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Electric Arc Protective Workwear

Shri. Rohit Lohia
Tara Lohia Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata



Molten Metal Protective Clothing

Shri. Sudhir Thakker
System 5S Pvt. Ltd., Chennai



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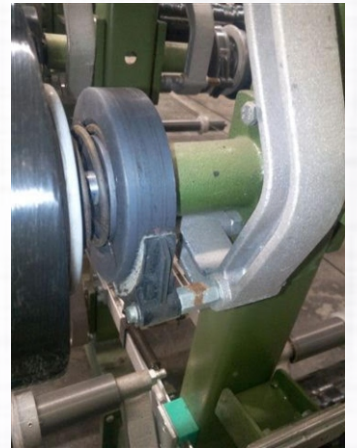
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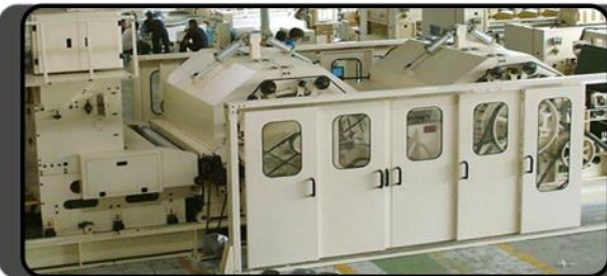
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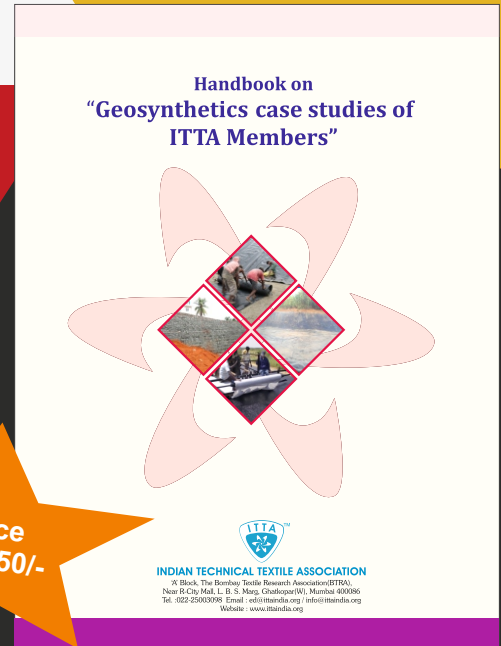
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OSH India 2023 held in Mumbai

The 11th Edition of OSH India - Occupational Safety & Health India 2023 was held from 23rd - 25th November 2023 at Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai which was organised by Informa Markets. The event was supported by Indian Technical Textile Association (ITTA).

The three-day event, offered a platform for global experts, industry players, and enthusiasts to converge, innovate, and

address the challenges and opportunities in the industrial safety and health sector. The expo encompass the entire spectrum of safe and healthy working, with companies representing their businesses with remarkable products, services, and solutions portfolios, including innovative industry concepts and themes in safety and health industry.

The inaugural ceremony was marked by the presence of notable dignitaries - Shri. Devidas B. Gore, Director, DISH Maharashtra; Dr. Ajit Salvi, Dy. Chief Engineer- Sewerage Operations, Brihan Mumbai Municipal Corporation; Shri. Sanjay Kumar, Head-Safety & Quality, Mumbai Metro One Pvt. Ltd.; Shri. V. Ramgude, Chief Engineer Design, PWD, Govt. of Maharashtra; Dr. Anup Rakshit, Executive Director of ITTA, Shri. Hemant Sapre, President, Safety Appliances Manufacturers' Association (SAMA). From Informa Markets- Shri. Yogesh Mudras, Managing Director and Shri. Pankaj Jain, Sr. Group Director & Digital Head were present.

OSH INDIA AWARD

Every year Informa Markets give different categories of awards to the companies & individuals for their exceptional achievements. For the last few years, they invited Dr. Anup Rakshit, Executive Director, ITTA to be one of the esteemed jury members in the OSH India Award Committee and also given a few awards to the winners on the ceremony held on 23rd November 2023



TECHNICAL SESSION POWERED BY ITTA

During Conference, a Technical Session on Technological Advancement on Technical Textile Products for Personal Protection was organised by ITTA on 24th November 2023. The session was moderated by Dr. Anup Rakshit wherein following three papers were presented by ITTA members --

1) Electric-arc Protective Jackets & Gears - Shri. Rohit Lohia, Tarasafe Lohia Pvt. Ltd.

2) Technology of Extreme Cold Weather Garments - Shri. Narendra Kajale, Texport Syndicate India Ltd.

3) Protective Garments for Molten Metal Splash - Shri. Sudhir Thakker, System 5S Pvt. Ltd.



Three Speakers discussed the following areas during the session -

- a. Knowledge on the quality characteristics of various products which are extremely important to safety officials to make sure that human health and safety is protected with quality products.
- b. Some of the very important and advanced products such as- Electric Arc Protective Workwear which are used to protect personnel, mainly from arc flash, arc blast, electric shock & fire ignition. Electric arc protection PPE includes under garments, outer garments, head gears (helmets, hoods, visors), gloves and shoes. Quality products manufacturers follow IEC 61482-2 & NFPA 70E requirements of arc flash hazard.
- c. Molten Metal Protective Clothing are worn by workers in mills, foundries, and welding shops. Molten metal workers should always wear aluminized apparel to protect from radiant heat as well as molten splash and other thermal hazards. Aluminized PPE includes high heat hoods, jackets, aprons, pants, leggings, gloves, and more.
- d. Extreme Cold Weather Garment which is a three-layered clothing designed to provide thermal insulation over a temperature range of +15 to -500C with different combinations of layers and intensity of physical work.

ITTA'S BOOTH IN EXHIBITION

The OSH INDIA 2023 exhibition got overwhelming response this year. Total 150+ exhibitors displayed their products and services including many ITTA members. ITTA also had a Booth in the exhibition, displaying our activities and services. Number of delegates visited the stall, enquired about activities of ITTA, future technical textile courses, conference & exhibition and showed interest to become a member.



ELECTRIC ARC PROTECTIVE WORKWEAR

Shri. Rohit Lohia, Tara Lohia Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata

Introduction:

Over the years, an increased awareness of the importance of FR & Arc Flash protective clothing has changed the outlook of the potentially hazardous industries towards personal protection & safety. Due to the rising urbanization and escalating energy demand in the society, the hazards associated with electrical discharges and faults are increasing. The arc flash, arc blast, electric shock and fire ignition causes the electrical hazards and common conditions that may increase these hazards are elevated location and confined space.

Flame resistance is essential because arc flash temperatures can reach up to 35,000°F, and the clothing must be able to resist ignition and melting. This is roughly 7 times hotter than the surface temperature of the sun. Such high temperatures vaporize all materials like water (present in the air as humidity) and liquefies metal parts in vicinity of the incident, such as copper and aluminum. Electrical resistance is also important, since electrical current can pass through a material when exposed to arc flash. Clothing must be able to resist the electrical current in order to protect workers from the injuries due to electric arc such as burns, respiratory system damage, penetration of the skin by flying debris, hearing loss, and internal injuries caused by force from the blast pressure.

Risk Assessment:

- Assessment of risk associated to the specific industry and conditions is crucial.
- No Universal Formula of Safety - A set formula of safety in one industry will not work for all industries.
- Assessment includes steps like:
 - Elimination of possible hazards.
 - Substitution through changes.
 - Steps possible for reduction of hazards.
 - Leverage technical progress - use safe innovations/ technologies/ systems.
 - Isolation of areas where possibility of risk is higher.

