected the season's average price forecast range between 96.1 cents and 111.3 cents, with a midpoint of 102.77 cents per pound. This is lower from the midpoint of 115 cents projected in December 2022.

A month ago, ICAC data scientist Matthew Looney said Indian cotton deliveries were far behind historical levels for that point of the season and suspected that farmers were withholding their cotton in the hope of better prices.

This was reflected in the cotton prices in the domestic and international markets. Processed ginned cotton of benchmark 29mm length was quoted at ₹68,500 per candy of (356 kg each) on December 2, 2022. However, as arrivals started picking up, prices started correcting and were last quoted at ₹61,800 on Tuesday.

ICE Cotton Futures quoted at 83.2 cents on December 2, 2022, while it is quoting at 81.34 cents now.

In its observations about whether Indian farmers' have started releasing the stocks, ICAC said, "Whether they saw the recent, slight stabilisation of prices and decided to take advantage, or whether they simply couldn't hold the cotton any longer, it's impossible to know. But whatever the reason, the pace of arrivals in India has surged in the last month or so."

Meanwhile, raw cotton arrivals in Gujarat markets continued. At Rajkot APMC market in Saurashtra, arrivals were recorded at 110 tonnes with price quoting in the range of ₹7,500-₹8,300 per quintal.

Source: thehindubusinessline.com- May 02, 2023

HOME

India's cotton imports from Australia multiply over past year

India's cotton imports from Australia have multiplied during the last year, reaching a value of \$283.766 million in 2022, which is more than four times the previous year's imports. This surge may be due to the record-high prices of the natural fibre. To support the industry during the 2021-22 crop market year (October-September), India exempted import duties on cotton.

Although India and Australia had entered into the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA), which came into effect in the last week of 2022, this increase in imports was caused by the unusual rise in prices. The agreement provides for duty-free imports with quantitative restrictions, but the high prices last year led to an increase in imports.

According to Fibre2Fashion's market insight tool TexPro, India's textile industry imported 80.860 million kg (475,652 bales of 170 kg) of cotton last year, valued at \$283.766 million. This represents a 4.28-fold increase in value and a 2.66-fold increase in volume compared to the previous year when imports were valued at \$66.011 million (quantity 30.344 million kg). Cotton imports peaked at \$173.933 million (48.789 million kg) during the third quarter of last year, when Indian cotton prices were still very high, well before the arrival of the new crop.

India's cotton imports were valued at \$6.352 million (3.358 million kg) in 2020, \$33.068 million (17.284 million kg) in 2019, and \$57.451 million (27.268 million kg) in 2018, as per TexPro. It is expected that cotton imports from Australia will continue to rise in the coming years as India's textile industry may require more imports. The duty-free access to Australian cotton will provide some relief to the industry when prices rise excessively.

Source: fibre2fashion.com- May 02, 2023

India amends schedule of RoDTEP; may affect cotton & other T&A items

India has amended the schedule of the Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) scheme with effect from May 1, 2023. The ministry of commerce and industry issued a notification to add 149 tariff lines at the 8-digit level and delete 52 tariff lines from the RoDTEP schedule. The amendment affects cotton and some other textile and apparel (T&A) items.

The government issued a notification on Monday stating that it has made additions and amendments to Appendix 4R, effective from May 1. The details of HS codes and RoDTEP rates/value caps are available on the DGFT website. These amendments were made to align the RoDTEP schedule with the first schedule of the Custom Tariff Act, as per the enactment of the Finance Bill 2023.

The North India Textile Mills Association (NITMA) has announced through a tweet that Annexure 4R has been updated to include new tariff items and delete certain others, which affect some textile and apparel items.

The amendment includes five tariff lines under HSN Code 5201 (cotton fibre). Tariff line 52010021 (for staple length not exceeding 20.0 mm) will have RoDTEP rates of 3.1 per cent, with a value cap of ₹1.6 per kg. Similarly, tariff lines 52010022, 52010023, 52010024, and 52010025 will have the same rates and value cap, with each tariff line representing staple fibre for different lengths. Tariff lines 54021100 (of Aramids), 54025900, and 57023990 will have RoDTEP rates of 1 per cent of the FOB value of the export consignment.

