

Textile Briefs National

1 Textile exports during 2MFY20 increased 2.3% year on year against a growth of 3% in total exports during the period. The textile group accounted for 61% of total exports during the first two months of FY20 as opposed to 62% during the same period last year—not too major a difference. In fact, despite a loss in percentage shares, the balance of trade within the textile group actually improved by 10%.

2 Provincial Trade and Industry Minister, Mian Aslam Iqbal said that the textile sector was the backbone of the national economy and strengthening this sector could enhance the country's export volume. Talking to All Pakistan Textile

Exporters Association (APTEA) delegation headed by its President Khurram Mukhtar here, he added that the government was resolving the textile sector's problems on priority basis.

3 According to the industry's representative, textile millers are ready to annually invest \$1 billion USD if the government would ensure ease of doing business to double exports in the next five years.

4 Dr. Firdous Ashiq Awan, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Information and Broadcasting said that the revival of the country's major export-oriented textile sector was due to the efficient policies of the current government.

5 Pakistan and Egypt recently agreed to work out measures to focus on their untapped economic potential and promote bilateral trade at the first meeting of the Pakistan-Egypt Joint Working Group (JWG) on Trade held in Islamabad. Pakistan's Commerce Ministry and the Egyptian Commercial Service signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to set up the JWG on trade.

6 As a result of the progressive policies and personal interest of the Prime Minister, especially by providing regionally competitive energy tariffs the textile industry has become viable after remaining in the red for 10 long years, said All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA).

7 Mian Naeem Ahmed, Chairman of Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PHMA), North Zone Newly selected Trade & investment Officers (TIOs) have been entrusted the achievable task to bridge widening import and export gap and in this connection they must take business community into confidence by exploiting their professional skills and expertise in line with the prevailing domestic, regional and global ground realities, said Mian Naeem Ahmed - Chairman of Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PHMA), North Zone. ♦

Textile Briefs International



1 US's widening trade deficit with China is a major cause of the country's economic woes. US government has started imposing protectionist measures on imports from major trading partners like China and Canada.

2 The new regulation becomes mandatory in 2020. The market for medical textiles has the potential to be one of the fastest growing categories within the technical textile sector between 2018 and 2025. But growth is threatened by new, stringent EU regulations for medical devices - according to a new report from the global business information company 'Textiles Intelligence'. Medical textiles: markets, applications, developments and regulations.

3 China will step up efforts to boost investment in the textile industry in Belt and Road (B&R) countries, according to the China National Textile and Apparel Council (CNTAC). In recent years, the CNTAC has helped Chinese textile and apparel firms understand foreign investment environment and contributed to the signing of many overseas investment projects by establishing international platforms for multilateral exchanges and holding investment promotion meetings, said Gao Yong, the council's Party secretary.

4 Starting from September 2019, Germany started a Grüner Knopf (green button in its German meaning) certification in which it would support all textile items that follow certain social and environmental criteria. The federal ministry for economic

cooperation and development (BMZ) will be in charge of this certification and will evaluate companies and its products.

5 Malaysia is mulling over a plan to establish the country's first textile manufacturing hub as part of an effort to revive the industry. The proposal is being drafted by a team from the international trade and industry ministry, the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) and the newly-launched Federation of Malaysian Fashion, Textiles, and Apparels (FMFTA). The government is re-industrializing Malaysia's textile sector and it believes domestic investors are fully capable to develop this hub, international trade and industry minister Datuk Darell Leiking said at the launch of FMFTA in Kuala Lumpur recently.

6 Turkish trade minister Ruhsar Pekcan has said her country and the United States discussed steps to take bilateral trade to US\$ 100 billion from US\$ 20.6 billion in 2018. She said this during the recent four-day visit of US secretary of commerce Wilbur Ross to Turkey. Turkey conveyed its expectations for the removal of certain practices impeding bilateral trade.

7 Fashion and textile products from the UK will be facing a 25% tariff in addition to the normal duties to the US market as part of the ongoing dispute between the US and the EU over subsidies granted to both Boeing and Airbus as the US has threatened to introduce the tariffs by October this year. ♦