- Multiple controls to enhance risk mitigation - periodical re-assessment, changes, audits.
- Prioritize training and only resort to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as a last measure.
- 100% protection against an electric fault arc is not feasible with PPE. Instead, the focus should be to mitigate and often eliminate the possibility and consequences of an electric arc.

Arc Flash clothing can increase the chances of survival and decrease the requirement of medical treatment and subsequent infections. It can help preserve the life of a worker exposed to an electric arc event. Electric Arc protection PPE includes under garments, outer garments, head gears such as helmets, hoods, visors, gloves and shoes.



Fig 1. Head-to-toe Protection

International Standards and Guidelines:

The international standard that specifies fabric and garment certification requirements for protecting workers against electric arc hazards.

a) PPE should be tested and certified using one or both of the following methods (EU Markets) are given in Table 1 -

- IEC 61482-1-1: Open Arc Test Method - Provides the arc rating of the fabric or garment in Cal/cm².
- IEC 61482-1-2: Box Test Method.
- Determines the arc protection class rating (class 1 or 2) of the fabric or garment using a constrained and directed electric arc.

Table 1:

	IEC 61482-1-1	IEC 61482-1-2
Set-up	Long Open Arc	Arc in a box
Test Energy	Variable adjusted by arc duration at constant test current	Constant, Two Possible Level (Classes)
Heat Transfer	All Directions: Mainly Radiation	Focused: Radiation, Convection, Metal Splash
Test Result	Arc Rating (ELIM, ATPV or E _{BT50})	Arc Flash Protection Class: Y/N

a) NFPA 70E is the United States standard for policies and protocols designed to safeguard employees faced with the threat of electric arcs (US Markets).

- ASTM 1506, ASTM F1959 - the test method used to determine the arc rating (ATPV or EBT50)
- A garment can be evaluated in an electric arc exposure to also test the finished product using ASTM F2621 Electric Arc. Following table will clarify the different arc flash levels –

Table 2:

Arc Flash Categories	E _{BT50} (cal/cm ²)
CAT 1	>4
CAT 2	>8
CAT 3	>25
CAT 4	>40

Changes in Arc Rated clothing- Last Few Years:

A. Conventional Garments:

- Cotton treated FR - Heavy weight ranging from

300 - 800 gsm or more - depending on risk categories to cover.

- Synthetic blend undergarments.
- Uncomfortable and cumbersome garments - due to heavy weights.

B. Advancements:

- New man-made fibers in business.
- Lighter weight inherent FR garments.
- Soft & supple FR undergarments for increased protection levels.
- New comfortable designing possibilities of garments.

Conclusion:

- Reserve PPE as a last resort after exploring and implementing all control measures.
- Ensure PPE in use complies with specific standards for electric arc protection.
- Remember - PPE offers adequate protection in reasonable situations - tested under lab ideal conditions.
- Always use PPE with an incident energy level tested more than the possible assessed hazard for complete protection.
- Follow the manufacturer's guidelines for wear, maintenance, and cleaning, very strictly for intended performance levels.

NOTE: The article is an extract of the presentation in a Technical Session on “Technological Advancement on Technical Textile Products for Personal Protection”, powered by ITTA, during OSH India 2023 Expo & Conference held on 24th November 2023.



MOLTEN METAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Shri. Sudhir Thakker, Managing Director, System 5S Pvt. Ltd., Chennai

Introduction:

Molten metal incidents can cause great suffering, sometimes resulting in permanent disability or death. The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 require employers to provide suitable protective clothing and equipment for their employees when they are exposed to a risk, such as molten metal, which cannot be completely controlled by other more effective means. In premises such as foundries and steelworks where molten metal is present, the risk of injury depends upon many factors. Suitable protective clothing and equipment may have to be provided as part of the overall control measures to prevent exposure to molten metal.

Risk assessment:

The following list of controls is not exhaustive but they are the minimum required before protective clothing is considered:

- Passageways and other areas where molten metals are handled to be kept clear of obstructions and tripping hazards.
- Quality of moulds and dies is good enough to prevent unnecessary molten metal ejection or run-out.
- Proper system of work ensures that the charge to a furnace is properly inspected, prepared and dried to prevent a water/metal explosion.
- Moulds, ladles and implements used with molten metal are properly dried and prepared.
- Furnaces, ladles, transporter tracks and other key items of equipment are regularly maintained and inspected to prevent their failure.
- Effective precautions are taken if maintenance work has to be carried out close to molten metal.
- Operator training is designed to make sure employees understand and follow safe working practices.
- Operations are managed and supervised effectively to ensure that established safe operating procedures are followed.

After carrying out the risk assessment we can decide the need of protective clothing to reduce the risk of

injuries from molten metal and it is important that you select the correct clothing.

Selection of correct clothing:

Primary protective clothing is used for Foundry work such as charging, taping and pouring molten metal can expose workers to dangerous thermal hazards and burn injuries and primary protective clothing is the first line of defence against molten metal splash and other foundry hazards. It is the outer layer of a personal protective equipment (PPE) system. There are various fabrics available such as i) Aluminised fabrics are a combination of a base fabric finished with an aluminised film or coating & ii) Non-Aluminised fabrics include CarbonX Repel and WeldWool are specifically designed to provide protection from molten metal splash.



Fig 1. Primary Protective Clothing

Secondary protective clothing is the last line of defence for the body if the primary protective clothing fails. Ideally, the clothing should be flame-resistant & the selection criteria should be based on primarily protection followed by comfort and then value. There are two types of fire-resistant (FR) fabrics used in Secondary Protective Clothing: i) Treated FR fabrics are created by applying a flame-retardant chemical finish to a fabric or by adding a chemical treatment to the yarn before they are woven or knitted into the fabric. The chemicals form a strong bond with the polymer chain that is difficult to remove by washing when the Recommended laundering instructions are followed accurately & Inherent FR fabrics are made of fibres in which the FR properties are

naturally part of the polymer backbone and can never be worn away or washed out. The actual structure of the fibre itself is non-flammable; therefore, the flame resistance is permanent.

Clothing Design:

Clothing should be designed to withstand exposure to flame and shed molten metal quickly and effectively. Badly fitted garments can create folds that catch and hold the metal, making them less

protective. The design of garment is also important, for example pockets and flaps create catch points, metal buttons heat up from radiant heat and reflective tape can stop the fabric breathing and cause sweat and burn marks if not placed well on a garment. The accessories included in the molten metal protective clothing are head, ears, eyes & face, respiratory, trunks & arms, hands, legs and foot protectors. These accessories are explained in the Table 1 below.

