CHAPTER XIII

TEXTILES RESEARCH ASSOCIATIONS (TRAs) &
THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE
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COTTON TEXTILES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (TRAs)

There are eight Textiles Research Associations (TRAs) receiving financial support from the Ministry of Textiles, of these the following are the Cotton Textiles Research Associations (CTRAs):

(1) Ahmedabad Textiles Industry’s Research Association (ATIRA), Ahmedabad

(2) Bombay Textiles Research Association (BTRA), Mumbai.

(3) South India Textiles Research Association (SITRA), Coimbatore

(4) Northern India Textiles Research Association (NITRA), Ghaziabad.

Like other TRAs, these TRAs are textile industry promoted private bodies, set up and promoted by the textiles industry of the respective region to carry out research and provide them various services including consultancy, testing, training and research, etc. Their main sources of earnings include Government grants, subscriptions from member-mills, fees from the services etc. Since these have renowned industrialists as their elected Chairmen in overall in-charge of their functions, Government provides full autonomy in their functioning.

AHMEDABAD TEXTILES INDUSTRY’S RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (ATIRA), AHMEDABAD

Performance

ATIRA worked on about 20 Research & Development (R&D) projects, of which 17 were completed. In addition, need based consultancy was provided to the mills. The accredited cotton testing services of ATIRA were in very high demand during the year due to ever rising international demand for Indian cotton and general awareness about the quality. Nearly 30,000 samples of cotton were tested for various parameters for various clients.

Other important glimpses

(i) ATIRA scientists visited 79 units, paid 180 visits during the year for consultancy and project work, and prepared 116 reports for various units which sought ATIRA consultancy services.

(ii) In all, 35,084 different samples were tested at ATIRA, Ahmedabad, and 1438 at ATIRA Regional Centre at Indore.

(iii) ATIRA calibration laboratory took up 600 calibration assignments during the year, covering 4800 instruments from textile and other industries.

(iv) ATIRA training programmes were in good demand during the year. In all,
325 mills sponsored their staff for the 122 ATIRA training programmes. 2,256 trainees participated. Additionally, 510 powerlooms workers/jobbers/owners were trained during the year.

(v) 3 books were published, and 4 papers were presented at various Conferences.

(vi) 11 papers were published in Scientific & Technical Journals by ATIRA staff during the year.

(vii) 15 talks and lectures were given by ATIRA staff during the year.

BOMBAY TEXTILES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (BTRA), MUMBAI.

Performance

During the period 2006-07, research and development activities at BTRA were directed towards developing cost effective techniques, product innovation, improving product (yarn/fabric) quality, ensuring utilities (energy and water) conservation, improving productivity and machine maintenance. BTRA engaged in 11 research projects in various areas of the textiles sector. BTRA undertook extensive liaison and consultancy services to solve problems of quality, maintenance, productivity, water / energy conservation, techno-economic viability, valuation of fixed assets, vetting revival proposals, equipment verification, control panel valuation, etc., for textiles mills. 11 training programmes covering various subjects such as ISO-17025, lubricants saving, role of electronics in high speed looms, supervisory training in weaving, chemical processing, etc., were conducted by the TRA. Three research papers were presented in the 47th Joint Technological Conference held in New Delhi on April 8, 2006:

(a) Development of antistatic and antibacterial fabrics using novel materials
(b) Functional finishing of cotton fabrics using non-formaldehyde products
(c) Fabric Defects – Case Studies in Export Sorts

BTRA participated in two exhibitions viz., ‘ITGME – 2006’ held at Coimbatore from February 3-6, 2006, and ‘TEXMACH 2006’ held at Mumbai from 1st to 4th December, 2006. Various textile research publications and posters on technical services, testing services and R & D work were displayed on the occasion.

BTRA has given licences to manufacture four of their products viz., (i) Universal Stain Remover for Bath Application, (ii) Patchless Spray Gun Solution, (iii) Centralized Lubrication System for Powerlooms, and (iv) Energy Saver Unit for Automatic Looms during the year under review.

BTRA organised three seminars during the year under review, viz., (i) Challenges for Garment Exporters, (ii) Cutting-edge Technologies for Textile Processing Industry, and (iii) New Frontiers in Textiles. All the three seminars evoked very good response from the industry.

SOUTH INDIA TEXTILES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (SITRA), COIMBATORE

Performance

SITRA was involved in 24 research projects and 140 consultancies including 2 overseas assignments. SITRA scientists presented 22 papers in various seminars and conferences, and also contributed 31 research papers for publication in various technical/managerial journals. The NABL accredited laboratories of SITRA have
tested close to 71,000 samples (fibre, yarn or fabric) for physical and/or chemical analysis. SITRA’s Powerlooms Service Centers offered a wide range of services, including 700 technical consultations, the development of 267 designs, and the testing of 30,000 samples. SITRA’s Computer Aided Design Centers created more than 35 designs and offered 10 training programmes.

**Awards**

- **Best Technical Book award**, sponsored by Century Textiles & Industries Ltd., Mumbai, for the year 2006, was given for SITRA’s monograph on “Science and Technology in the manufacture of jute products” by Indra Doraiswamy and K.P. Chellamani.

- **Assam Rifles award** (the highest in the line-up of Assam Rifles), for the design & fabrication of fibre extraction plants and paper manufacturing plants using banana fibres.

**Conferences and Seminars**

Apart from the Golden Jubilee Inaugural Function which was graced by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the ex-President of India, SITRA conducted 3 conferences/seminars during the year:

- **SITRA’s Golden Jubilee Technological Conference** with Dr. M.S. Swaminathan as Chief Guest, saw close to 250 delegates from the industry participating.

- Seminar on “**Instrumentation and quality assurance for the garment sector**”, conducted exclusively for the benefit of garment manufacturers in Tirupur witnessed close to 100 delegates.

- An International Seminar on “**World Trade Scenario of Textiles**” with lectures by experts from the World Trade Centre, Geneva also received good response with close to 150 delegates participating.

**NORTHERN INDIA TEXTILES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (NITRA), GHAZIABAD.**

**Performance**

NITRA were engaged in 4 research projects and developed 6 machines/ instruments useful for the textiles industry. They also conducted various customized consultancy services for their clients in the areas of product development, product diversification, cost reduction, quality improvement, ISO-9000 Quality Management System, pollution control, ISO-14000 Environment Management System, environment auditing, design of effluent treatment plants and water recovery plants, machine design & development, energy conservation, energy audit, manpower planning, process house study, and implementation for setting up Textile & Apparel Institute and Textile & Apparel Park and many textiles related issues.