NITMA said that the tariff lines 52010020, 54021110 and 54025990 related to the textile and apparel sector have been deleted from the schedule.

Source: fibre2fashion.com- May 02, 2023

HOME

Govt likely to come up with draft rules on angel tax issues in 7-10 days

The government is set to come up with draft rules on angel tax on foreign investments in unlisted companies proposed in Budget 2023-24 in about 7-10 days. These draft rules will attempt to resolve concerns raised by industry, including valuation, fair pricing, exemptions, etc, an official in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) said.

"More stakeholder consultations will take place around the draft to ensure that the final rules take care of all legitimate issues raised by the industry and investors. There are a lot of concerns that the industry has raised including valuation and fair pricing. The DPIIT has already held several rounds of extensive consultations with various industry bodies, the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) and Department of Revenue (DoR) to reach a satisfactory resolution," the official told businessline.

Angel tax, which refers to section 56(2)(viib) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, is the tax (income tax of 30.6 per cent) levied when an unlisted company issues shares to an investor at a price which is more than its fair market value. Earlier, it was imposed only on investments made by a resident investor, but Budget 2023-24 proposed to extend angel tax to even non-resident investors from April 1, 2024.

Exemptions for start-ups

Although, start-ups registered with DPIIT are to be exempt from this, there are only about 98,000 such start-ups that are registered while most others are unregistered.

"There is a demand from industry that the criteria for exemption from angel tax should be expanded. Moreover, there is also a demand for dilution in the conditions imposed on start-ups that are claiming angel tax exemptions," an industry source pointed out.

In the initial stages, many start-ups depend heavily on foreign funds. Imposition of angel tax can affect flow of funds at a time when start-ups are facing a funding crunch, the industry source said. The industry is moreover concerned about the calculation of a start-ups' fair market value on the basis of which angel tax is calculated. "More clarity is needed on the method being used to calculate fair market value as it is based on the determination of future performance of a start-up. Many suggest that there should not be any room for an inspecting official to use his or her discretion in determining fair market value," the official said.

The government has to also settle the issue of the dichotomy between foreign exchange management act (FEMA), which sets the floor price for the valuation, and Section 56.2(VII B), which sets the cap, the official said.

Source: thehindubusinessline.com- May 02, 2023



Cotton yarn demand remains sluggish in south India; prices down in Mum

The cotton yarn trade in south India has experienced a downward trend in Mumbai due to slower demand from the weaving industry. Cotton yarn prices have dropped by ₹3-5 per kg in Mumbai.

Market sources said that the fabric market is facing an acute crunch in payment flow, which has dampened cotton yarn buying. Cotton yarn prices have remained steady in Tiruppur. Overall, the market sentiments were weak as the export demand has not shown any encouraging indications.

The cotton yarn market in Mumbai has experienced a downturn in prices due to sluggish demand from the weaving industry after Ramadan. "The fabric market's payment crisis has dampened cotton yarn demand, causing prices to drop by ₹3-5 per kg in the past few days," a trader from Mumbai market told Fibre2Fashion.

In Mumbai, 60 count carded cotton yarn of warp and weft varieties was traded at ₹1,500-1,530 and ₹1,360-1,400 per 5 kg (excluding GST), respectively; 60 combed warp was priced at ₹350-353 per kg; 80 count carded (weft) cotton yarn was sold at ₹1,460-1,500 per 4.5 kg; 44/46 count carded cotton yarn (warp) was priced at ₹275-280 per kg; 40/41 count carded cotton yarn (warp) was sold at ₹265-270 per kg; and 40/41 count combed yarn (warp) was priced at ₹295-305 per kg, according to Fibre2Fashion's market insight tool TexPro.

The prices of cotton yarn in the Tiruppur market remained steady due to slow demand, with export demand for cotton and fabric markets not being supportive. "Market sentiments would only improve with a revival of export orders," a Tiruppur-based trader told F2F.

