

# ITTA-NTTM, MOT JOINT WEBINAR ON “Building Industry-Academia Synergy for Enhancing Industry participation in R&D Projects of NTTM”

The Indian Technical Textile Association (ITTA) and National Technical Textile Mission (NTTM), Ministry of Textiles (MoT) jointly organized a Webinar on “Building Industry-Academia Synergy for Enhancing Industry participation in the R&D Projects of the NTTM” on 22nd December 2022 on Virtual Platform. The Webinar received the overwhelming response and attended by 80+ delegates from the Industry, R&D institutes & Academic Institutions.

The purpose of the ITTA-NTTM webinar was to provide an interactive platform for the R&D/Academia and technical textile industry fraternity to engage closely to work together and expedite submission of project proposals to the NTTM.

Special Address was given by Shri. Rajeev Saxena, Joint Secretary & Mission Coordinator, NTTM, MoT and Dr. Mahendra Gowda, Mission Director NTTM, MoT gave the Key Note address. Also, other senior Officials from MoT & NTTM attended the webinar. Shri. Amit Agarwal, Chairman, ITTA welcomed the Dignitaries from NTTM, MoT, ITTA members & Stakeholders from the Technical Textile industry present in the webinar.

Dr. Gowda presented on the background and Status of R&D Projects under NTTM. He pointed out that under the mission, 74 Research Projects of worth Rs. 231 crs. have been approved by Mission Steering Group (MSG). Sector wise Research Projects sanctioned are Agrotech, Geotech, Protech, Mobiltech, Indutech, Meditech, Sportech, Buildtech, Sustainable Textiles & Smart Textiles, in addition to the High Performance Fibre development. He talked about the guidelines published on NTTM website i.e., Guidelines inviting research proposals (Component I) & Indigenous Machinery/Equipment manufacturing (Component II). He explained in detail about the Guidelines for submission of research proposals & terms of funding for Design/Development & Manufacturing of Machinery/Tools/Equipment/Testing Instruments for technical textiles. Eligible organizations are a) Machinery Mfgs., b) Textile/Garment value chain Mfgs. and c) Govt. & Private Research organizations/ Academic institutes, both

b & c should have one Machinery Mfg. as project partner. Funding Arrangements for Public funded Institutions & Organizations- 80% from Govt. & 20% from Project partners, Private companies/Organizations/Institutions- 50% from Govt. & 50% from Project partners. He requested ITTA members to be part of this and submit the research proposals from manufacturing of machineries. More Details are available on the NTTM website: <https://nttm.texmin.gov.in/>. He further informed that Guidelines on PRAMAN (Promotion & Market Development), Education, Training & Skilling, Grant for Internship Support in Technical Textiles (GIST) and Start-ups will be published shortly.

Dr. Anup Rakshit, Executive Director, ITTA spoke on Capabilities of ITTA Members & its Efforts to encourage them to submit R&D proposals with COEs & R&D Institutions. He emphasized on the Vision of ITTA i.e., To build world class, state of the art, manufacturing capacities with focus on R&D and innovation to achieve a predominant global standing in manufacture & export of TT. ITTA bridge the gap between the Govt., Technical Textile Industry, R&D Institutions and International Bodies. He highlighted that at present, ITTA has nearly 400 members, consist of mainly large, medium & small dedicated TT manufacturers from all 12 TT Segments & Composites. Members are present in all major States of India & have foreign members as well. He also mentioned that after the directive from NTTM, ITTA encouraged TT industry to come out with research ideas & tried to connect them with CEOs/R&D, Academic Institutions. Similarly, COEs/R&D, Academic Institutions & CSIR Labs also came forward & submitted project ideas & ITTA facilitated to get the industry partners. Then, Research Topics, followed by project proposals were submitted to NTTM. He also discussed the key Feedback from our Industry to be addressed are that Industry is well aware of facilities available with designated COEs & also in Textile Colleges & Universities having Textile Depts. But they are not aware of Other Institutions/Collages/Labs, where there are no designated Textile Depts. exist. It is suggested to create a Consolidated document giving details on Pilot Plant & Testing facilities, availability



of Scientists, Email ID, Tel numbers, etc. Members can contact them directly or through ITTA.

### **INTERACTIVE SESSION**

Interactive Session with R&D/ Academia & TT Industry participants was held at the end of the technical session by ITTA & NTTM together. Major points/ views/ suggestions raised by the participants are as follow - Is Patent filing allowed after research, How the funding under mission is different than other funding agency such as DRDO, DST or various CSIR, To mention the evaluation criteria of the proposals, what are main challenges to commercially produce Aramids in India, Can NTTM work on the guidelines of Technology Development Fund scheme where the user needs are addressed - the way MoD is working in TDF, Is Bio fibers are included under the mission, etc. Officials from NTTM had answered all the queries of participants and asked the participants to submit more research projects and take full benefit of the NTTM Scheme.

Shri. Anil Kumar Vasupillai, Additional Executive Director, ITTA proposed a vote of thanks. He specially thanked the Joint Secretary, MoT and Mission Director NTTM, MoT for making excellent



presentation on the R&D projects under NTTM. He also thanked all the NTTM Officials, ITTA members, COEs, R&D & Academic Institutions who were present in the webinar.

### **FEEDBACK FROM THE PARTICIPANTS**

1. ARCHROMA INDIA PVT LTD. - Very informative session.
2. IIT KHARAGPUR - Very comprehensive and educative session from NTTM and ITTA. Thank you.
3. SAI SYNERGY LLP - It was Good Session...Thanks for the same.
4. LOYAL TEXTILES MILLS LTD - Thanks a Lot NTTM and ITTA team for arrange wonderful webinar
5. SITRA - Thanks NTTM and ITTA for arranging this webinar. Thanks for connecting the Industry and Academia. The discussion was comprehensive and was useful to clarify the various doubts related to industry partner in our project.
6. SHINGORA TEXTILES LTD. - Thanks to ITTA & NTTM team for such an informative session. Looking forward to more such kind of webinar.