**International Consultancy**

NITRA undertook the following consultancy projects:

- Textile & Garment Industry Support Institute at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Energy Audit in Indonesia
- Training Program at Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Training Program for Sudanese Engineers (forthcoming)

**Manpower Training for Garment Industry**

NITRA offered 13 industry oriented techno-management programs in areas such as
textile/garment manufacturing, textile/garment designing, merchandising, quality assurance, sewing machine operation/maintenance, environment management and energy management.

THE SYNTHETIC AND ART SILK MILLS’ RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (SASMIRA), MUMBAI

SASMIRA, a co-operative R & D institute, is principally engaged in applied research to meet the changing needs of the textile industry. Besides, various other services viz. testing and technical consultancy, HRD (Education & training), powerloom service centres, instrumentation etc. are provided by SASMIRA.

Projects

SASMIRA is currently engaged in the implementation of three projects sponsored by the Ministry of Textiles:

- “Indigenous manufacturing of woven geotextiles for ground improvement using vertical drain technique”

  Present proposal aims to develop suitable geotextile for ground improvement. This technique will be helpful to retrieve marshy land for constructional purposes. Various tubular structures with varying diameters will be prepared from synthetic materials. These will be used as vertical drain along with a backing fabric. The behaviour of soil settlement will be assessed in laboratory by using different simulated soil strata along with controlled variables.

- “Low cost Upgradation of first generation imported shuttle-less looms and indigenous shuttles looms for decentralised sector for enhanced productivity and quality”

  The first generation shuttleless weaving machines are old and worn out parts hence demand more maintenance and spare part consumption. The spares of these machines are expensive and not easily available. In this project it is proposed to develop a few simple mechanisms, which can be retrofitted on these and will be synchronised with the basic functioning of the machine, thereby, enhancing the potential to reduce fabric defect and increase productivity. This will result into cost reduction and better profitability as well as versatility of the machine eliminating its limitations.

- “Developing fabrics with thermoregulatory properties using phase change materials (PCM) for speciality application”

  Certain chemicals have the ability to melt or cool depending upon the surrounding temperature. These chemicals termed as Phase Change Materials can be used for obtaining the thermo-physical comfort characteristics in the fabric. Fabrics with thermo-regulatory characteristics are in demand for the sportswear, defense personnel, mountaineers and the staff in the healthcare sector. This project aims to identify and develop thermo-regulatory behaviour fabrics suitable to these fields of application. Development of such value-added textile products for specialized uses would open a new avenue in market for textile products, thereby benefiting the industry.

- Projects SASMIRA is currently engaged in the implementation of two projects sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology:

  “Design and Development of Tensile Creep Apparatus for Geotextile testing”
The main objective of the project is indigenous development of a Tensile Creep apparatus for accurately measuring this parameter strictly as per international specifications. The equipment should be universally applicable for testing of various types of geotextiles, geogrids and geomembranes. One of the practical disadvantages of using sophisticated imported equipment is that the clamping and loading systems are generally part of the universal testing machine used for tensile characteristics. Hence a dedicated creep tester for geotextile is the need of the hour.

“Design And Development of Clamping Devices for Testing Tensile Properties of High Strength Technical Textile Fabrics”

The objective of the project is to develop suitable clamps (grips) for better gripping of high performance textiles during tensile testing by wide width method. The proposed clamps will overcome the chance of slippage which is a common problem while testing high tenacity fabrics by conventional method.

The project would be divided into two phases 1) developing the required grip mount adapter sets (for top and bottom) for high performance fabrics and 2) installing the grips on the existing tensile testing machine and conducting trials with high performance fabrics.

SASMIRA completed the following projects in the previous year

1. Indigenous development of Geotextiles for pavement overlaying
2. Development of zero effluent process for dye-houses
3. Design and development of Ultrasonic Transducers and generators for textile application
4. Design and development of Table Top Model of light fastness testing Instrument
5. Design and development of Xenon filled solar simulator for light fastness testing instrument for textiles
6. Design and development of Instruments for predicting fabric tailorability
7. Design and development of membrane type solute separation equipment for textile industry to reduce pollution and facilitate recycling of chemicals and to conserve water during wet processing

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

1. SASMIRA has successfully developed two new instruments for textile applications under the DST sponsored projects:

   I) Design and development of Table Top Model of light fastness testing Instrument

   The objective of present project was to develop a Table - top version of the light fastness testing instrument. SASMIRA has already developed a floor model of light fastness testing instrument under different conditions of temperature and humidity. The prototype of the testing instrument is already developed and extensive trials have been carried out to compare the developed prototype with the commercially available imported instrument.

   SASMIRA’s TABLE TOP LIGHT FASTNESS TESTER

   II) Design and development of Instruments for predicting fabric tailorability

   Fabric properties like weight, thickness, stretching, resilience, stiffness influence the
fabric performance during stitching. These properties are required to be evaluated under low stress conditions to predict the tailorability performance of the fabrics. The presently available instruments for evaluating fabric handle and tailorability are Kawabata Evaluation System for Fabrics (KESF) and Fabric Assurance by Simple Testing (FAST). These instruments are relatively less popular among the common weavers and garment manufacturers due to their complicated outputs and exorbitant prices. Hence our work was aimed at developing a low cost fabric tailorability tester.

As per the project objectives, both the prototypes of fabric tailorability tester have been developed. The Prototype I evaluate individually all the parameters pertaining to fabric tailorability viz., extension, compression and bending. The Prototype II is a computer-interfaced tester, which combinedly evaluates all the said properties.

**SASMIRA’s FABRIC TAILORABILITY TESTER**

**HRD (Education/Studies)**

SASMIRA imparts manpower training through technical education offering various diploma and certificate courses. During the year many new courses are introduced which are professional in nature. SASMIRA Retail Education Programme has been launched in the current year to boost the upcoming Retail Sector.

**Testing services** SASMIRA’s testing services (Mechanical as well as chemical) are accredited by the National Accreditation Board to the Testing and Calibration Laboratory (NABL) since 2004. Testing is as per ISO/IEC 17025 2005 norms.

