

Northern India Textile Mills' Association

PHD House, Sector 31 A, Chandigarh-160 031

Contact Nos.: +91 172 2637 573, +91 81466 77291, +91 81464 00264



Shri Piyush Goyal
The Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce & Industry
Udyog Bhawan
New Delhi – 110 011

Date: 09.08.2019

Subject: Media reports: Proposal by Maharashtra Govt. to impose import duty on Cotton to control domestic prices. - Seeking intervention of M.O.T. against the proposal.

Respected Sir,

The Northern India Textile Mills' Association, popularly known as NITMA is an apex association of North India serving the interest of textile units. All the large textile mills in the Northern part of India are associated with NITMA and the combined turnover of its members is approx 50,000 crores (USD 8 Billion). It was formed in 1958 and represents industry for all policy matters and disseminates information apart from conducting conferences, exhibitions, seminars & workshops.

At the outset, NITMA, on behalf of its members, would like to thank you for your relentless efforts to take the India's textile industry to new heights.

Please allow us to bring to your kind attention towards an article published in Indian Express on 6th Aug 2019, which read that **"Maharashtra Govt. is proposing for imposing import duty on Cotton to control domestic prices."** This article spread the wave of worry amongst textile industry.

Its worth mentioning here that panic like situation has set in among the spinning and weaving industry and other stakeholders with just one newspaper article.

Sir, we would like to humbly submit that such a proposal can hit the growth of textile industry adversely as industry has already been at its lowest ebb.

Textile industry already went through a big jolt in 2010-11 when approx. Rs.15,000 crores got eroded due to policy changes which caused great deal of instability. Ever since then Indian textile industry has been struggling to find its feet as many mills got to a point of stressed assets especially in spinning mills.

We would like to add that, for India to have uniform growth in textile sector, production of value added products must be enhanced and encouraged for greater market share globally with exponential increase in employment opportunities. According to an estimate, every USD 1 Billion of additional exports can bring fresh employment to the tune of approx. 1.5 Lakhs with more than 40% women from rural India getting various kinds of jobs.

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Furthermore, great opportunities, for the Indian Textile industry, are coming India's way due to US - China trade war.

Please be informed that across all the industries, Indian textile manufacturing sector always supports the policy of Zero Trade Restrictions on raw material. Also, Indian cotton is connected with global trade for the last 4-5 years.

Therefore its our humble request to your goodself to formulate & implement a long term stable and uniform policy for the Indian textile industry to have an edge over its competitors internationally.

In view of the above, we humbly request you for your kind intervention in the matter as the issue at hand is still at proposal phase.

We, on behalf of our members, humbly appeal to your goodself that MoT should continue its good policy of Zero duty on cotton imports or exports.

Looking forward to your kind support and hand holding at these difficult times.

Thank You.

With kind regards,


Manish Bagrodia
President