

# Technotex 2023 held in Mumbai

Ministry of Textiles (MOT) in association with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), partnered by Indian Technical Textile Association (ITTA) organized the 10<sup>th</sup> Edition of the series i.e., "TECHNOTEX 2023" from 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai. The event provided the common platform for interaction amongst stakeholders from across the global technical textile value chain. It also attracted the participation from all institutional buyers from Army, Navy, Air Force, CISF, CRPF, Paramilitary Forces, Police and Others.

The event was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles, Smt. Darshana Jardosh. The other notable dignitaries present in inaugural ceremony - Shri. Rajeev Saxena, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles; Mr. Mohan Kavrie, Chairman & Mentor, FICCI Technotex SME Organizing Committee; Shri. R D Udeshi, Reliance Industries and Shri. Amit Agarwal, Chairman, Indian Technical Textile Association (ITTA). She launched an e-book on Technical Textiles titled 'Technical Textiles Ecosystem in India: Market Overview, Inherent Linkages and Growth Opportunities' on the occasion.

### <u>KEYNOTE SESSION</u> -

The Hon'ble Union Minister for Textiles, Commerce and Industry and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Shri. Piyush Goyal addressed the Keynote Session of Technotex 2023 on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023. He said that it is time for the Indian textile industry to focus on scale, quality, speed and higher volume.

He released a Seven BIS Standards and Knowledge Report on global best practices in Technical Textiles on the occasion. Also released the Exhibitors' Catalogue, showcasing the products presented by the Technotex exhibition.

It was followed by the CEO Roundtable which was chaired by the Hon'ble Union Minister. The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Textiles, Secretary-Textiles, JS and other senior Govt officials from MoT & State Govt. were also present. There were about 75-80 COEs from the leading technical textile industry participated in the discussion.

## KEY AREAS DISCUSSED IN THE CEO ROUNDTABLE -

Shri. Amit Agarwal, Chairman; Shri. Avinash Misar, Vice-Chairman and Dr. Anup Rakshit, ED, ITTA were part of the CEO Roundtable. Highlighted of the points discussed are given below -

- Last year, a number of new HSN Codes on technical textile items were allocated by the Ministry of Commerce, as per the recommendation from MoT, and published in May 2022 in the latest edition of the Central Excise 2022 tariff book. However, all these new HSN Codes are not included in the list of GST tariff documents. Due to which industry is facing problem.
- 2. Discussion was held on the new subsidy schemes to be launched by MoT, similar to ATUs, for technical textile industry. The Hon'ble Textile Minister commented that there are number of ATUF cases pending for JIT. Industry should take initiative to complete them at the earliest, then we can plan for new schemes.
- 3. Inter-ministerial Committee- Couple of years back, 92 technical textile items/applications were identified by the MoT as mandatory to be used in various projects handled by other major ministries, e.g., Agriculture, Road constructions, protective & medical textiles for human safety. A group of Nodal Officers were allocated this work to monitor. But it was observed that over the years this activity has not made any progress. It is therefore requested to revive this activity for the growth of technical textiles.
- 4. Hon'ble Textile Minister urged the technical textile industry to take max. advantage of the NTTM schemes. He mentioned that on R&D projects we could allocate only Rs 231 Cr. fund out of Rs 1000 Cr. These projects are in partnership with the Industry.

#### <u>ROUNDTABLE MEETING</u> -

Number of Roundtable meetings were held during the three days of Technotex23 event. Dr. Anup Rakshit, Executive Director was invited as a Moderator and Speaker for the Two Roundtable Meeting.

1. The topic on "Exploring the Window of Opportunity for Usage of Technical Textiles in PM GATI SHAKTI" was moderated by Dr. Rakshit. The eminent speakers were- Brig Prasanna

S Joshi, Chief Engineer (P) Shivalik, Border Roads Organization; Shri. S K Oza, ARE-Geotechnical Engineering Directorate, Research Designs and Standards Organisation; Dr. Vasant G. Havanagi, Chief Scientist & Head - Geotechnical Engineering Division (GE), Central Road Research Institute and Shri. Tiru Kulkarni, President – Geosynthetics Division, Garware Technical Fibres Ltd. The discussion was on infrastructure projects, the expectations & perspective of the different Line Ministries & Departments revolving around the opportunities for Geotextiles such as PM GATI SHAKTI.

- 2. During the roundtable on Technical Textiles A User Perspective (Defence & Security Institutions), Shri. Avinash Misar, Vice Chairman, ITTA gave the focused areas of business development on the Protech segment.
- 3. Another roundtable mtg on "Canvassing on Standards, Quality, Regulatory & Trade Aspects of Technical Textiles" was moderated by Dr. M S Parmar, Director, NITRA. Eminent speakers are Shri. Dharmbeer Yadav, Scientist C, Bureau of Indian Standards; Shri. Mayur Katiyar, Scientist B, Bureau of Indian Standards; Dr, Anup Rakshit, ITTA and Shri. D. Veerasubramanian, Scientific Officer, SITRA. The discussion in this session emphasized on existing framework and way forward in the context of Standards, Quality, Regulatory & Trade in Technical Textiles.

ITTA has mobilized its member to participate in the exhibition and following members such as Oerlikon Textile India Pvt. Ltd., Venus Safety & Health Pvt. Ltd., Karam Safety Pvt. Ltd. and Reflectosafe. More than 50+ delegates visited the ITTA members' stalls and shown interest in different products that are displayed by members.

ITTA also participated in the TECHNOTEX 2023 exhibition and had a stall 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.

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