The laboratory has recently undergone the renewal audit for the laboratories after enjoying the full term of three years for the first certification. The certification has made a positive impact on the testing and technical services and has resulted in better interaction with the industry.

SASMIRA is also receiving financial support to run 2 Powerloom Service Centres (PSC) at Bhiwandi for the benefit of the local weaving industry. Forty-two students have enrolled for the one-year certificate course on weaving run by the centre. The centres also implemented the Group Insurance Scheme (GIS) promoted by the Ministry of Textiles for the Bhiwandi weavers. They have also conducted 20 Seminars on current topics relating to textiles and relevant to powerloom weavers during the year under review.

**Technical Services**

About 25 technical services have been provided by SASMIRA during the year.

**Consultancy**

About 5 consultancy services have been provided by SASMIRA during the year.

**Instrumentation**

SASMIRA has been undertaking designing and development of textile testing instruments for the textile industry. Order for 12 instruments had been received and 8 instruments delivered.

**Information services**

During the year under review Library added to its stock 98 books, 114 bound volumes 116 dissertations and 120 other material such as annual reports, Standard Specifications, Brochures etc. The total holding of the library is 30,047. Library received 197 books from “The Raja Bahadur Motilal Poona Mills’ by way of donation. Also, M/s Nirlon Limited donated about 2000 books to the library.
Seminar / Conference organised by Sasmira

A Workshop on Medical Textiles, organised jointly with FICCI (Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industries), was held at Textile Committees Auditorium, Prabhadevi, Mumbai on May 24, 2007.

A Workshop on Automotive Textiles, organised jointly with FICCI (Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industries), was held at Sunville Banquets, Worli, Mumbai on August 30, 2007.

Lecture/Papers Presented/Published

2 technical papers have been presented at various seminars and conferences. About 6 technical articles have been published by the research group in various national and international journals.

FINANCE

SASMIRA received a Non-Plan support of Rs.112.00 lakhs from the Government in 2006-07 for its recurring expenditure with 10 % reduction every year as decided by the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India. In addition, Rs.11.32 lakhs was received by the Association during the year under review of the Plan fund for its ongoing plan projects and other activities. During 2007-08, Non-Plan support of Rs. 95.20 lakhs was received by SASMIRA.

MAN-MADE TEXTILES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (MANTRA)

The Man-Made Textiles Research Association (MANTRA), Surat is the only Textile Research Association serving the man-made textile industry (decentralised small scale) and is registered under the Societies Act of Gujarat. MANTRA has been in the fore-front in the R&D activities related to man-made fibre textiles.

The main objectives of the Association is to carry out research and development and to render other consultancy services to the local, decentralised textiles weaving, texturing and processing industry on various aspects of the textile technology with a view to improving the quality of fabrics, reducing cost and bringing about better utilization of raw materials. The projects undertaken were of considerable importance and the studies made by the Association have substantially helped to improve the quality and productivity of the textile industry.

During the period under review, MANTRA is engaged in carrying out R&D work on the following sponsored projects:

i) Development of anti-allergenic protective clothing for use in bed sheets, pillows and mattress casing (sanctioned in 2006).

ii) To phase out CTC from the decentralized man made textile processing sector (sanctioned in 2006 by Government of Gujarat).

iii) Improvement in chemical processing technology of modified rayon (filament) and modal fibre fabrics and enhance the realization of entire value chain (sanctioned in 2006).


During 2007-08, till December 31, 2007, about 50 samples from the industry and 510 parameters of Environment Audit are tested in the Eco laboratory of MANTRA. 70 samples from the industry and about 700 environment parameters will be tested during 2007-08.

MANTRA continued to perform well as Environmental Auditor for Schedule
For 2007 (January to December), MANTRA is conducting Environmental audit of 34 units. It is expected that income to the extent of Rs.22.00 lakhs will be achieved during 2007. For 2008 (January to December), target of 45 units will be achieved. In the Analytical Instruments Laboratory, which has a number of sophisticated instruments, about 88 samples were tested till December, 2007, majority of which included colour assessment parameters on CCM and a target of about 105 samples will be achieved during 2007-08.

The Physical and Chemical Testing Laboratories continued to perform well in the year 2007-08 also. Till December 31, 2007, the total number of samples tested in these two laboratories were 4,423 (excluding audits), which includes testing of yarns, fabrics, chemicals and certification, etc. It is expected that target of 6,000 samples will be achieved during 2007-08.

During 2007-08, MANTRA expanded its activities in the field of Energy Conservation. MANTRA is enlisted consultant by Gujarat Energy Development Agency (GEDA). MANTRA is authorised as Energy Auditor by Chief Electrical Inspector, Gujarat to conduct mandatory energy audit of all industrial units having contract demand more than 200 KVA. MANTRA conducted energy audit of 21 textiles units under GEDA’s subsidy scheme and also conducted mandatory audit of 15 units till December 2007. Target of 25 units under GEDA subsidy scheme and 20 mandatory units will be achieved during 2007-08.

Two Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs), one at Pandesara and the other at Sachin, are functioning under the management of MANTRA. Both centres are extending testing and consultancy services to the weaving industries located in their respective clusters. The regular activity of these centres are to impart training to the weavers and a total number of 110 weavers and designers, covering 1,450 man days, have been trained so far till December 31, 2007. Target of 120 weavers and designers covering about 2,000 man days will be achieved during 2007-08.

MANTRA’s dissemination of information activities are found to be quite useful to the industry. A half day seminar on ‘Coating & Lamination Technology’ was organized on August 17, 2007. Further, All India Seminar on Medical Textiles: Production Technologies & Applications was organized by MANTRA in collaboration with The Institute of Engineers &SCAT, Surat on October 5-6, 2007. A seminar on coating chemicals will be organized soon.

Pilot plant facilities for the production of continuous synthetic filament yarn, available at MANTRA, is unique and one of its kind. Its existing extrusion, draw texturing and air jet texturing facilities are being availed not only by the nearby industry, but also by the industries as far as from Bangalore, Chennai, etc.

