

Textile Briefs National

1 The Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers Association (PHMA) has urged the government to continue the sales tax zero-rating facility to five export-oriented sectors in the upcoming federal budget 2017-18, besides speeding up the disbursement of drawbacks under Prime Minister Rs.180 billion export package.

2 The textile and clothing exports recorded a nominal decline in exports mainly due to lower proceeds from raw material and low value-added products, such as cotton yarn and fabrics. While overall textile exports decreased, the exports of value-added products grew during the 10 months in terms of both value and quantity such as readymade garments exports that rose 5.34% in July-April.

3 The arrangements have been made to make available about 38,000 tonnes of 100 percent certified and approved cotton seeds aimed

at increasing per acre crop output in the country. Cotton crop production targets for the current season have been fixed at 14.40 million bales against 14.1 million bales last year.

4 The Board of Investment (BoI) will hold road shows in China, Singapore and Gulf countries in the coming months with the aim to increase Pakistan's foreign direct investment (FDI). These shows will be held in collaboration with chambers of industries and All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (Aptma) to focus on textile and steel industries focusing mainly on achieving the FDI target of \$15 billion by 2025.

5 The figures show that the volume of investment in the industry has surged significantly in recent months, but exports of the sector are showing an opposite trend. The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Governor, has suggested that the money borrowed by

the textile industry might be going to other profitable sectors like real estate or the stock market.

6 Mr. Toshikazu Isomura, Consul General of Japan in Karachi has said Japan is Pakistan's long term partner and 82 Japanese companies were already operating in Pakistan and have invested over \$500 million in the country in last three years. According to him, participation in the CPEC projects should be offered to Japanese companies.

7 Zahid Mazhar, Senior Vice Chairman Aptma has demanded ready availability of raw materials to the industry by allowing duty / tax-free imports of cotton and polyester staple fibres well as the proper allocation of funds against the Prime Minister's export-led growth package announced in January this year. ♦

Textile Briefs International



1 The European Union has imposed new security screening on imports from Bangladesh, a move that is likely to make it costlier for businesses in the South Asian country to sell products to EU nations. During the fiscal year 2015-16, the garment industry exported \$17.15 billion in goods to the EU accounting for 60 percent of the industry's exports.

2 Indonesian domestic textile products have continued to lose their foothold in the domestic market over the past five years as imported products control 70% of the country's domestic textile market, which is estimated to reach US\$10 billion a year leaving only 30% of the market for domestic products, as stated by the Indonesian Textile Association (API) chairman Ade Sudrajat.

3 Ethiopia is aiming to generate the US \$30 billion from the export of garments and textiles by the year 2025, an ambitious target for a country whose shipments are the only US \$115 million during 2016-2017. The Ethiopian government is looking at the

textile and clothing supply chain as one of the country's key target areas for growth.

4 The Indian Union government has announced a Rs. 6,000 crore special package for the textile and apparel sector. The package aims to help in creating one crore jobs, mostly for women, in the next three years, said Textiles Secretary Rashmi Verma.

5 The textile industry of India has urged the government to place all products across the textile and apparel value chain under the lowest slab of the Goods and Services Tax (GST). The industry seeks 5% taxes without exemptions in order to avoid all possibilities of tax evasion. The applicable rates are currently between 5% and 7%. The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI) in a representation to the Commerce Ministry said that the low GST rate for the textile sector will boost domestic textile production and encourage voluntary compliance.

6 The Iranian apparel market is worth an estimated \$12 billion per year. Some \$2.6 billion worth of clothes are imported into Iran every year and according to members of apparel unions, twice this amount is smuggled into the country. According to Director General of the Association of Iran Textile Industries Mohammad Mehdi Raeis-Zadeh, out of more than 90% of fake foreign brands sold in only 25 to 30 brands have sales permits from the main companies and/or their representatives.

7 The garment industry in Myanmar earn about \$1.836 billion in the financial year 2016-17 that ended this March. According to the Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar exports around 33% of its CMP products to Japan, followed by 25% to EU. It also supplies clothing items to South Korea, US and China.

8 In 2016, production of US man-made fibre and filament, textiles and apparel shipments was around \$75 billion, an 11% increase from 2009, according to the National Council of Textile Organizations. ♦