

## Textile Briefs National

**1** Textile industrialists have expressed dissatisfaction over the Federal Budget 2018-19 announced by the government stating that the Budget focused general industry & trade while export sector was neglected.

**2** The government has been advised by foreign textile buying houses to set up a central compliance centre in the country to improve manufacturers' compliance with social standards, a critical factor in apparel sourcing decisions. The government may consider setting up sourcing parks to ensure a single-window facility, they suggested.

**3** The Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PHMEA) has expressed concern over increasing taxes on the import of polyester yarn, saying the step has directly

affected the sportswear industry of Sialkot. The government had recently imposed a 5% regulatory duty on such import with an average 7% anti-dumping duty.

**4** The All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA), in its budgetary proposals urged the government to boost the textile sector by focussing on exports through three-pronged strategy making available affordable electricity and gas, rationalising tariffs in the textile value-chain and encouraging investment to create export surplus.

**5** Readymade Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PRGMEA) has called for speedy implementation of revised PM package for exporters for 2017-18 along with aggressive marketing

plan to enhance exports and get the maximum benefit of GSP Plus status.

**6** Pakistan Bureau of Statistics data, showed country's textile exports rose 7.2% to \$8.79 billion during the first eight months of the current fiscal year of 2018 as value-added sector continued to post recovery in foreign earnings.

**7** Federal Secretary for Textile Division (Ministry of Commerce and Textile) Hassan Iqbal has said that the government will ensure technological up gradation of the textile industry.

**8** He said that advanced technology had become vital to flourish Pakistan's textile sector by encouraging the textile and garments' exporters at every level.

**9** The Federal secretary announced 2% cash bonus for the textile and garments exporters for developing new product for the international markets. He said that the government was striving to boom the country's textile and garments sector. The government would also encourage the products under Prime Minister's Incentive Package.

**10** The Pakistan Textile Exporters Association (PTEA) has praised the release of Rs 5 billion to clear claims of duty drawback of taxes (DDT) allowed under the Prime Minister's Trade Enhancement Initiatives, saying the move will offer the needed flip to textile exports. PTEA chairman Shaiq Jawed termed the move a positive step for sustainable growth. ♦

## Textile Briefs International



**1** The largest market for cotton yarn China has imposed around 3.5% import duty on yarn from India under Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), while duty free access is given to Vietnam.

**2** China is one of Vietnam's top five textile export markets. Vietnam's imports from China last year included over US\$6 billion worth of silk, US\$2 billion worth of leather and US\$800 million worth of threads.

**3** Since that country has the world's largest population, its market can be extensively segmented offering a great opportunity for local textile products. Vietnam's textile and garment exports were worth US\$31 billion last year.

**4** The Russian Ministry of Industry and Trade has announced plans to double the country's technical fibres production by 2020. To implement these plans, Russia will expand the use of its large reserves of oil and other resources, including timber and other raw materials for the production of synthetics.

**5** In order to encourage the industry, the Indian government has several policies, including the Rs 6,000 crore apparel and made-up package, Rs 1,300 crore skill developments and power textile scheme, which has eight components including up-gradation of power looms with government support of 50% among others.

**6** China is exploiting and entering the Indian market at cheap price by routing its yarn and finished fabrics through Bangladesh route giving a difficult time to the textile industries at home, said Punjab Pradesh Beopar Mandal President PL Seth.

**7** Uzbekistan is now ready to take its textiles manufacturing capabilities to the next stage by investing in latest-technology for downstream processes of fabric manufacture, finishing and making-up.

**8** The Asian Development Bank has signed an agreement with Bangladesh's Eastern Bank for a US\$ 20 million loan to support the country's textile and garment sectors.

**9** Indian Yarn dealer Rajesh Surana said that new taxation system has definitely impacted the textile business, but it has helped us to introduce new payment norms as well. However, the trade is going to face major difficulties when the national e-way bill is implemented from April 1, 2018.

**10** According to textile industry body CITI, textile and garment exports are likely to miss the US\$ 45 billion target for 2017-18, as the industry reels under the impact of GST roll out and tariff advantages enjoyed by competitors like Bangladesh and Vietnam. At best, we will come close to US\$ 40 billion. ♦