In the wake of globalization of trade, the decentralised textile industry of South Gujarat will have to face stringent market competition. In order to serve the above industry in a better way, TRA like MANTRA will have to play a supporting and facilitating role. Looking at this and growth potential in technical textiles, a proposal for establishing a Centre of Excellence in Technical Textiles at MANTRA was submitted to the Department of Industry & Mines, Government of Gujarat. Phase – I of the above proposal is approved and sanctioned. Full-fledged pilot plant facilities, viz., coating and lamination covering solvent, aqueous and hot melt
coating systems and testing equipments will be set up at MANTRA. Also, HRD programme covering short term training in technical textiles for core personnel is already started at MANTRA. The proposed centre will strengthen infrastructural facilities of MANTRA further to serve textile industry of the region.

MANTRA has worked out some Technical Textile projects based on woven, non-woven (spun jet) and circular knitting textiles, which can be feasible in Surat and South Gujarat by adding certain facilities such as coating, laminating and spun bond and spun lace plants and converters. In the same context, it was suggested that a Centre of Excellence in Technical Textiles is to be set up at MANTRA. Accordingly, a proposal based on nonwovens has already been submitted to the Principal Secretary (I&M), Government of Gujarat, comprising R&D and quality appraisal, product development (pilot plant), HRD in spun bond and spun lace technology.

WOOL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (WRA), THANE

Wool Research Association (WRA) was established and registered under the Societies Reistration Act, 1860 in October 1963. A group of members representing various woolen industries come forward to establish the Research & Development laboratory for the benefit of woolen industry.

Wool Research Association, at present, is organised under the following five departments namely :

i) Physical Test House

ii) Chemical Test House

iii) Textile Technology Department and Pilot Plant.

iv) Computer Aided Textile Designing and Colour Research Laboratory

v) Eco-testing Laboratory

Activities

(1) Mechanical processing of wool and woollen blends on woollen spinning system.

(2) Processing of Jute, Wool and Synthetic Fibres on Friction Spinning (DREF-II).

(3) Development of elastomeric friction spun yarn and fancy yarn on DREF-II friction spinning machine.

(4) Development of Economic Friction Spun Multi-component yarn for high-tech (Industrial Fabric) Textiles.


(6) Computer Applications in Colour Matching and Quality Control, woven printed designs, grading and blending.

(7) Carpet designing, weaving and finishing.

(8) Natural and synthetic dyeing and finishing of wool and woollen blends.

(9) Physical and chemical testing from fibre to fabric.

(10) Eco-testing of textiles

(11) Project Proposals, Feasibility reports related to above activities.

Sponsored Projects from Ministry of Textiles.

I. On-going Projects

Project I : Optimise processing parameters for Eri silk / wool yarns on worsted system to develop value added products.

(a) Raw material in the form of degummed eri cocoon

Initial trials with small quantity of eri-silk and wool were undertaken at Raymond
Woollen Mills, Thane, Bombay Textile Research Association, Mumbai and a small entrepreneur M/s Jaisyntex, Thane. For this, degummed eri cocoon was processed at Rama Nagaram, Bangalore to further process it to next stages (carding to final yarn) at above mentioned mills in Mumbai and it was on worsted and other systems.

After analysis of the results of processing parameters and quality of initial trials, it was decided to conduct bulk trials at Indo Silk, Bangalore for targeted products like tweeds, shawls, knitwears, ladies wears, and suiting fabrics. The system adopted for these bulk trials was spun silk processing system. The developed yarn were quite promising for end use suitability after systematic testing of the yarn developed for quality parameters which was done at Wool Research Association laboratories.

(b) Quality standards

The initial and bulk trials conducted at different mills related to confined processing settings and parameters under given conditions, system set up and to the fibre specific system. This limits the flexibility for deciding quality specification and optimum processing parameters. To overcome this lacunae, WRA have since designed and procured mini computer controlled flexible spinning system and got them installed during beginning of 2007. Presently, the trials are on for various quality silk/wool blends for standardization of machine settings and quality parameters as per worked out optimum blend/yarns.

(c) Designing & development of eri/wool products and test them for end use performance

The blended yarns of eri-wool blends have been broadly defined for end-use suitability of different products based on the evaluation and characterization of yarn properties attained during the bulk trials.

A special product of yarn (fashion oriented innovative yarn) with elastic characteristics with end use suitability for knitwears and ladies garments has been developed with 50/50 (S/W), 25 / 75 (S/W) with a component of elastane in the range of 3 – 5%, contributing a much higher value addition to the already value added product. The counts developed in the range of 20s to 40s Nm. The woven fabric samples of various designs were developed on computer controlled loom at Raymond and also at Weavers Service Centre in collaboration with designers at WSC, Mumbai. They are subject to evaluation before and after finishing treatments for their properties.

Knitwear samples were developed on 7G to 12G knitting machine using specially developed knitwear yarn (2/32 Nm) at Indosilk and also using elastomeric yarn. Full knit garments (T-shirts & knitwears) are being made of both on hand-driven / computer controlled knitting machine at a factory located in Navi Mumbai. Fine knitwear samples of wool blend on 20G Circular knitting machine were developed at NIFT, Tirupur.

Dyeing & Finishing

Dyeing trials of eri silk / wool blended yarns were conducted using reactive dyes. The sample was tested for wash/light fastness and other dyeing characteristics which were found to be very satisfactory. Bulk trials in various blends and yarn qualities are in progress for standardization of quality of dyeing. Finishing trials shall be undertaken shortly at the industry to facilitate transfer of technology.
Project II: Develop suitable machinery for spinning of Eri silk and its blends for cottage industry

Under the objective and work plan of this project development of appropriate technologies and fabrication of machineries for processing eri silk wool blends based on experience and skill gained during execution of first project, design and development of miniature spinning line, both for hand and power operated was the main thrust.

Design & Development of machineries were as under:

1. Miniature Cocoon Opener
2. Fibre Cutter
3. Carding
4. Roving (miniature) Computer controlled
5. Ringframe (miniature)
6. Ring frame (s spindle) hand/power operated

This project is a follow up of the other project on Eri Silk/Wool blends and the feedback related to design and development of above machines were extrapolated from data generated therfrom. As a result, assignment on development of Miniature Roving and Spinning is complete.

Simultaneously, observation on requirements of cocoon opener, fibre cutter, carding, hand/power operated two spindle spinning at cottage level, needing improvisation have been finally come to stage of design development. With further introduction and modification orders were placed with the parties for prototype fabrication of items mentioned at Sr. No.1 to 3, above. Fiber Cutter and Carding machines have since been installed.

