

## Textile Briefs National

**1** The country's knitwear apparel textile has shown significant growth as knitted garments' export during first 10 months of the financial year from July 2018 to April 2019 has registered an increase of 8.76% to US\$2.39 billion against US\$ 2.20 billion of the same period of last year.

**2** Pakistan's textile industry has started preparing a policy framework to achieve an export target of \$50 billion in five years. This will attract huge investments and generate direct employment for 15 million people.

**3** The Ministry of textiles has so far paid Rs 52.5 billion to the local textile industry under Prime Minister's Exports

Enhancement Package since July 2017, to help boost exports from the country, said senior official in the ministry.

**4** The special committee on agricultural products of National Assembly (NA) decided to introduce a resolution to consider placing import duty of 10%-15% on cotton. A meeting chaired by assembly speaker Asad Qaiser instructed authorities to determine the feasibility of the suggested increase in import duty, which is zero at present.

**5** The advisor to Prime Minister on Commerce, Textile and Industry, said that all possible resources would be utilized for the revival of the cotton

sector and efforts were underway to enhance cotton production and achieve 15 million cotton bales' target set for next year.

**6** The Saudi investors and businessmen have shown their keen interest in importing traditional and world-class handmade carpets, apparel, and chemical products from Pakistan, underlining the need for further enhancing collaboration with the Pakistan industry.

**7** The textile exports remained flat at US\$ 11.1 billion in the first 10 months of the current fiscal year of 2018-19 over the corresponding period a year earlier, but value-added sector showed some improvement during the

period owing to the government's measures, including rupee devaluation, to boost outbound shipments.

**8** The PRGMEA recently urged the government to take steps to make the value-added textile industry competitive and vibrant in the international market. Special attention should be paid to establish sector-wise central, provincial and regional task forces.

**9** The government has decided to take back the energy package (RLNG at \$6.5 per MMBTU, and electricity at 7.5 cents per unit) earlier extended to zero-rated sector till June 30, 2019. ♦

## Textile Briefs International



**1** Australia and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) have strengthened their partnership to improve working conditions, advance women's economic potential and boost the competitiveness of Bangladesh's readymade garment (RMG) sector.

**2** The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has planned to establish a Readymade Garments (RMG) Sustainability Council (RSC) to ensure a complete and independent national compliance monitoring system in Bangladesh.

**3** According to Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BTMC) in the fiscal year 2019-20, almost 22 state-owned jute mills have reported BDT 3.95 billion

losses. The lack of efficient manpower, old machinery, poor branding are the prime causes for Bangladesh to fall behind in exports.

**4** The US-China trade war could cause prices to rise and could lead to 'widespread' store closures, according to a report by investment bank UBS, which said tariffs on Chinese imports could put \$40 billion of sales and 12,000 stores at risk.

**5** The Swedish fashion giant H&M says it's committed to ensuring that workers who produce some of its items from Ethiopian factories receive fair wages. A report revealed that Ethiopian laborers at garment workshops are one of the worst-paid workers in the world.

**6** US President Donald Trump has claimed that India imposes 'tremendously high' import duties on US items. The United States recently decided to withdraw incentives being provided to Indian exporters under the generalized system of preference (GSP) program.

**7** Indian Texpreneurs Federation (ITF) has appealed to all brands and retail chains operating in India to source their requirements from within the country instead of imports.

**8** The Indonesia's viscose rayon fiber capacity increased from 8.7% of total world production in 2004 to 11% of total world production in 2018. Since cotton is difficult to produce, the country has turned to viscose rayon fibers. Indonesia is set to become one of the top five

textile and textile product producers in the world by 2030.

**9** The Iranian textile exports rose over 6% in value and 26% in quantity during the last Iranian year (ended March 20). Last year, 312,000 tonnes of textiles and clothing products worth US\$ 1.93 billion were exported, which shows a rise of nearly 6% in value and 26% in quantity as compared to the preceding year's corresponding period.

**10** The polyester exporters from China and India receive illegal subsidies. The U.S. Department of Commerce has found this information recently and U.S. Customs and Border Protection have decided to collect duties to recover those subsidies. ♦