Table 1 - Accessories included in molten metal clothing

	PRIMARY PPE for molten metal work, in addition to secondary PPE	SECONDARY PPE for general foundry work
HEAD	Use helmets where there is potential for items to fall from a height or where work takes place above head height. Industrial safety helmets should be considered. Where tasks result in dust or particulates, a head covering should be considered.	
EARS	The choice of hearing protection should consider level of occupational noise, the wearer, for example personal characteristics, comfort, communication requirements, and compatibility with the job and workplace. Guidance on hearing protectors is provided in AS/NZS 1269.3 Acoustics: Hearing Conservation	
EYES AND FACE	Face shields with neck protection	Industrial safety glasses with side shields are the minimum
RESPIRATORY	The type of respirator selected should consider: the operator and physiological and psychological factors - facial hair should not be allowed; the task and how the job is done, duration, frequency; and substance - type of contaminant, concentration. Guidance can be sourced from suppliers of respiratory protective equipment and AS/NZS 1716 Respiratory protective devices.	
TRUNKS AND ARMS	A jacket of leather or other Aluminised Foundry Jacket suitably resistant material must be worn outside other clothing. It must be free of features, for example cuffs and pockets may trap molten metal. It must be worn properly and fastened every time.	Long-sleeved shirt made FR Workwear - Classic Fire-Resistant Long-Sleeved Shirt from flame -resistant fabric, for example wool, heavy cotton drill. Garments should fasten at the neck and wrists to prevent molten metal splashes, dust, chemicals and other substances from entering through the collar and cuffs.
HANDS	Heat-resistant Kevlar or heavy leather gauntlets covering the lower part of arm.	Gloves selected should take into account the hazard, for e.g. burns, abrasion, chemicals and cuts; work environment; & the wearer, for e.g. fit, comfort and dexterity. Guidance on selection, use & maintenance of protective gloves is provided in AS/NZS 2161.1 Industrial Safety Gloves and Mittens
LEGS	Where risk of molten metal spills or splashes Aluminised Foundry Trousers exists, trousers of leather or other suitably resistant materials must be worn. The trousers should cover the top of the footwear and be free of features, for e.g. cuffs and pockets could trap molten metal.	Heat-resistant trousers.
FEET	Workers should always wear safety footwear in the workplace, unless there are sound medical reasons, for example if wearing safety footwear would injure the wearer. In such cases, the reason for such an opinion should be given and the most effective alternative protective equipment sought.	

Levels of risk for work with molten metals:

Level 0 - Sparks and other relatively low risk use such as welding and flame cutting.

Level 1 - Molten metal splashes occurring from small spillages etc.

Level 2 - A cloud of molten metal droplets, e.g. from a small water/molten metal explosion.

Level 3 - Localised impact from a large eruption or explosion. Clothing will not necessarily provide full protection but it may reduce the severity of any injuries.

BS EN ISO 11612 (or) IS 15748 is the standard which clothes will usually be tested to. It places fabric into three performance levels which are considered to relate to Levels 1, 2 and 3 above. Those performance levels of materials during testing are given in the two tables below.

Table 2 - Molten Aluminium Splash (Acceptable for molten aluminium bronze and molten minerals)

Performance levels	Molten Aluminium Splash (g)	
	Min	Max
D1	100	<200
D2	200	<350
D3	350	

Table 3 - Molten Iron Splash (Acceptable for molten aluminium bronze and molten minerals)

Performance levels	Molten Iron Splash (g)	
	Min	Max
E1	60	<120
E2	120	<200
E3	200	

Care and maintenance of clothing:

- Molten metal protective clothing must be cleaned correctly. You must follow the

manufacturers or suppliers' instructions as failure to use the correct method of cleaning may significantly reduce the degree of protection offered by the clothing.

- Worn or damaged clothing will not provide the expected protection against molten metal. It should not be used and should be replaced or professionally repaired as soon as possible.
- Wearers should check their protective clothing thoroughly before they use it to make sure it is not damaged.

Training should be provided to:

- the person responsible for issuing the equipment
- operators regularly working with or near molten metal
- production area supervisory staff
- maintenance staff
- managers and other staff who occasionally visit the production areas
- occasional visitors

The type and level of training each employee requires will depend on the nature of their work, the risks to which they are exposed and what their involvement is with the provision and use of the PPE.

Supervision: Monitoring is necessary to check that the protective clothing you provide is being worn by those people who need it and:

- the correct clothing has been selected
- it is being worn correctly when needed
- the clothing is being properly maintained and cleaned
- it is being correctly stored when it is not being used

NOTE: The article is an extract of the presentation in a Technical Session on "Technological Advancement on Technical Textile Products for Personal Protection", powered by ITTA, during OSH India 2023 Expo & Conference held on 24th November 2023.



1. ENGAGEMENTS WITH CENTRAL & STATE GOVERNMENTS

1.1. Meeting held between ITTA Officials and Minister of Textiles

The meeting was held on 07th November 2023 between ITTA Officials and Ms. Rachna Shah, Secretary Textiles, Ministry of Textiles in New Delhi. From ITTA, Shri. Avinash Misar, Chairman, Shri. Uday KS, Director and Shri. Anil Kumar Vasupillai, Additional Executive Director were present in the meeting.

Shri. Avinash Misar profusely thanked Secretary Textiles for giving ITTA an opportunity to present the issues and concerns pertaining to the Indian Technical Textile (TT) Industry. Chairman highlighted ITTA's mission and core activities being undertaken by ITTA since 2010 for the Indian TT industry. He has drawn her attention to ITTA's Board and said it consists of 14 expert-members, each one focuses exclusively on the 12 TT segments industry respectively, including the emerging Composites and Specialty Fibers. He said ITTA unique nature and strength is its knowledge base of 400+ members and majority being engineers and technocrats having core expertise in their respective areas of TT. ITTA facilitates a vibrant group for sharing knowledge-B2B information by interacting 24x7 for industry's growth. He said this ITTA vibrant platform is one of the driving forces of the TT industry today. He informed that now ITTA is focusing on organizing National Conclaves on key TT segments of high growth & export potential, thereby fulfilling NTTM's vision of Market Promotion & Development. He expressed profoundly gratitude to Ms. Rachana Shah for her unstinting support towards ITTA to lead and successfully organize two National Conclaves; viz. on Sportech and Agrotech during 2nd June & 6th Oct. 2023 respectively with the NTTM's support and jointly with the respective CoEs viz. WRA & SASMIRA, and on Protech by supporting with the NITRA.

Shri. Avinash Misar appreciated Secretary textiles for the QCO initiatives being undertaken by the MoT in many Textile and Technical textiles products. He stressed that ITTA strive to bring onboard our members in the various stakeholder's meeting for the QCO and make key suggestions,



recommendations, which are being considered by MoT. He also made a cautioned observation on current difficult situation arising out of broad based QCOs in certain raw material segments of Textiles & TT, as it is causing impasse in final production for the industry. He said that in the midst of slew of QCO orders, our members are also facing difficulties in getting quality raw materials by way of imports, as some of which are not adequately manufactured in India, needs attention. Secretary Textiles assured that she will address this issue appropriately.

He also drawn her attention towards the specific case of QCO for the Polyester Industrial Yarn (S.O. 1652 € dated 5th April 2022 Gazette order), which had come into effect from 3rd Oct. 2022. He said that ITTA members are facing difficulty in getting this critical raw material imported specifically Polyester Industrial Yarn- adhesive active polyester yarn, as there are only two manufacturers of Polyester Industrial grade Yarn (IDY) and they too make only 1000 denier, and do not make 2000, 3000 and 4000 Dn yarns on regular basis. He informed that ITTA have requested Shri. Deepak Mishra, JS, Dept. of Chemicals and Petro Chemicals to consider industry request for giving exemptions for some specific items which are not adequately made in India. Sh. Mishra said will take up this critical matter and resolve the issue. He requested Secretary Textiles for holding a separate meeting on this for an urgent resolve. She has kindly agreed to do the needful in this regard.

Chairman ITTA mentioned that ITTA will be encouraging members to participate in large numbers in the Bharat Tex 2024 for showcasing their products and learning from Knowledge sessions and interactions with large numbers of

buyers from India and abroad. He also drawn her attention towards ITTA's strength in organizing Executive Development Training Programmes on various segments and assured Secretary that ITTA wish to continue in this area.