Once the miniature line is completely fabricated and installed for trial run Wool Research Association would undertake to proceed with setting process parameters to produce the products at cottage level similar to those produced at mill level. Attempts to improve the present charkha / takli have evolved in the form of design and development of proposed prototype two spindle hand/power operated scientifically designed spinning machine by which a sliver in uniform rope form can be directly get converted to desired count of yarn.

As per the view of Technical Committee discussions, operating miniature gilling / combing would be a practical difficult task and hence it has been suggested to use available facility in the mills, i.e. outsourcing the machine.

In the projects mentioned above, industry was closely associated aiming at smooth transfer of technology eventually.

III. R & D on value addition to Deccani wool

WRA carried out the R&D assignments to develop optimum blends from Decanni wool, after making a survey of different types of wool being grown in the state of Karnataka with fibres like PET, Nylon, etc so that products of better quality with value addition can be made. After making necessary trials at WRA, we have come to a conclusion that design and fabrication of a 6 spindle Ring Spinning Frame with 4 over 4 drafting system would help to spin the blended fibres in the form of sliver to atleast 6 – 8 Nm (count). This is to take up the quality of Decanni wool from Kambal yarn to Lohi and Shawl type fabrics and furnishing. The designs and drawings are ready with WRA and most likely to be implemented alongwith the implementation of mechanical processing facility at KSWDC for Deccani wool. Trials
have also been conducted for blending of Deccani wool with finer variety of wool of Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal Pradesh for all wool knitwear products.

**New Projects**

The following two projects are sanctioned by Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, New Delhi.

1. To synthesize wool dyes with moth proofing properties.

2. To improve processing performance of finer Indian wools and their product range with incorporation of Enzyme technology for better value addition (with special reference to early stage processing)

**WORKSHOPS /SEMINARS CONDUCTED / PARTICIPATED**

**Visit to Jammu & Kashmir** from 12th to 16th June, 2006 to hold discussions with Managing Director J&K Sheep & Sheep Products Development Board on establishment of Industrial Service Centre at Nowshera, Srinagar and hold discussions with J&K Chamber of Commerce on GI Registration of Pashmina shawls.

**AATCC’s Seminar**

AATCC’s 2 days seminar on “Basics of Dyeing, Printing & Finishing” was held on 2nd February, 2007 at Textiles Committee Auditorium. WRA participated in the deliberations.

**Silver Jubilee Conference at Ichalkaranji**


**Seminar on Grading of Wool**

Wool Research Association, Thane organized a seminar on “Improving Availability of Graded Indian Raw Wool & Yarn for increasing export of quality handmade carpets” in collaboration with the Associations of Wools of New Zealand & Romney, Christchurch, Central Wool Development Board , Woolmark Company, New Delhi & Carpet Export Promotion Council, New Delhi on 24th March, 2007, at Lallgarh Palace, Bikaner. The Seminar was inaugurated by Shri. J.N. Singh, Textiles Commissioner, followed by Technical Sessions from eminent scientists from Woollen and Carpet and Animal Husbandry Organisations. There was a good response from all the Carpet Manufacturers and Bikaner Industries Association, the main carpet yarn manufacturers and suppliers for the Bhadohi Carpet belt. The importance of the quality control from fibre to yarns, dyeing was well understood by the Bikaner industry-technical, and manegerial quarter. Participants have shown concern for the Indian sheep breeds which can be better utilized for making good carpets for exports. Participants from New Zealand have also shown interest for the joint venture in developing cross-breed programmes.

**INDUSTRIAL CONSULTANCY**

**Following Consultancy Services were offered by WRA**

a. J & K Sheep & Sheep Products Development Board for establishment of Industrial Service Centre at Nowshera, Srinagar.

b. Bhutti Weavers Co-operative Society Ltd., Kullu for setting up Dyeing & Finishing Facility.

c. Crafts Development Institute of India on Testing of Pashmina for regulation of GI Registration activities.
EDUCATIONAL / TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The transfer of R&D findings and the transfer of adopted technology to the various entrepreneurs and the related industries are covered under HRD Programme / Training Programme. We offer the training programme at WRA and also at the required site.

WRA conducts certificate level courses as follows:

2. Ecological & Instrumental Chemical Analysis (Part time /Full Time).

The infrastructure for the educational activities like classrooms, furniture, presentation aids, availability of experts and guest lecturers were developed and nearly 20 students were benefited under the above said courses.

WRA Institute is also recognised by Maharashtra State Board of Technical Education to conduct P.G. Diploma Course (1 year) in Wool Textile Technology & Ecological & Instrumental Chemical Analysis.

The laboratories of WRA are also recognised by University of Mumbai for Research Studies leading to M.Sc & Ph.D degree.

Achievements / Accreditation

NABL

The Quality Test House has successfully completed the Surveillance Audit and is accredited by NABL for Mechanical & Chemical testing as per 17025 vide certification numbers are T – 1225 & T – 1224. The Laboratory was already accredited for ISO 9001 – 2000 since 2000.

INDIAN JUTE INDUSTRIES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (IJIRA), KOLKATA

The Indian Jute Industries Research Association (IJIRA), Kolkata, registered under West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961, is an autonomous Co-operative Research Organization promoted by Indian Jute Mills Association. The Ministry of Textiles supports IJIRA through grants and projects.

Objectives

(i) To promote Research and other scientific work concerned with the jute trade and industries allied with or accessory thereto;

(ii) To establish and maintain laboratories and faster education of persons engaged in or likely to be engaged in the said trade and industry;

(iii) To examine and publish information regarding the nature and merits of inventions, improvements materials and designs connected with the said traders of industries.

The R&D activities and technology transfer programme of IJIRA have helped to improve the productivity, product quality and cost viability of the organized jute mills and also the SMEs in the jute sector.

IJIRA has been maintaining Regional Centres at Shantipur (West Bengal), Guwahati (Assam) and Vizianagram (Andhra Pradesh) for strengthening the locally growing jute related activities.

IJIRA website is www.ijira.org
Institute of Jute Technology (IJT), Kolkata.

The Institute of Jute Technology (IJT) was established by Govt. of West Bengal as a Society registered under West Bengal Societies Registration Act at for development of Technologists for the Jute Sector. The Institute offers four year B.tech. Degree course in Jute Technology Jute & Fiber Technology and four semester M.Tech Course in Technical Textiles Technology. It also offers Junior level Supervisor course for the jute industry.