In the Tiruppur market, 30 count combed cotton yarn was traded at ₹278-282 per kg (excluding GST), 34 count combed at ₹288-292 per kg, and 40 count combed at ₹305-310 per kg. Cotton yarn of 30 count carded was sold at ₹250-255 per kg, 34 count carded at ₹255-260 per kg, and 40 count carded at ₹265-270 per kg, as per TexPro.

Cotton prices in Gujarat remained steady despite average demand, with ginners hopeful for a rise in prices. Some big spinners were attempting to buy cotton, but there were few sellers in the market. Cotton yarn was priced at ₹62,000-62,200 per candy of 356 kg.

In Gujarat, cotton arrivals were estimated to be 23,000-24,000 bales of 170 kg, with all-India arrivals estimated at around 80,000-90,000 bales. The arrival of A grade Kapas (unginned cotton) was negligible, while the arrival of B grade Kapas was higher.

Source: fibre2fashion.com- May 02, 2023

HOME

Flipkart launches new fulfilment centre in Telangana

Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has expanded its footprint in Telangana and strengthened its supply chain infrastructure with the launch of a new fulfilment centre (FC) in Sangareddy. The new FC was virtually inaugurated by Kalvakuntla Taraka Rama Rao (KT Rama Rao), minister for municipal administration and urban development, industries and commerce, and information technology of Telangana, Jayesh Ranjan, secretary, information technology (IT), government of Telangana and Kalyan Krishnamurthy, CEO, Flipkart Group.

Spread over 4 lakh square feet, the FC will further Flipkart's commitment to India's digital commerce evolution by empowering local sellers, employable youth, and customers while making e-commerce more inclusive and accessible. The new FC will support the delivery and logistics of a wide range of product categories, including furniture and large appliances, offered by thousands of local sellers and MSMEs in Telangana, providing them access to a national market. To date, Flipkart's ecommerce platform has empowered more than 14,000 sellers in the state to join the mainstream economy and cater to the rising consumer demand in the country. Flipkart's supply chain operations have also contributed to the growth of Telangana's economy by creating over 40,000 direct and indirect jobs.

"Digitisation has enhanced prospects for local economies to grow and thrive, and this is being reinforced by e-commerce. I appreciate Flipkart's ongoing endeavors to create a conducive growth environment for MSMEs and welcome its investments in the state. The new facility by Flipkart will strengthen pan-India market access for local sellers and encourage many of our local communities to become a part of the digital revolution," speaking at the launch, KT Rama Rao said.

"We recognise that building strong infrastructure is the backbone of ecommerce. It creates equitable opportunities for small and large businesses alike, helping reach millions of customers nationwide. In line with our commitment to the country's economic progress, we have made important investments across India through upskilling opportunities, infrastructure, and technological advancements. Over the years, we have made significant investments in Telangana to create growth opportunities for sellers, MSMEs, artisans, kiranas, and our ecosystem partners. We hope that the establishment of the Sangareddy facility will give a further boost to entrepreneurs in the state and strengthen their integration with the national market. We will continue leveraging the power of technology and our robust infrastructure to accelerate growth for India and its people," Kalyan Krishnamurthy, chief executive officer, Flipkart Group, said.

Some of Flipkart's key investments in Telangana include the establishment of 6 fulfilment centres for making millions of products, including home appliances, furniture, large appliances, and Grocery available. With close to 100 distribution hubs in the state, it collectively generates over 40,000 job opportunities.

Today, close to 5,000 kiranas in Telangana, are also associated with Flipkart's Kirana Delivery programme, making lakhs of deliveries that augment their income. Last year, Flipkart signed a MoU with the Society for the Elimination of Rural Poverty to promote market access and growth for Farmer Producer Organisations and Self-Help Groups in Telangana, to enable access for them to Flipkart's pan-India customer base, the company said in a press release.

Flipkart has a green data centre located in the state, powered by renewable energy, which strengthens the technology infrastructure and underlines the company's efforts towards building a sustainable value chain.

Source: fibre2fashion.com- May 03, 2023