1.2. Meeting of TAMC under ATUFS

The 36th TAMC meeting under ATUFS was held through audio-video conferencing on 21.11.2023 under the Chairpersonship of Ms. Roop Rashi, Textile Commissioner. Dr. Anup Rakshit, ED, ITTA attended the meeting. MOM was circulated to all ITTA members.

Major Decisions Taken in TAMC --

- a) If the unit is shifted before JIT, then it is allowed to carry out one time correction in address. However, if unit shift after JIT they should

intimate to the Textile Commissioner. TAMC will issue circular/public notice in this regard.

- b) 03 machinery manufacturers/ authorized agents were enlisted under ATUFS.
- c) Dedicated Camp for settlement of Ahmedabad Region cases was held at Surat from 30.10.2023 to 09.11.2023. The camp was successful and 172 cases were settled in camp with a subsidy value of Rs.25 crore (Approx.).

2. EVENTS SUPPORTED & CONTRIBUTED BY ITTA

2.1. TexFuture 2023 held in Mumbai

Department of Textiles, Government of Maharashtra in association with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has organised a Investors Conference on "TexFuture 2023: Envisioning a Thriving Future for the Textile & Apparels Industry in Maharashtra" on 01st November 2023 in Mumbai. Shri. Avinash Misar, Chairman, ITTA was invited as a Panelist in the roundtable discussion.

The inaugural ceremony was marked by the presence of notable dignitaries like Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Hon'ble Minister of State for Textiles, GoI; Shri. Rahul Narwekar, Hon'ble Speaker, Maharashtra Legislative Assembly; Shri. Virendra Singh IAS, Secretary, Textiles Department, Govt. of Maharashtra; Shri. Gautam Singhanian, Hon'ble Chairman & Managing Director Raymond Group; Shri. Rohit Kansal IAS, Hon'ble Additional Secretary, MoT, GoI; Dr. K Nandakumar, Chairman, CII Maharashtra State Council & CMD of Chemtrols Industries Pvt Ltd, discussed how the textile industry has long been a cornerstone of Maharashtra's economy, and its future hinges on its ability to adapt and thrive in an ever-changing landscape.

In this conclave, there were three panel discussion on - Technical Textiles and their potential in Maharashtra, Use of alternative and emerging technologies for ensuring sustainability in the textiles industry,

while developing readiness for future skills and Role of e-commerce and retail in impacting consumer preferences towards a greater opportunity in the Global Textile Market.

The Panel discussion on 'Technical Textiles and their potential in Maharashtra' was moderated by Shri. Charan Singh Ahuja, Managing Director, Pal Fashions Pvt. Ltd. The eminent panelists were Smt. Roop Rashi (IA&AS), Textile Commissioner, Government of India; Professor Asim Tewari, Department of Mechanical Engineering- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay; Dr T V Sreekumar, Director, The Bombay Textile Research Association; Shri Ravi Prakash Singh, Assistant Director, SASMIRA; Shri Avinash Misar, CEO and Director, Texport Syndicate India Ltd.; and Shri. Swapnil Sansare, Chief Executive Officer, Divide By Zero Technologies.

The Technical Textiles landscape is evolving rapidly,



offering a multitude of opportunities for industries in Maharashtra. The session explored the profound impact of technical textiles across diverse sectors. From healthcare and agriculture to automotive and aerospace, the applications of technical textiles are revolutionizing traditional practices and setting new standards. R&D and innovation have become the bedrock of this transformation. Championing sustainability, this session touched upon the challenge of raw material availability, emphasizing

market diversification as a key strategy. Discover how quality control and rigorous testing measures play a pivotal role in ensuring the performance and safety of technical textiles.



2.2. 2nd Edition CII Technical Textiles Conference in Coimbatore

The 2nd Edition CII Technical Textiles Conference organised by CII in partnership with the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India and Department of Textiles, Government of Tamil Nadu was held on 17th & 18th November 2023 in Coimbatore. Shri. Avinash Misar, Chairman, ITTA was invited as a speaker in the exclusive session on Technical Textiles.

This conference convened that the domestic and international experts and thought leaders to deliberate on key opportunities, challenges, growth potential, existing and new investments, global markets, trends, and expanding horizons in the Technical Textiles domain. In this conference, there were five panel discussion on - Technical Textiles & MMF -Embracing the Change, Expectations from Brands- Focus on Functional Textiles, Meditech-Embracing the future: Exploring Technological Advancements & Opportunities, Scaling Sustainability & Circularity in Textile-to-Textile Recycling: Opportunities/ Challenges/ Policy initiatives and Sportech - Existing Ecosystem & Future Opportunities in TN.

The exclusive plenary session on "Technical Textiles & MMF- Embracing the change" was moderated by Dr. K Vel Krishna, Managing Director, Deiveegam Dyers. The eminent panelists were Shri. Dharmendra Pratap Yadav IAS., Principal Secretary to Government Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi Department, Govt. of Tamil Nadu; Shri. Prashant Kumar Meena, Deputy Secretary, MoT; Shri. Udayabhaskar, Consultant, Boston Consulting Group; Shri. A Ravikumar, Executive Director, SRTEPC; Shri. Avinash Misar, Chairman, ITTA; Shri. Anjani Prasad, MD & VP - South Asia, Archroma India; Dr. Alli Rani, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International School of Textiles & Management and Shri. Vishwanathan Sambasivam, Consultant, Geomouli Corporation.

Shri. Avinash Misar highlighted the current scenario and future potential of the Technical Textile industry in India and the various activities that ITTA is doing for the rapid growth of the industry, such as, policy reforms, focused investment in this sector, standard development, introduction of new HSN code, skilled man-power developments, etc.

2.3. 81st Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee in Mumbai

The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles organised the 81st Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) in Mumbai during 2nd - 5th December, 2023 through the Office of Textile Commissioner (OTxC) in association with the Cotton Corporation of India Limited (CCI), the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) and the Cotton Association of India (CAI). The theme of this Plenary Meeting is "Cotton Value Chain: Local Innovations for Global prosperity".

The 81st Plenary aimed to serve as a platform for sharing innovations, benchmarks, good practices

and experiences across the globe on productivity, climate resilience and circularity for a vibrant cotton economy. Focus is on local innovations and cutting-edge technologies for sustainability developed locally but have global implications and potential for the prosperity of the cotton value chain.

This Plenary Meeting encompasses a broad range of topics around cotton, including Technologies to increase productivity, Climate-smart Innovations as Game Changers for Cotton Production, Recent Impactful technological advances, Industry 4.0 for textiles: smart manufacturing in textiles, Global efforts in branding sustainability and Quality



assurance, Genetics, Diversity to enhance cotton productivity, Cotton and Climate Resilience, Technological innovations for global collaborations and other sessions to glean opportunities from challenges as well as focusing of possible Collaborations for the growth in cotton textile value chain.

The World Cafe discussions for table having subject on “Cotton Prospects in Technical Textiles” was held during ICAC event on 04th December 2023. It was moderated by Shri. S. P. Verma, Secretary, Textiles Committee and the eminent panelists were Shri. Suresh A Kotak, Chairman, Textile Advisory Group, GoI; Dr. Anup Rakshit, Executive Director, ITTA; Shri. Jerzy Kotwas, IZBA Bawelny W Gdyni; Shri. Steven Chen, Taiwan Textile Federation and Shri. Suryadeb Mukherjee, Gherzi.

The salient feature of discussion on the above topic is global technical textile market was valued at USD

2.4. 61st Joint Technological Conference held in Mumbai

The 61st Joint Technological Conference (JTC) was organized jointly by ATIRA, BTRA, SITRA and NITRA on 14th & 15th December, 2023 at The Bombay Textile Research Association, Mumbai. This was the 61st in the series held every year by rotation at above TRA. This conference, as a tradition, has always attracted a large number of technical audiences from all over the country.