IJT also conducts different short term training programmes for technical personal and workmen in the jute industry and decentralised sector. It also conducts research under sponsorship of various national and International bodies.

IJT is funded by Ministry of Textiles Government of India through JMDC on the basis of five yearly memorandum of understanding.

IJT website is http://www.ijtindia.org

Central Research Institute for Jute allied Fibres (CRIJAF) & National Institute for Research in Jute and Fiber Technology (NIRJFT)

CRIJAF & NIRJFT are registered societies promoted by Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) under Ministry of Agriculture. These institutes are primarily concern with research extension services and crop husbandry in respect of the jute plant. It conducts research and studies for improvement of yield, quality and development of economically viable and sustainable production technology and cropping system of jute and allied crops.

CRIJAF website is www.crijaf.org

NIRJAF website is www.nirjaft.res.in/

TEXTILES COMMITTEE

The Textiles Committee, established by the Textiles Committee Act, 1963, has the primary objective of ensuring quality of textiles both for internal marketing and exports. Its functions include promotion of quality of textiles and textile exports, research in the technical and economic fields, establishing standards for textiles and textile machinery, setting up of laboratories, data collection etc. The Committee’s has its Head quarters at Mumbai with 30 Regional Offices, 17 of them with laboratories, including 9 having eco testing facilities.

PERFORMANCE DURING 2007-08

The Committee has in its ambit various developmental activities for the benefit of the textiles trade and industry. The performance of each activity is summarized below:

Textiles Testing Services : During 2007-08, all the 17 laboratories of Textiles Committee together registered revenue of Rs. 6.48 crores. The anticipated revenue during 2007-08 (upto March 2008) is Rs. 8.98 crores.

Other Activities - Training on Textile Testing : During 2007-08, 54 programmes were conducted on textile testing under National Programme for Training of Textiles and Clothing Industry Personnel. 859 personnel from textiles trade and industry attended the program for testing of Dyes, Chemical and Textile. As an ongoing programme, 44 programmes are projected during 2007-08.

Accreditation of Laboratories: During 2006-07, 2 more laboratories of Textiles Committee at Kolkata and Guntur were accredited by National Accreditation Board
Consultancy on Laboratory Quality Management System / Setting up of in-house laboratories: Since beginning of the scheme, Textiles Committee has given consultancy to 22 laboratories for implementing ISO/IEC 17025-laboratory management system. During 2007-08, accreditations for the following laboratories are under progress:

- Alok Industries (New Delhi),
- Kusumgar Corporates (Umargaon)
- Laxmi Machine Works Ltd. (Coimbatore),
- BKS (Palladam), Jammu and Kashmir Handloom Development Corporation (Srinagar)
- Central Wool Development Board (Bikaner)
- MANTRA (Surat).

Inter Laboratory Comparison (ILC)/ Inter Laboratory Proficiency Test (ILPT): The laboratory of Textiles Committee at Mumbai is conducting Inter Laboratory Comparisons (ILC) regularly, in order to ensure the competence of the laboratories. During 2007-08, the Textiles Committee conducted programme on Inter Laboratory Comparisons (ILC) covering 10 mechanical (Fibre, Yarn, Chord and Fabric) and 10 chemical (Fabric) parameters of textile. 46 accredited laboratories including most of the accredited laboratories from India, Srilanka and Bangaldesh participated in the programme. Rs. 0.50 lakh was generated through this programme. As an ongoing program, another ILC program is being conducted during 2007-08 (upto December 2007). Total 77 accredited laboratories including most of the accredited laboratories from India, Srilanka and Bangaldesh have participated in the programme. Parameters covered in the program are 12 mechanical and 12 chemical. Revenue of Rs. 4.40 lakh is collected as participation fees.

Textiles Committee as a PT provider: Action has been initiated for the accreditation of the Laboratory of Textiles Committee at Mumbai as a Proficiency Testing (PT) provider in accordance with ILACG 13: 2007 and ISO Guide 43-1: 1997.

TQM Services: The Textiles Committee reoriented its role from that of regulatory to developmental. In the process, it has emerged out as industry friendly organization. The developmental activities were initiated in rendering consultancy on ISO-9000 quality management systems, ISO-14000 Environmental Management systems, SA-8000 (Social Accountability Management Systems) and OHSAS 18000 (Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series) to the aspiring textile units on chargeable basis. In view of service-oriented approach, following activities are being carried out.

During 2007-08, a total of 25 units came forward to avail the consultancy services under ISO 9000/ISO 14000/SA8000/ OHSAS18001. The total number of units under consultancy has gone upto 417 units so far. The Textiles Committee is the only organization in the country to have rendered consultancy services to so many textiles units. 6 more units are expected for consultancy services under various standards.
HANDELLOOM MARK: The Textiles Committee has been appointed as implementing agency (IA) by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms). The Handloom Mark was launched on June 28, 2006. The performance of Handloom Mark Scheme is table 13.1

Table 13.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Name of the activities</th>
<th>Achievements (Upto Dec. 07)</th>
<th>Projected (2007-08)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>No. of Forms issued</td>
<td>1,673</td>
<td>2,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>No. of Registration allotted</td>
<td>1,995</td>
<td>2195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>No. of label sold</td>
<td>49,35,752</td>
<td>61,85,752</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Popularization of the Mark through Domestic and International Publicity: The most important step for the success of Handloom Mark would be its popularization. This has been achieved not only through the launch of Mark, sensitization seminars but also through publicity. Advertisement was issued in 5 cycles for total 12 languages so far during different period through DAVP and covered 238 newspapers. Tenders were invited for releasing advertisements in domestic magazines and advertisements are expected to be released in March 2008.

During 2007-08, the TQM Division is mainly focusing on the implementation of Handloom Mark Scheme. The Committee will also continue to further popularize the concept of ISO 9000/ISO 14000/SA8000/OHSAS18001 particularly for the decentralized sector.

THE CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT CELL is one of the functional divisions of the Textiles Committee at its Headquarters in Mumbai.

The Cell implementing Cluster Development Programme for the Capacity Building of Textile SMEs in the identified clusters since the year 2002. This division has also continued to implementing the programmes in the year 2007 – 2008 as its ongoing activity. Three more handloom clusters have been assigned by the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India for implementation of the programme under the Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (IHCDS) as an Implementing Agency. Diagnostic study has been completed and action plan has been devised for three allotted clusters, viz; Noida, Bijnour, and Trichy.

