

German Delegation to India: Technical Textiles

Indo-German Chamber of Commerce (IGCC) organized “*A DIGITAL GERMAN TECHNICAL TEXTILE DELEGATION TO INDIA*” from 13th - 17th March 2023 through Digital Platform. This event was supported by Indian Technical Textile Association (ITTA) as the Knowledge Partner. The event was in collaboration with the SBS systems for business solutions, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK).

A delegation of 8 German companies from the technical textile industry - Oppermann Group, Sanders-Kauffmann GmbH, ZSK Stickmaschinen GmbH, Norafin Industries GmbH, Dienes Apparatebau GmbH, Trutzschler Nonwovens GmbH, Tailorlux GmbH and Iprotex GmbH & Co. KG were part of this event. These participating German companies are interested in building up a local network and want to initiate business activities in the Indian market, and thus looking for business co-operations with Indian companies. The event was held from 14th to 17th March 2023.

A. PRESENTATION EVENT

A Presentation Event was planned on 14th March 2023 where the German companies showcased their innovative & advanced technologies and solutions in the technical textile industry. The delegates were from Indian technical textile industry and representatives from German government bodies in India & Germany. Shri. Amit Agarwal, Chairman, ITTA was invited to give a welcome address and Introduction about ITTA in the event. The German speakers were Stephanie Baum, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK), Dr. Stephan Hesselmann - Minister Counsellor, Economic Affairs, German Embassy, Stefan Halusa, Director General, Indo-German Chamber of Commerce. Two important presentations were also made from Mrs. K. Sunitha (IAS), Principal Secretary to Government of Andhra Pradesh on “*Advantage Andhra Pradesh - Technical Textiles*” and Shri. Stefan Schmidt, Industrial Association of Finishing, Fabrics, Yarns and Technical Textiles (IVGT), Germany on “*Developments and State of the art in German Technical Textiles Technology*”.

B. INFO SESSION - "THE INDIAN TEXTILE SECTOR"

The Information Session on "The Indian Textile Sector" was organized by ITTA on 15th March 2023 only for German companies covering the Technical Textile sector in India and Overview of major sub-segments such as Medical Textiles, Composites and Protective Textiles.

Presentations from ITTA and its Members during the session -

1. Dr. Anup Rakshit, Executive Director, ITTA spoke about the "*Investment Potential & Growth Opportunity of Technical Textile Industry in India*". He highlighted the key initiatives taken by MoT, GoI such as NTTM, PLI, PM MITRA Textile Parks, HSN Codes, Quality Control Order for technical textile (TT) products, etc. He further explained about ITTA's analysis on the implemented investments for technical textiles from DPIIT website which has shown a steady growth in the investment in India. Industry has done a major investment in Packtech, Meditech, Buildtech & Hometech segments. He also pointed out the opportunities in India for technical textiles i.e., Agrotextiles, Buildtech, Geotech, Automotive textiles, Smart textiles, TT machinery & technology, Use of natural fibres, to develop recycling technology, Import Substitution - to reduce imports by producing the following TT products locally - airbags, fabrics laminated & coated with PU & PVC, Oil or petrol filters, tyre cord fabric of high tenacity yarn of nylon or other polyamides, glass rovings, etc.
2. Dr. Dhaval Patel, Nikol Advance Materials Pvt. Ltd. presented the topic on "*Composites in India - An Overview*". He stated that Indian composites market is expected to reach an estimated \$1.9 billion by 2026 with a CAGR of 16.3% from 2021 to 2026 and Indian consumption of composite materials will touch 7,68,200 tonnes in 2027. He further emphasized on the growth areas such as = a) Defence & Aerospace - procurement upto USD 27 million is reserved for domestic industry under Make In India, FDI increased to 73% from 49%, Defence export is expected to reach USD 5 billion in FY 2024-25, b) Rail & Metro Trains - India needs 1700 metro cars by 2025, mandatory to procure minimum of 75% of train cars & minimum of 25% of critical equipment & sub-systems from within the country, c) Wind Energy - India expected to add 19.6 GW wind power by 2025 and d) Automotive - 12 to 13 million new 2W EVs & 1 million new 4W PVs being sold in India annually by 2030.

3. *“An Overview: Protective Textiles”* was presented by Shri. D. Devadas, Loyal Textiles Mill Ltd. He pointed out that India’s Protective Clothing Market is projected to grow at CAGR of 4.99% to attain a market size of US\$ 341 million in 2027 from US\$ 242 million in 2020. He talked about the latest developments in protective textiles from Loyal are infrared coated textile, sleeping bags, defence uniforms, Inherent fire-resistant suits with High Visibility, anti-static and splash/ stain resistant properties, etc. Indian Technical/ Protective Textile Industry is growing and offers a lot of opportunities for German companies to market their machinery & export their raw materials to finished goods. Many of technical textile manufacturers in India are looking for collaborations with German Industries for technical know-how, raw materials, intermediaries and fabrics as well for garmenting & Joint Ventures in India to manufacture and export Protective Textiles to Germany and other countries.
4. Shri. Amit Kumar, Surgeine Healthcare (India) Pvt. Ltd. talked about the *“Overview: Medical Textiles”*. He informed that Indian Market for drapes and gowns is approx. 9.71 million USD in 2022 & is expected to grow at 15% to reach 22.45 million USD by 2027. He mentioned the manufacturing aspects like Availability of quality raw material - SMS, SMMS, SMMMS, SSMMS fabrics, laminate fabrics, PE films, high-end technical fabrics, etc., Setting up of robust standards & regulations - implementation of MDR 2017 in India, introduction of IS 17334, testing facilities for drapes & gowns, Timely delivery - shorter delivery time for raw material, availability of skilled & unskilled manpower and Infrastructure & Government initiatives.

C. B2B MEETINGS

Between 15th to 17th March 2023, Individual B2B meetings were organized between German & Indian companies for business talks and to become the potential partners in India. Number of ITTA members participated in the B2B meetings such as Garware Technical Fibres Ltd., Shingora Textiles Ltd., NEL Lifecare Products India Pvt. Ltd., PRN Techtex Pvt. Ltd., Gokaldas Exports Ltd., WMW Metal Fabrics Ltd., Entremonde Polycoaters Ltd. and Loyal Textiles.

D. INFORMATION SESSION - “INDIAN TEXTILE EXCELLENCE: RESEARCH AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS”

On 17th March 2023, the Session on “Indian Textile Excellence: Research and Recent Developments” was organized for the German companies only with COEs in India to give an overview on the research topics, innovation and upcoming areas of interest for India. The session was moderated by Dr. Anup Rakshit, ITTA wherein following technical textile topics were presented - a) Research on Medical Textiles by Dr. E. Santhini, In-charge of Division, CoE-Medical Textiles, The South India Textile Research Association (SITRA), b) Research on Protective and Automotive Textiles by Dr. M S Parmar, Professor and Director, Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA) and c) Research on Composites by Shri. Pragnesh Shah, Director and Ms. Deepali Plawat, Deputy Director, Ahmedabad Textile Industry’s Research Association (ATIRA).