In this 2-day conference, 24 technical papers were presented by TRAs and industry covering different fields of textiles. The conference provides deep discussions on R&D, carried out by all the four Research Associations and possibility of adopting them in the industry. In addition, an exclusive session and exhibitions on technical textiles was held where prominent speakers from research

164.6 billion in 2020 & is projected to reach USD 222.4 billion by 2025, with a CAGR of 6.2% & current Indian technical textiles market is estimated at USD 19 billion, growing at a CAGR of 12% over the past five years. Cotton-based technical textiles in medical applications include absorbent cotton, bandages, gauzes, medical drapes & gowns, absorbent pads, hospital bed sheets, cotton buds, wipes, and surgical cotton. Cotton also finds applications in agrotextiles, particularly in mulching, replacing non-biodegradable synthetic materials, cotton-based polymer coated fabrics can be used in high-altitude garments and military equipment like camouflage covers, tents, and sleeping bags & cotton safety bags, flame-resistant work wear/ uniforms, cotton also preferred for Home-tech applications due to its softness, breathability, and absorbency. The new technologies on cotton nonwovens are Spun lace technology & Needle punch technology which are used for production of various types of dry & wet wipes for hygiene and cosmetic applications, industrial filters, etc. The way forward for cotton in technical textile is studies & development to be conducted with Taiwan Textile Foundation and Gdynia Cotton Association, Poland for consumer preferences, work on product substitutability with competitive economic elements, technology development on recycling and reuse of technical textiles, new utilities could be explored together with a study on market requirement with coordination and support of ICAC and Dept. like TC, ITTA in association with Textile Value Group have volunteered to join these initiatives.

organizations and technical textiles manufacturers made presentation. During the exhibition, technical textile product manufacturers showcased their products and made a valuable connection with fellow professionals and users during the event.

The Panel Discussion on “Challenges to implement QCO and regulatory requirements for Geosynthetics and its impact on Industry” was moderated by Dr. Anup Rakshit Executive Director, ITTA. The eminent panelists were Shri. Bidur Kant Jha, Director (New Technology for Highway Development), Ministry of Road Transport & Highway, GoI; Shri. Himanshu Shukla, Scientist-B, BIS; Shri. Nilesh Kulkarni, GM-Business Development, Techfab India Pvt. Ltd. and Shri. Vijay Ramakrishnan, Sr. Vice President, Garware Technical Fibres Ltd. This discussion



covered- Awareness on IS specs. of Geosynthetics, QCO concepts and guidance on getting product certification, Availability of speciality fibres and yarns in domestic markets and imports for producing Geosynthetics and Sharing experience on getting certification on Geosynthetic products.



ITTA also had a Booth in the exhibition, displaying our activities and services. Shri. Rajeev Saxena, Joint Secretary, MoT visited ITTA Stall. Number of delegates visited the stall, enquired about activities of ITTA, future technical textile courses, conference & exhibition and showed interest to become a member.

2.5. ChromaTexChem 2023 held in Mumbai

The ChromaTexChem 2023 Exhibition & Conference was organised by Colourage which was held on 19th & 20th December 2023 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai. Dr. Anup Rakshit, Executive Director, ITTA was invited as a speaker in the panel discussion.

It is a unique exhibition showcasing the importance of colorants and specialty chemicals to the textile and related applications in India and around the world. The two days of the event saw an extremely healthy and fruitful business interaction between exhibitors and visitors alike. Not only were the latest innovations in our dyes and chemical industry showcased by exhibitors, but also their efforts and vision for sustainability.

The Panel Discussion on “Current Status and Future Outlook of the Textile Industry” which was moderated by Shri. Anjani Prasad, Regional VP-

South Asia & MD India, Archroma and the eminent speakers were Shri. KK Lalpuria, CEO & Executive Director, Indo Count Industries Ltd.; Shri. Anil Rajvanshi, President, Reliance Industries & Director, Alok Industries; Shri. GV Aras, Strategic Advisor & Industry Mentor; Dr. Anup Rakshit, ED, ITTA and Shri. Manmohan Singh, Group Executive President, Grasim Industries Ltd. Key areas were discussed - insights on the current state & potential short-term growth factors and long-term strategies of the cotton and home textiles sector, an overview of the polyester industry and its relation to government movements, perspectives on investments in the industry and the role of machinery, insights into the current status of the viscose/regenerated fibre segment, explores the technological landscape in the textiles industry and discusses advancements, challenges, and strategies for the technical textiles sector.



ITTA'S ENGAGEMENT WITH BIS DEVELOPMENT OF INDIAN STANDARDS ON TECHNICAL TEXTILES

1. BIS SECTIONAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS -

1.1 Technical Textiles for Medtech Applications Sectional Committee (TXD 36)

The 24th Meeting of Technical Textiles for Medtech Applications Sectional Committee, TXD 36 was held through video conferencing on 07.11.2023. The meeting was attended by Dr. Anup Rakshit, ED from ITTA Secretariat and ITTA Members from Dima Products, Dispoline India Pvt. Ltd., Ginni Filaments Ltd., Kimberly Clark Corporation, KOB Medical Textiles Pvt. Ltd., Nobel Hygiene, Procter and Gamble Co., Surya Textech and Venus Safety & Health Pvt. Ltd.

Following points were discussed & decided in the meeting--

- 1. IS Standards for Publication** - Following Indian Standard is finalized for publication- TXD 36 (22466) Guidelines for Reprocessing of Multiple Use Healthcare Textiles.
- 2. Wide Circulation** - Following Draft amendment of published standards will be issued under wide circulation- IS 5405:2019 Sanitary Napkins, IS 17514:2021 Reusable Sanitary Pad/ Sanitary Napkin/ Period Panties, IS 758:2023 Absorbent Cotton Gauze and IS 17508:2020 Disposable Adult Incontinence Diaper.
- 3. Research and Development Project** - New

1.2 Technical Textiles for Mobiltech Applications Sectional Committee (TXD 38)

The 8th Meeting of Technical Textiles for Mobiltech Applications Sectional Committee, TXD 38 was held through video conferencing on 16.11.2023. The meeting was attended by Shri. Ankit Desai as a representative of ITTA and ITTA Members from Arvind Ltd., Autoliv India Ltd., Autotech Nonwovens Pvt. Ltd., Century Enka Ltd., Kusumgar Corporates Pvt. Ltd., SRF Ltd. and Sanrhea Technical Textiles Ltd.

Highlights of the key points discussed & decided in the meeting -

- 1. IS Standards for Publication** - Following Indian

Subject: Surgical Sutures (Absorbable and Non-Absorbable)- The committee considered the proposed Term of Reference (ToR) on this subject. Key elements in the ToR are -

- Title of the project: Preparation of draft standard on Medical Textiles - Surgical Sutures (Absorbable and Non-Absorbable) - Specification.
- The background is Technical Committee: TXD 36 Technical Textiles for Medtech Applications Sectional Committee has identified this subject in order to take a holistic view on the subject and to formulate an indigenous Indian Standard, a detailed study of Surgical Sutures (Absorbable and Non-Absorbable) on raw material and performance parameter is required. The scope of the project is to bring out a draft standard for surgical sutures with specific reference to absorbable and non-absorbable sutures supported by technical information, scientific data, inhouse test report, third party report, International Practice. BIS will support & provide all the relevant Indian Standards/ISO Standards or any other standards required during the project.