FINANCES OF THE COMMITTEE

Cess collection: The Government has exempted payment of Cess on all Textiles and Textile machinery manufactured in India, w.e.f. 1.6.2007 vide Govt. Notification No.12020/2/2002-A&MMT dated June 1, 2007. Hence, assessment of Cess for the period June 1, 2007, onwards has been discontinued. However, during 2007-08 (upto December 2007), the Committee collected Cess of Rs.1,600.35 lakh.

The Committee generates internal revenue by way of user charges such as testing and certification charges, consultation fees, etc. The details of the revenue collection during 2007-08 are at table 13.2.

Market Research Wing: The collection of statistics as stipulated by the Textiles Committee Act from manufacturers, dealers and consumers, under section 4(2) (b) of the Act is the major responsibility of
Table 13.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Head of the Accounts</th>
<th>2007-08 (upto December 07)</th>
<th>Projection (upto March 08)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>SERVICE CHARGES.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Certification to Exporter</td>
<td>149.25</td>
<td>165.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Laboratory Testing</td>
<td>673.36</td>
<td>747.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Total Quality Management</td>
<td>23.51</td>
<td>26.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Market Research studies/surveys</td>
<td>4.37</td>
<td>4.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Sale of Publications</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Human Resource Development (Training)</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Quality Inspection</td>
<td>3.23</td>
<td>3.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Sale of forms</td>
<td>31.87</td>
<td>35.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (A)</td>
<td></td>
<td>890.12</td>
<td>987.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td>Other Receipts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Interest on short term deposit with SBI</td>
<td>133.16</td>
<td>147.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Recoverable Advances &amp; deposits including interest</td>
<td>24.74</td>
<td>26.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Cost of collection of cess</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Misc. Receipts (includes settlement of Insurance claim &amp; sale proceeds of capital assets)</td>
<td>16.14</td>
<td>17.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Rent on Auditorium &amp; Board Room of the Committee’s Bldg. at Mumbai</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>5.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Fees/Handling charges for TCID project at Jasol, Balotra &amp; Bithuja, Rajasthan.</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Fees/Handling charges for Common heat &amp; Power plant project (Tirupur Cluster)</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Handloom Marks Scheme</td>
<td>27.52</td>
<td>30.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (B)</td>
<td></td>
<td>204.77</td>
<td>225.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (A+B)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,094.89</td>
<td>1,213.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this wing, in dispensing with the above function, economic and market related research studies are being carried out covering the entire gamut of the textile production, consumption and distribution. Depending upon the requirements of the government as well as the industry, various surveys/studies have been carried out. In addition to the research surveys/studies planned by the Textiles Committee, Market Research Wing undertakes client-sponsored studies/surveys also.
The major activities of Market Research Wing during the period were:

(i) Continuing the operation of Market for Textiles and Clothing Survey and publishing annual report.

(ii) Preparation of status paper of textile industry in important states.

(iii) Sponsored surveys as per the requirement of Central Govt./State Govt./Leading Textile Associations and major Stakeholders.

(iv) Operating/maintaining WTO Cell for compilation and dissemination of information/data on WTO and international textile industry.

(v) UNCTAD Project: Strategies & Preparedness on Trade & Globalisation for Textiles & Clothing Sector.

Name of the Project/M.R. Activities/ Present Status

Market for Textiles & Clothing: National Household Survey

- Existing panel size enhances to **13,950** Households (located in 116 urban and 261 rural centers)

- Data collection from 95% of the Sample Households are expected for 66263 CPPRs during 2007-08 (upto December 2007)

- Data verification/maintenance was done in 153 centers

- Panel replacement completed in 19 urban and 63 rural centres for panel replacement during 2007-08 (upto December 2007)

- Data entry for the month of July-August 2007 has been completed

- During 2007-08, 4,531 incentives items have been proposed for procurement to the households

- MTC Report, 2006, is printed and released in August 2007

- The list of textiles mills, educational institute, research centre, personal list of libraries, textiles association and industry etc. have been completed. The modifications are undertaken on the basis of input received from users of the data.

Other Surveys/Studies

Survey on Textile Engineering Industry (Textile Machinery Manufacturers Association India)

The Census of Textile Machinery Industry has been initiated mainly to fill up the data gap required for policy decision pertaining to textile machinery industry in India. The absence of data on the machinery sector is an impediment in policy decision-making and its growth plans. Textiles Committee has been taken up the study in collaboration of TMMA.

The study has been initiated from July 07. The study proposed to be completed in six months period for the total project cost of Rs. 6 lakh.

The work plans for various activities under Census of Textile Machinery Industry are forwarded to TMMA for approval purpose. The activities are accordingly initiated studies are undertaken. The part reimbursement of expenditures incurred towards census activities will be taken from TMMA.

- Questionnaire pre-testing complete

- Data collection from TEI Units started in RO’s. Action plan prepared for the field operation in all states

- Questionnaires dispatched to the units located in Maharashtra. & Gujarat
A total of 2500 machinery Engg. Units are proposed to be covered.

Data collection work is in progress in all the states where there are TEI Units located.

Draft output tables have been prepared.

The Textiles Committee officials are undertaking the data collection work at all other centres.

The data collection work from the units in Gujarat has been entrusted to ATIRA.

**Usefulness of the project**

- Understanding and leveraging our export competitiveness through capacity building
- Study and dissemination of issues on WTO, Tariffs, GSP, FTA/RTA, etc.
- Understanding the export potential of clusters
- Provision of IPR protection to unique handloom products

Participation of the stakeholders in policy making

**Main Themes addressed:**

- New EU – GSP Schemes
- IPR protection through Geographical Indications Act
- Export competitiveness of Indian T&C in select markets of EU and US
- Implications of Tariff and Non-Tariff Barriers on exports of T&C products
- Cost benchmarking studies on powerloom clusters of Tamilnadu, Maharashtra and Gujarat, market linkage and brand building of selected products.

**Main activities undertaken :**

- Organisation of 6 inception workshops and 7 Sectoral Workshops, 15 Interactive meetings at Puri, Lucknow, Hubli, Raipur, Panipath, Chandigarh ,Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai & Yeala.
- More than 1200 stakeholders participated and shared their concerns.
- Three Newsletters published “Trade Globalisation and Textiles and 4th issue on Trade Globalisation and Textiles” will be released soon.
Publication of monograph series.
Hosting of website www.tcunctad.org

Output

Proceedings Prepared: - The proceedings of the workshop and articles presented during the workshops have been documented and forwarded to all the participating stakeholders.

