

## Textile Briefs National

**1** Cotton production can be raised up to 15 million bales if the Cotton Control Act is properly implemented, said Haji Muhammad Akram, Chairman of Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association (PCGA). He said at present cotton production would be around 11.5 to 12 million bales this year with production in Punjab expected to rise and that in Sindh likely to fall.

**2** About 100 closed mills are expected to reopen in Punjab due to the promised Rs.44 billion subsidy for exporters according to the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Economic

Affairs, Asad Umar. The subsidy will be derived from a regulatory hike in gas prices which has raised the price by 40% from Rs.600 per million British thermal unit (mmBtu) to Rs.780 mmBtu for commercial consumers.

**3** The All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) said due to high operating costs and inadequate supply of raw cotton, around 140 textile mills have shut shop, rendering a million jobless. Around 80 more mills are on the verge of closure, which will add another 0.5 million to the unemployment statistics.

**4** Indonesian Parliament has passed free market access to 20 tariff lines, originating in Pakistan, under the preferential trade agreement (PTA) between the two nations. The tariff lines that will entail zero-duty with immediate effect include some types of yarn, woven fabric, t-shirts, vests, singlets, trousers, shorts, bed linen, terry towels, etc.

**5** Despite a slight dip in overall textile exports, the knitwear garment sector has maintained a steady pace of growth in its shipments and led the sector with an increase of 16.13% in its exports for October 2018. Pakistan's overall textile exports were recorded

at \$1.13 billion in October, down 0.12% compared with \$1.132 billion in the same month last year.

**6** The world's biggest cloth retailer Inditex Group, which owns Zara has decided to double its imports from Pakistan and opened an office in the country.

**7** Executives of Uniqlo, a subsidiary of Fast Retailing Inc, recently visited Pakistan and met representatives of five companies from Karachi, Faisalabad and Lahore. Three companies have been shortlisted for joint ventures, primarily related to circular cutting, shirt fabric and sewing. ♦

## Textile Briefs International



**1** The Turkish home textile industry is the world's fourth-largest supplier and the EU's second largest supplier. In 2017, the total exports of home textile are recorded as US\$ 3.6 billion out of US\$ 25 billion of their apparels & RMG, according to Turkey Economy Ministry.

**2** Indian Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) welcomed the GST Council's decision to allow input tax credit refund, a long-pending demand of the textile industry, and thanked Union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani for taking up the issue.

**3** Bangladesh's T&C exports in 2017-18 (July-June) perceived a growth of 8.9% totalling to US\$ 32.87 billion over the previous fiscal for the same period. The growth was led by apparel exports, which account 93% of total T&C exports of the country.

**4** Vietnam garment and textile sector happened to be the country's second largest export earner last year after increasing by 17% to US\$ 27.5 billion. Yet, the sector relied heavily on imported raw materials, said Vo Tan Thanh, Director of VCCI's HCM City chapter.

**5** A survey of 34 executives from leading US fashion companies last year found that, for the first time, fewer US brands were looking to China for products, even though the country remains the top sourcing destination for the industry worldwide.

**6** Indonesia's so-called first Islamic fashion school is teaching students in the world's largest Muslim-majority country the usual skills of design, styling, and marketing. However, they are teaching many designs, which are not related to the Islamic faith that does not give permission to go outside a woman without

proper cover maintaining Islamic rules.

**7** Several agreements have been signed between Uzbekistan and Germany that will expand their bilateral cooperation and will help boost their exports of finished textile products to the European market.

**8** Turkmenistan appeared as a key supplier of cotton yarn to Turkey. The volume of Turkish cotton yarn imports totalled 178 thousand tonnes in 2017, expanding by 25% over the last year. In value terms, imports increased by 20% to US\$ 509 million. ♦