Standard is finalized for publication- IS 7133:1985 Cotton Tyre Cord and Tyre Cord Fabric for Cycle and Rickshaw, IS 4910 (Part 13):1989 Tyre Yarns Cords and Tyre Cord Fabrics Made from Man-Made Fibres Methods of Test Part 13 Static Adhesion of Textile Tyre Cord to Vulcanized Rubber, IS 11573:1986 Textiles Polyamide Yarn for Cycle & Rickshaw Tyres and Car Body Covers.

- 2. Research and Development Project** - The committee scrutinized the ToR for the R&D Project 'Headliners for Automobiles' and

approved the ToR with minor modifications. Key elements in the ToR are -

- a. Title of the Project: To generate the empirical data for the requirements of 'Headliners for Automobiles'.
- b. The background is Technical Committee: Technical Textiles for Mobiltech Applications Sectional Committee-TXD 38 has taken up new work item proposal on 'Automotive Headliners'. Headliners for automobiles are materials used to provide thermal and

acoustic insulation as a primary requirement within a vehicle. The scope of the project is to identify the requirements for headliners and generate data for requirements like Thermal Insulation, Acoustic Insulation, Durability, Fire Resistance, Adhesive Backing, Sound Absorption, Vibration, Damping, thickness, indentation hardness, Tactility, colour fastness, abrasion, resistance to dust and dirt. BIS will provide the international standard/ journal/ books for understanding the subject testing of any requirements of headliners.

1.1 High Performance Fibres, Fibrous Structure and Textile Components of Composites Sectional Committee (TXD 40)

The 7th Meeting of High Performance Fibres, Fibrous Structure and Textile Components of Composites Sectional Committee, TXD 40 was held through video conferencing on 01.12.2023. The meeting was attended by Dr. Anup Rakshit, ED from ITTA Secretariat and ITTA Members from Arvind Ltd., Bhor Chemicals and Plastics Pvt. Ltd., DuPont India, Garware Technical Fibers Ltd., Kusumgar Corporates, Nikol Advance Materials Pvt. Ltd., Owens Corning India Pvt. Ltd. & SRF Ltd.

Highlights of the key points discussed & decided in the meeting -

1. Working drafts to be prepared on the new subjects/ products like i) HT & SHT Nylon filament by SRF Ltd. & Century Enka, ii) HT/SHT Polyester filament by Reliance, Polyester Division and SRF Ltd., iii) HT/SHT Polypropylene filament by

Reliance, PP Division, iv) UHMWPE Fibre and filament Yarn & Basalt fibre & filament by Garware Technical Fibres Ltd., v) Glass Fibres (A Glass and H Glass by Goa Glass Fibre Ltd. vi) Aramid fibre & filament by DuPont India, Teijin India Pvt. Ltd. & Bhor Chemicals and Plastics Pvt. Ltd. and vii) Pre-Oxidised fibre by BTRA.

2. Wide Circulation - To prepare draft of IS 17297, IS 17300, and IS 17306 based on latest version of ISO 1888: 2022, ISO 2078: 2022, and ISO 10119: 2020 and same will be issued for wide circulation.

3. Research and Development Project - The committee scrutinized the draft Term of Reference (ToR) for the subject 'To study the properties of Glass Fibres' and decided to rework on the R&D Project & it's Term of Reference (ToR) with more technical on research content.



ITTA SIGNED MOU WITH SAFETY APPLIANCES MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION (SAMA)

Safety Appliances Manufacturers Association (SAMA) is an Association of Occupational Safety Appliances & Services – Providers, Manufacturers, Distributors & Dealers. Enhancing safety awareness and guiding the end-user for optimum usage of Safety Appliances & services, technologies, and equipment. Organizes events & campaigns for the members that boost workplace safety awareness across industries. The objective of MOU is:-

1. To promote Technical Textiles in India and abroad.
2. It will create a common platform to share knowledge and help each other to resolve various industry issues.

Centre extends date for inviting fresh applications under PLI Scheme Textiles



India has a considerable share of manmade fibre (MMF) products (fibre, yarn, fabrics, made-ups, readymade garments of MMF) in the total Textiles & Apparel (incl. handicrafts) exports. Under the PLI Scheme for Textiles focusing on MMF Apparel, MMF Fabrics & Technical Textiles, 64 selected applicants are expected to set up 84 units in 14 states and 1 UT including one in Odisha & 10 in Maharashtra.

The Government has extended the date for inviting fresh applications through online portal under PLI Scheme for Textiles up to 31st December 2023 and

applications are currently being received. The industry is gearing up to tap the potential of MMF and Technical Textiles segment, which is a sunrise industry segment in the country duly supported by PLI Scheme for Textiles and National Technical Textiles Mission. This information was given by the Union Minister of State for Textiles, Smt. Darshana Jardosh in a written reply in the Lok Sabha.

[Source - <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1983223>]

Cabinet approves Additional allocation of Rs 2500 crore for continuation of Interest Equalisation Scheme till 30.06.2024

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi has approved an additional allocation of Rs 2500 Cr for continuation of Interest Equalisation Scheme till 30th June 2024. This would help exporters from identified sectors and all MSME manufacturer exporters to avail pre and post shipment Rupee export credit at competitive rates.

Benefit shall be continued till 30.06.2024 to manufacturer and merchant exporters of the identified 410 tariff lines and to all manufacturer exporters from MSME sectors at rates as specified below:

Sr. No.	Category of Exporters	Rate of Interest Equalisation
1	Manufacturer and Merchant Exporters exporting products listed in the 410 tariff lines	2%
2	MSME exporters of all tariff lines	3%

The scheme shall be implemented by RBI through various Public and non-Public Sector banks who provide pre and post shipment credit to the exporters. The Scheme is jointly monitored by DGFT and RBI through a consultative mechanism.

Availability of pre and post shipment packing credit at competitive rates is important for the exports sector in order to compete internationally. The effect of Interest Equalisation Scheme has been beneficial for the exports growth of the country as per the study conducted by IIM Kashipur. MSME sector is vital for employment generation. The scheme is primarily meant for the labour intensive sectors. The present proposal is meant for exports by merchants and manufacturer exporters of identified tariff lines and MSME Sector manufacturer exporters. Increase in exports from these employment intensive sectors and MSMEs would lead to generation of employment in the country.

Details and progress of scheme if already running: The figure of disbursement of amounts under the scheme for the last 3 years are as follow:

Sr. No.	Financial Year	Budget Allocated (in Crores)	Actual Expenditure (in Crores)
1	2021-22	3488	3488 (including arrears)
2	2022-23	3118	3118
3	2023-24	2932	2641.28(as on 30.11.2023)

[Source - <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1984212>]

Technology Development Fund



The Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme is a flagship programme of Ministry of Defence executed by DRDO under 'Make in India' initiative. The main objectives of the scheme are enumerated below:

- To provide Grant in Aid to Indian industries, including MSMEs and Start-ups, as well as academic and scientific institutions for the development of Defence and dual use technologies that are currently not available with the Indian defence Industry.
- To engage with the private industries especially MSMEs and Start-ups to bring in the culture of Design & Development of Military Technology and support them with Grant in Aid.
- To focus on Research, Design & Development of Niche technologies which are being developed for the first time in the country.
- To create a bridge amongst the Armed Forces, research organizations, academia and qualifying/certifying agencies with private sector entities.
- To support the futuristic technologies having a Proof of Concept and converting them into prototype.