(a) IPR Protection through GI: Products selected
- Banaras saris and Brocades, Lucknow Chikans, Appliqué work of Pipli,
- Gulledguda saris and fabrics, Khandua saris
- Initiatives taken to register these 5 products
- Study & documentation completed for 3 products. Application for Banaras Pipli & Lucknow, has been filed
- Application filed for 2 products – pipli, Khandua
- Upda, Jamadani, Dharmavaram, Gadwal, Saree of A1,
- Paithani of Maharashtra
- ToBalucherFabricsofW.B.Balvampur, Saree and fabrics of Kerala.

(b) Application of Banaras Saree, Lucknow Chikan Craft, Pipli Applique for GI registration have been filled

(c) Completed & submitted to UNCTAD:
- Implication of New EU GSP scheme
- Assessment, awareness and identification of products for GI
- Study & documentation of Banares saree & brocades Lucknow Chikan

Ongoing

- Impact study on Solapur Terry towel
- Pochampally Ikat
- Impact of Tariff & Non Tariff Barriers
- Study on Hosiery sector of West Bengal
- Study on market linkage of traditional textiles products

Publishing News Letter: The 4th issue on “Strategies and Preparedness on Trade and Globalisation in India”. (January – June 2007) has been published and the 5th issue will be released in March 2008.

Publication undertaken: Some of the monographs have also been translated into vernacular languages like Bengali; Oriya and Hindi.

Collection and inventorisation of Literature: Trade rules, tariff plans, NTBs, ROs, market access and WTO study reports have been collected from various sources and the process of inventorisation of the same is going on.

Setting up of Virtual Sector Network (VSN): 2,550 textiles and clothing manufacturers’ associations, trade and exporters’ and research institutes are being included in the VSN.

Establishment of Resource Centre: Resource Centre has been set up in the second floor of the Textiles Committee office building. This will act as a one-stop reference centre for trade and globalisation related issues. The resource centre has been dedicated and made available for the usage of stakeholders.
MoUs signed: The MoU for signing of Tier-II partners in different clusters has been signed and sent to stakeholders. 114 signed MoU from different stakeholders received. Efforts are being made for signing the MoU with other stakeholders. MoU with IIFT and Government of A.P., Jharkhand, U.P. & Kerala to share and exchange information and its documentation on a regular basis, to conduct regular consultation at a senior professional level.

Quality Appraisal & Export Certification Services: The Export Promotion & Quality Assurance Division carries out the following functions:

(i) Conducting technical studies in the textile industry, under Section 4(2)(a) of the Act

(ii) Promotion of export of textiles, under Section 4(2)(b) of the Act

(iii) Establishing, adopting and recommending standard specifications for textiles and packing materials, under Section 4(2)(c) of the Act

(iv) Providing for inspection and examination of textiles and packing materials under Section 4(2)(e) of the Act

2. The quantum of work carried out by this Division during 2007-2008 (upto December 2007), are at table 13.3.

During 2006-07, the schemes for Quality Appraisal of fabric, made-ups & garments were further fine-tuned in line with the ISO 17020. Another scheme for quality Appraisal of Yarn was formulated in line with ISO 17020. The schemes were given wide publicity and inspections are being undertaken under these 4 schemes with a view to meeting requirement of ISO 17020. So far, 100 lots were assessed under these schemes. The consultancy services on Quality Solutions in M/s. Sabare International Ltd, Karur are at the final stage. Similarly, consultancy services on Quality and Productivity Improvement were undertaken in M/s. Bhoopathi Textiles, M/s. Somanatha Textiles, M/s. Akude Textiles, and Birru Enterprises in Sholapur during the period.

Pursuant to signing of an MOU between Governments of India and Bangladesh, the Ministry of Textiles has authorized the Textiles Committee to monitor Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) for export of 8 million pieces of apparel articles by Bangladesh into India, duty free. Therefore, instructions were issued by the Committee to its field staff for implementations vide Circular No. A-836 dated October 30, 2007.

As decided by the Textiles Committee, in its 94th meeting held on October 16, 2006, efforts are being made to get the EPQA Division accredited under ISO 17020, exclusively meant for commercial inspection, through the Quality Council of India. Application has already been made to QCI along with requisite fee of Rs.2,00,000.00. In this regard, documentations were finalized and sent to QCI for assessment. The EPQA division is expected to be accredited under ISO 17020 by early 2008.

During 2008-2009, the Committee will continue to implement the above schemes and also make efforts to improve upon them to serve the industry more effectively. Once accredited under ISO 17020, the commercial inspections are expected to get an impetus, which would further augment the revenue collection of the Committee.
## Table 13.3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>No. of lots appraised under QAS</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>No. of GSP Certificates issued</td>
<td>2,45,970</td>
<td>3,29,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>No. of Certificates of Origin (Non-Preferential) issued</td>
<td>67,261</td>
<td>82,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>No. of lots examined under limited inspection for loom origin for issue of Handloom certificates</td>
<td>1,001</td>
<td>1001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>No. of handloom and other special certificates issued</td>
<td>1,293</td>
<td>1,293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>No. of lots of yarn /fabrics of cotton/Art-silk/Synthetics/blended inspected for quality.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>No. of samples classified for HS code, description, etc.</td>
<td>1,848</td>
<td>2,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>No. of new exporters registered</td>
<td>993</td>
<td>1293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>No. of registrations renewed</td>
<td>2,435</td>
<td>3335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Sale of Blank GSP Forms</td>
<td>1,44,705</td>
<td>1,94,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Sale of Blank Certificates under Bilateral Agreement</td>
<td>1,530</td>
<td>1,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Endorsement on TRQC for monitoring import quota of RMG under ISFTA</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Endorsement on TRQC for monitoring import quota of Acrylic yarn under Indo-Nepal Trade treaty (in Metric Ton)</td>
<td>1531</td>
<td>1,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>No. of shipping documents endorsed in the office for cess collection</td>
<td>3547</td>
<td>3,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Total revenue generated for activities at S.N. 1 to 14 above. (Rs.in Lakhs)</td>
<td>509.84</td>
<td>639.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>