

Textile Briefs National

1 Pakistan Ambassador to China, Masood Khalid has invited the Chinese companies to take advantage of investment-friendly policies of the government and come forward to invest in textile and garments sectors in Pakistan. Giving the details of the project, he said, it is aimed at development of textile and garment sector in Pakistan, as textile sector is one of main segments of Pakistan's economy and Pakistan exports bulk of its textile products to China.

2 Ministry of Textile Industry has sought state protection and support price for cotton crop to arrest its continuing fall, as crop production came down from 14 million bales to 10 million bales during the last two years. According to the Secretary Ministry of Textile Industry Hassan Iqbal, huge foreign exchange earnings are lost on cotton imports due to shortfall in cotton crop to meet local industry requirements.

3 Pakistan Apparel Forum Chairman said the main reason behind rapid fall in exports is a tough competition from regional countries due to ever increasing cost of production and persistent liquidity crunch. He criticized the government for announcing textile export package just before the start of

Heimtextil (10-13 Jan, 2017) due to which foreign buyers immediately demanded discounts from Pakistani exhibitors.

4 The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) while expressing anger over rolling back of Textile City Project in Karachi has directed the Secretary Textiles to provide all details of the project to the committee in the next meeting.

5 According to Pakistan Yarn Merchant Association, unfair subsidies given to US cotton producers are hurting Pakistan's cotton growers, who are facing hardships due to higher cost of production.

6 The Sindh government has decided to continue Pakistan Textile City Limited in partnership with Port Qasim Authority (PQA), said Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, while presiding over a special meeting on the project.

7 The Senate Standing Committee on Textile Industry stressed the need for protecting local textile industry to enhance exports volume of the country. The committee gave a recommendation for proper execution of the "Trade Enhancement Package" amounting to Rs.180 billion for the

industry, announced by Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif for coming 18 months from January 2017 to June 2018.

8 During seven months (July-Jan 2016-17) total exports of textile products declined by 1.54% over last year. In the year 2010-11 (July-Jan) exports of textile were \$7.45 billion while today these stand at \$7.34 billion in seven months.

9 Pakistan Textile Exporters Association (PTEA) Chairman Ajmal Farooq demanded that the government immediately release refunds to the country's textile exporters following the recent cash flow crunch the industry is facing.

10 Peshawar High Court bench has struck down the imported cotton cess imposed on textile mills in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa declaring it illegal for violating the Cotton Cess Act, 1923. The Judges issued the orders by accepting a petition jointly filed by Mezan Textile Mills and five other such industrial units. The bench ruled that the cotton cess could not be imposed on imported cotton until the law concerned was changed. ♦

Textile Briefs International



1 Bangladesh government has taken a large project to upgrade production technology of jute mills under \$350 million foreign loans, in view of the continued erosion of competitiveness of jute mills in the country.

2 China remains a world leader in textiles employing over 4.6 million people, contributing a tenth of GDP and with exports, including apparel amounting to US dollars 284 billion in 2015, according to data from China's National Bureau of Statistics.

3 Uzbekistan, a major cotton producing country has set a task to process all cotton produced in the country into textiles by 2020, as against 40% of the cotton that is being processed currently and as against 7% in 1991. As of date, the country exports textiles to over 50 countries and more recently has begun exports to Nigeria, Croatia, Chile and Brazil.

4 Turkey is planning to impose 3% anti-dumping duty on U.S. cotton imports on the pretext that

imports are hurting domestic cotton production. The industry feels that this measure will drive up the costs for its own textile producers, hurting the competitiveness of their exports.

5 World ending stocks of cotton are forecast to decrease by 7% to 17.8 million tonnes at the end of 2016-17 as China continues to reduce its stocks. Ending stocks in China, dipped 13% to 11.3 million tonnes as the government sold over 2 million tonnes. From 2009-10 to 2014-15, world ending stocks increased by 140% and reached a world record of 22.2 million tonnes.

6 Several major textile manufacturers are to make products in the US, echoing US President Donald Trump's pledge to push for goods labeled "Made in the USA." Everest Textile Co., is one such company that has bought a plant in North Carolina and repurposed the production lines, is scheduled to start production soon.

7 The US and Japan imported garments and textile products worth US\$15 billion from Vietnam in 2016, the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (Vitas) has said. This accounted for 53.5% of the garment and textile sector's export turnover of \$28.3 billion last year.

8 Cambodia's total exports to the United States declined last year compared with 2015. According to figures from the Office of the US Trade Representative, total exports from Cambodia to the United States were more than \$2.8 billion last year compared with more than \$3 billion in 2015 – a decline of about seven percent.

9 The exports of apparel and textiles from the UK have increased by 7.05% to GBP 9.1 billion in 2016, compared to exports of GBP 8.5 billion in 2015. The European Union was the biggest market for UK's textiles and apparel, accounting for 74% of all UK textile and apparel exports. ♦