- The benefits sought to be gained by the scheme are as follows:
- Capacity and capability building of Indian industries for design and development of defence technologies in the country.
- Creation of an ecosystem of R&D where industry and Academia work together to meet the current and futuristic requirement of Armed Forces and defence sector.
- Building of Defence manufacturing ecosystem in country.
- Achieving 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence technology.

Till date, a total of 70 projects at total cost of Rs 291.25 crore have been sanctioned to various industries and 16 defence technologies have been successfully developed/realised under the scheme. This information was given by Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt in a written reply to Shri Tapir Gao in Lok Sabha.

[Source - <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1983971>]

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approves reservation norms for Jute Packaging Materials for Year 2023-24



The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi, has approved reservation norms for mandatory use of jute in packaging for the Jute Year 2023 -24 (1st July, 2023 to 30th June, 2024) on 8th December, 2023. The Mandatory packaging norms approved for Jute Year 2023-24 provide for 100% reservation of the foodgrains and 20% of sugar to be compulsorily packed in jute bags.

The reservation norms in present proposal would further protect the interest of domestic production of raw jute and jute packaging material in India, thereby, making India self-reliant in consonance with Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Reservation for packaging in jute packaging material consumed around 65% of the raw jute produced in the country (in 2022-23). By bringing into effect the provision of JPM Act, the Government will provide relief to 4 lakh workers employed in jute mills and ancillary units as well as support the livelihood of around 40 lakh farm families. Besides, it will help protect environment because jute is natural, biodegradable, renewable and reusable fibre and hence fulfils all sustainability parameters.

The Jute industry occupies an important place in the national economy of India in general and Eastern

Region in particular i.e. West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. It is one of the major industries in the eastern region, particularly in West Bengal.

The reservations norms under JPM Act provide for direct employment to 4 lakh workers and 40 lakh farmers in the Jute Sector. JPM Act, 1987 protects interest of Jute farmers, workers and persons engaged in jute goods' production. 75% of the total production of the Jute Industry is Jute Sacking Bags of which 85% is supplied to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Procurement Agencies (SPAs) and remaining is exported/sold directly.

Government of India purchases Jute sacking bags worth approximately Rs. 12,000 crore every year for packing of foodgrains, hence ensures guaranteed market for the produce of Jute Farmers and Workers. Average Production of Jute Sacking Bags is about 30 lakhs bales (9 lakh MT) and Government is committed to ensure complete off-take of the sacking production of the jute bags in order to protect the interest of Jute farmers, workers and persons engaged in the Jute Industry.

[Source - <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1984208>]

Year End Review of Ministry of Textiles 2023

Some of the key initiatives and achievements of the Ministry in the year 2023 are:

PM MITRA: The Government has launched PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks Scheme to develop world class infrastructure

including plug and play facility with an outlay of Rs. 4445 crores for a period up-to 2027-28. PM MITRA Parks Scheme are inspired by the 5F vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister - Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign. Nearly Rs. 70,000 crore

investment and 20 lakhs employment generation is envisaged. Parks will offer an opportunity to create an integrated textiles value chain right from spinning, weaving, processing/dyeing and printing to garment manufacturing at a single location. World-class industrial infrastructure would attract cutting edge technology and boost FDI and local investment in the sector. Centre and States to form SPVs for setting up PM MITRA Parks. These parks will be developed in PPP mode.

PLI Scheme: The Government has approved the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles with an approved outlay of Rs 10,683 crore over a five year period to promote production of MMF Apparel, MMF Fabrics and products of Technical Textiles in the country to enable Textile sector to achieve size and scale and to become competitive. The Scheme has two parts: Part-1 envisages a minimum investment of Rs.300 crore & minimum turnover of Rs.600 crore per company and Part-2 envisages a minimum investment of Rs.100 crore & minimum turnover of Rs.200 crore per company. There will be two years of gestation period under the Scheme (FY: 2022-23 and FY: 2023-24). The incentive will be provided to the companies under the scheme on achieving the threshold investment and threshold turnover and thereafter incremental turnover. 64 applicants were selected under the Scheme. In the approved 64 applications, the total proposed investment would be Rs.19,798 crore, projected turnover would be Rs.1,93,926 crore and proposed employment generation would be 2,45,362. As per Quarterly Review Reports (QRRs) as on 30.09.2023, the eligible investment made under the Scheme was Rs. 2,119 crore of 30 selected applicants, out of which 12 selected applicants started commercial production, turnover achieved was Rs. 520 crore including export of Rs.81 crore and employment generated was 8,214. Ministry of Textiles has reopened the PLI portal for inviting fresh applications from interested companies under the scheme upto 31 December 2023.

National Technical Textile Mission (NTTM): The Government has launched a National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) with an outlay of Rs. 1,480 crores. The key pillars of NTTM include 'Research Innovation & Development', 'Promotion and Market

Development', 'Education, Training and Skilling' and 'Export Promotion'. The focus of the Mission is for developing usage of technical textiles in various flagship missions, programmes of the country including strategic sectors. The mission got its extension until 31st March 2026, with a subsequent sunset clause applicable until 31st March 2028. Achievement as on date is 126 projects of value 371 Crores have been approved in the category of Specialty fibers and Technical Textiles. Guidelines to support indigenous development of high-end Machinery, equipment, tools and testing equipment for technical textiles in India and establish indigenous platform for domestic design, development and manufacturing has been launched. Guidelines to support Startups and Young Scientists in the application areas of technical textiles have been approved in Empowered Programme Committee (EPC). To ensure quality for both domestic consumption as well as imports, 87 items were identified to be brought under Technical Regulation/Quality Control Order (QCOs). The Ministry has issued Quality Control Order (QCOs) for 19 items of Geo-tech Textiles, 12 items of Protective Textiles items, 20 items of Agro Textiles and 06 items of Meditech Textiles. More than 100 BIS standards have been developed since inception of NTTM. The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) [now MATEXIL] has been assigned the role of the Export Promotion Council for promotion of Technical Textiles. 26 such proposals worth Rs.151 Crores are approved under the ibid guidelines for up gradation of lab facilities and training of faculty towards developing ecosystem in technical textiles.

Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS): Under ATUFS, ratio of MSME: Non MSME is 89:11, while under previous versions of TUFS it was 30:70. Higher incentives of 15% (Rs 30 crore) for entities for employment potential segments viz. Technical Textiles and garment/made ups. Employment support to more than 17 lakhs (3.9 lakhs New and 13.4 lakhs Existing) over seven years. Out of total 3.9 lakhs new employment generated; 1.12 lakh (29%) are women.

[Source - <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1988357>]

Startup India initiative to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation, startups and encouraging investments in the country



The Startup India initiative was launched by the Government on 16th January 2016 to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation, startups and encouraging investments in the startup ecosystem of the country. This information has been provided by the Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Shri Som Parkash in a written reply in the Lok Sabha.

In order to meet these objectives, the Government unveiled an Action Plan for startups comprising of schemes and incentives envisaged to create a vibrant startup ecosystem in the country. The Action Plan comprises of 19 action items spanning across areas such as “Simplification and hand holding”, “Funding support and incentives” and “Industry-academia partnership and incubation”.

For attaining specific objectives, various programs are implemented by the Government under the Startup India initiative. As a result of sustained efforts, the Government has recognised 1,14,902 entities as startups as on 31st October 2023.

Realising the action items of the Startup India Action Plan, the Government is implementing flagship Schemes under Startup India initiative namely, Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) and Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS) to support startups at various stages of their business cycle to enable startups to graduate to a level where they are able to raise investments or seek loans.

