

Textile Briefs National

1 A 21-member delegation of Chinese companies has shown keen interest to enhance business collaborations in textile sector with Pakistani counterparts. The delegation was representing textiles, garments, clothing and apparel and chemicals sector companies.

2 All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) Chairman Aamir Fayyaz has welcomed the Rs 180 billion package announced by the prime minister to boost exports. He appreciated the measures to support declining exports, including tax-free import of cotton and man-made fibre, duty drawback on exports, including 4% on greige fabric, 5% on processed fabric, 6% on home textile made-up, and 7% on garments.

3 Pakistan's total exports to the US in the fiscal year 2016 stood at \$3.5 billion out of which 83% were textile exports (\$2.9 billion). The country's textile exports to the US make up 23% of the total annual textile exports. In case the dollar weakens, it

will result in appreciation of the Pakistan rupee, making Pakistani textile products expensive for American buyers.

4 Leading textile bodies constituted the Punjab Textile Forum to fight against the gas price differential in Punjab and Sindh and arrest falling exports and have also urged the government to announce a textile relief package to restore the competitiveness of the export sector.

5 The total land area of cotton cultivation reduced by 22% in Pakistan over the last 10 years and this major reduction in cotton area is only contributed by Punjab province, which has reduced its area under cotton by 26% over the same period. The increase in a number of sugar mills has been cited as the cause of this reduction of cultivation area of cotton.

6 Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association (PCGA) has urged the government to grant a relief and bailout package to cotton growers and convince them to bring the maximum

area under cotton crop to make Pakistan self-sufficient in cotton and to save more than Rs 30 billion to Rs. 40 billion being spent on the import of 3.0 million cotton bales.

7 The Textile Secretary, Hasan Iqbal, during a visit to the Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers Association (PHMA) House said that the government aims to arrest the declining trend in textile exports and address the problems faced by the exporters as a priority. The is serious about the settlement of all kinds of claims of the exporters to greatly reduce their burden.

8 The Pakistan Apparel Forum (PAF) has urged the government to withdraw customs duty, sales tax and regulatory duty on the import of cotton yarn up to 32 single coarse counts, a major raw material of value-added apparel sector. Due to a shortage of yarn in the country, PAF has requested the government to do the same in the case of cotton yarn. ♦

Textile Briefs International



1 Bangladesh will have to improve the methods of using resources in the textile sector if it intends to reach the target of \$50 billion in the readymade garments (RMG) exports.

2 China is the world's top textile exporter, and due to smog that has blanketed the north of the country, the cotton mills have stopped buying raw cotton and have suspended output in Hebei and parts of Shandong. These two Chinese provinces are major growing regions for the fibre, according to a report by Cncotton.com, a government-backed trade website.

3 Data from the Geneva-based International Trade Centre show that the value of Indonesia's apparel and clothing accessories exports declined by almost 4% to US\$3.3 billion in 2015 from 3.42 billion in 2014.

4 The size of domestic Indian textile machinery industry is poised to touch around Rs 320 to Rs 350 billion in the next five years from the

present Rs 220 billion according to India International Textile Machinery Exhibitions Society (IITMES) Chairman Sanjiv Lathia.

5 Nearly 97% of the world's clothing manufacturing happens outside America. The country's shopping habits have changed dramatically. In 1965, almost 95% of the clothing Americans purchased was made in the US and today it is just over 2%.

6 Tanzania is making efforts to protect its domestic textile market by introducing them in local markets, instead of cheap imports from other countries. Instead of dealing with second-hand clothes, traders can start buying and selling locally manufactured garments to earn better profits.

7 Russian Ministry of Industry will help Spanish retailer Zara to speed up localization of production in Russia, according to Deputy Minister Viktor Evtukhov after a meeting in the ministry. "We agreed to set up a project

team in cooperation with Zara employees and to help in finding reliable Russian partners, which will make possible to perform accelerated localization of production for items represented in Zara chain in Russia."

8 Vietnam's textile and garment industry has targeted a growth in exports of roughly around 6.5 to 7% amounting to US\$30 billion this year. The development of the textile and garment market at home and abroad are expected to improve due to growth in the US economy and in consumption in the market despite the US opting out of the TPP.

9 The United States has formally pulled out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal. Acting US trade representative Maria Pagan has informed the TPP's secretariat office in Wellington that the United States does not intend to become a party to the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement. ♦