The brief of each of the three flagship Schemes implemented under Startup India initiative:

1. Startup India Seed Fund Scheme has been approved for the period of 4 years starting from 2021-22 with a corpus of Rs. 945 crore. The Scheme aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialization. The Scheme is implemented from 1st April 2021. The Experts Advisory Committee (EAC), under SISFS, is

responsible for the overall execution and monitoring of SISFS. The EAC evaluates and selects incubators for allocation of funds under the Scheme. As per provisions of the Scheme, the selected incubators shortlist startups based on parameters outlined in Scheme guidelines.

2. Fund of Funds for Startups Scheme was approved and established in June 2016 with a corpus of Rs 10,000 crore, with contribution spread over the 14th and 15th Finance Commission cycle based on progress of implementation, to provide much-needed boost to the Indian startup ecosystem and enable access to domestic capital. The Scheme is operationalized by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). Under FFS, the Scheme does not directly invest in startups, instead provides capital to SEBI-registered Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs), known as daughter funds, who in turn invest money in growing Indian startups through equity and equity-linked instruments. SIDBI has been given the mandate of operating this Fund through selection of suitable daughter funds and overseeing the disbursement of committed capital. AIFs supported under FFS are required to invest at least 2 times of the amount committed under FFS in startups.

3. Credit Guarantee Scheme has been established for Startups for providing credit guarantees to loans extended to DPIIT recognized startups by Scheduled Commercial Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and Venture Debt Funds (VDFs) under SEBI registered Alternative Investment Funds. CGSS is aimed at providing credit guarantee up to a specified limit against loans extended by Member Institutions (MIs) to finance eligible borrowers viz. DPIIT recognised startups. CGSS is operationalized by the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC).

[Source - <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1983077>]

NEW MEMBERS



BMD PVT. LTD., DELHI

BMD Pvt. Ltd. is a manufacturer of Specialised Automotive Furnishing Fabric having state-of-the-art integrated manufacturing facility at Banswara, Rajasthan i.e., air texturing m/c, winding m/c, warping m/c, dornier rapier looms, knitting m/c, dyeing m/c, coating m/c, laser cutting m/c, CAD - CAM fabric designing system, etc. They offer a wide range of foam laminated/ unlaminated fabric both in Jacquard/ Dobby weaving, warp knitting and circular knitting, woven velour & double raschell to meet the specific requirements of automotive customers with the production capacity of 11 lakh mtr/year (FY 2022-23). They also cater to demands of flame-retardant fabric for airlines, navy railways and specialized fabric for auditoriums and cine complexes. They have secured TS-16949 certification from Det Norske Veritas, The Netherlands and ISO-14001.

VISWAS TEXTILE PROCESSORS, BANGALORE

Viswas Textile Processors traces its origin back to 2004 when their fabric process industry begin operation as a modest jigger dyeing facility. They are a vertically integrated with dyeing, printing, garmenting and laundering facilities. They have overall manufacturing capacity of 50,000 meters a day of dyed/ rotary printed/ digitally printed fabrics. They are currently into processing of Woven fabrics (light to medium weight category): Dyeing, Bleaching, Rotary printing & Digital printing. Majority of their fabrics are cotton and viscose based with blends of the same. They also handle other fabrics such as linen, lyocell, modal, etc., with its blends. Their chemical inventories have been well curated in accordance with ZDHC and the MRSL of various brands. They are planning to venture into Technical Textiles.

KUBER POLYTEX INDIA PVT. LTD., GUJARAT

Kuber Polytex India is engaged in the business of manufacturing of POY (Polyester & Nylon), DTY & ATY yarns in polyester & Nylon in India from almost three decades. Their products range includes: Polyester POY, Nylon POY, Polyester DTY, Polyester & Nylon ATY and other specialty yarns.

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Bank Details -

A/C Name - INDIAN TECHNICAL TEXTILE ASSOCIATION
Bank Name - Bank of Baroda,
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NYLON TEXTURISED YARN (Mainly Dope Dyed)



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UPCOMING EVENTS

DATES	EVENTS NAME	PLACE	WEBSITE
DOMESTIC EVENTS			
23-25 November 2023	OSH INDIA (ITTA IS SUPPORTING THE EVENT)	Mumbai, India	https://www.oshindia.com/
14-15 December 2023	61st JOINT TECHNOLOGICAL CONFERENCE (JTC) (ITTA WILL HAVE A SPECIAL SESSION IN THE CONFERENCE)	Mumbai, India	www.btraindia.com
14 th December 2023	JEC COMPOSITES TALKS INDIA	Mumbai, India	https://www.jeccomposites.com/networking/#CompositesTalks
14-16 December 2023	SPORT INDIA 2023 - 11th India International Sporting Goods Show	New Delhi, India	www.iisgs.com
15-17 December 2023	YARNEX (India International Yarn Exhibition)	Ludhiana, India	https://textilefairsindia.com/yarnex/
19-20 December 2023	CHROMATEXCHEM 2023 (Exhibition of colorants & chemicals for Textiles & related applications)	Mumbai, India	https://www.chromatexchem.com/
22-24 February 2024	17TH EDITION OF FIBERS & YARNS EXPO 2024	Mumbai, India	https://fibersnyarns.com
26-29 February 2024	BHARAT TEX 2024 (Global Textile Expo)	New Delhi, India	https://bharat-tex.com/
19-21 November 2025	TECHTEXTIL INDIA 2025	Mumbai, India	https://techtexil-india.in.messefrankfurt.com/mumbai/en.html
INTERNATIONAL EVENTS			
01-03 November 2023	ADVANCED TEXTILES EXPO 2023	Orlando, USA	https://advancedtextilesexpo.com/
08-10 November 2023	20TH SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL NONWOVENS EXHIBITION	Shanghai, China	https://en.since-expo.com/
13-16 November 2023	HYGIENIX 2023	New Orleans, LA	https://www.hygienix.org
14-16 November 2023	WATERPROOF MEMBRANES 2023	Cologne, Germany	https://www.ami-events.com/event/8c445995-58fb-4630-9b2d-c9e1c8f07305/summary
19-23 November 2023	ITMA ASIA + CITME	Shanghai, China	https://www.itmaasia.com/
30 November-2 December 2023	2ND EDITION ITME AFRICA & M.E. 2023	Nairobi, Kenya	https://www.itme-africa.com/
24-27 January 2024	IPF BANGLADESH 2023 (The 16th Bangladesh International Plastics, Printing & Packaging Industry Fair)	Dhaka, Bangladesh	https://www.chanchao.com.tw/ipf/

DATES	EVENTS NAME	PLACE	WEBSITE
INTERNATIONAL EVENTS			
22-25 April 2024	IDEA 2024	Florida, USA	https://www.ideashow.org
23-26 April 2024	TECHTEXTIL 2024	Frankfurt, Germany	https://techtexsil.messefrankfurt.com/frankfurt/en.html
04-08 June 2024	ITM 2024 (International Textile Machinery Exhibition)	Istanbul, Turkey	https://www.itmexhibition.com/itm2024
17-20 June 2024	WORLD OF WIPES (WOW) (International Conference)	Minneapolis, USA	https://www.worldofwipes.org/
12-14 November 2024	FILTECH 2024 (The Filtration Event)	Cologne, Germany	https://filtech.de/
18-21 November 2024	HYGIENIX 2024	Nashville, USA	https://www.hygienix.org
29 April-1 May 2025	IDEA 2025	Florida, USA	https://www.ideashow.org/
19-22 May 2026	INDEX 2026 (Nonwoven Exhibition)	Palexpo, Geneva	https://www.indexnonwovens.com/en/