

Modi logged 19 bilateral meets with African leaders

PROGRESS Pitches for early reforms of the UNSC, receives support from many heads



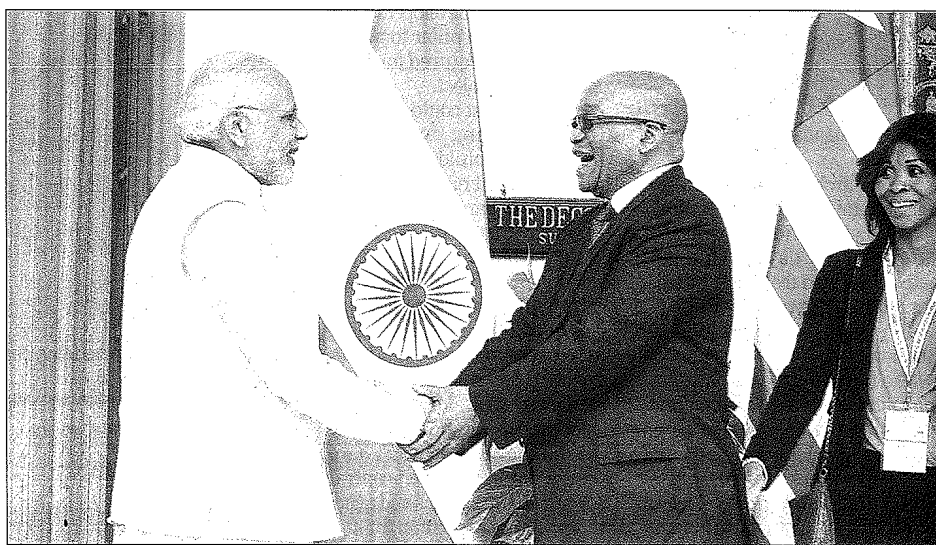
Jayanth Jacob

✉ jayanth.jacob@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi logged 19 bilateral meetings with African leaders on Wednesday and capped the marathon relationship-building effort with a dinner where his guests turned up in specially-tailored Indian long coats and sara, the colourful headgear.

He reached out to Africa, sprinkling personal anecdotes to underscore common goals such as United Nations Security Council (UNSC) reforms, joint fight against terrorism and climate change to expand cooperation in diverse fields.

The bilaterals, spanning six hours, set the tone for Thursday's main event of the India-Africa Summit, an Indian initiative for forging a bond with a continent that has remarkably good trade ties with China. India's trade with



PM Narendra Modi welcomes South African President Jacob Zuma in New Delhi.

SONU MEHTA / HT PHOTO

Africa is worth \$70 billion, which pales under China's \$200 billion.

A day before he hosts representatives of 54 African nations for the summit, Modi pitched for early reforms of the UNSC and received support from many heads of states, barring Algeria and Egypt.

South Africa president Jacob Zuma voiced his frustration over "the unequal system at the UN

where veto-wielding countries (permanent members US, UK, Russia, China and France) cannot agree on key issues".

From the day's first meeting with Zimbabwe president Robert Mugabe to the final one with Botswana vice-president Ponatshego Kedikilwe, Modi maintained that India is a willing partner in the African

nations' march towards economic and overall progress.

Modi drew from personal experience, such as a visit to Uganda when he was chief minister of Gujarat, to build instant camaraderie with the visiting heads of state.

Finally at the dinner, the PM played the perfect host as he gave his guests a taste of India at the Crafts Museum in Pragati Maidan.

10 my city



PHOTOS: WASEEM GASHROO/HT

The sari flashmob was organised to celebrate the quintessential Indian ensemble



We wanted to revive the culture of draping sari in a fun way so that weaves get the kind of attention they deserve

Vandana Gupta

We want to make sure we don't go the Japanese way where they did away with their kimono culture

Sapna Khandelwal

A step to save the sari

A bunch of 50 ladies rocked the Capital on Tuesday by performing the first-ever sari flashmob in the world.

Torsha Sen
torsha.sen@hindustantimes.com

Sari power got a whole new meaning on Tuesday evening when around 50 ladies, dressed in their sartorial best, conducted the first-ever sari flashmob at a Delhi mall. The ladies, rocked to the beats of Bollywood chartbusters such as London Thumakda, Sari Ke Fall Sa, Girls Like To Swing, Indira waale, and Galla Goodiyaan as the audience cheered them on. The flash mob, conducted to sensitise people from India and all over the world, and to revive the tradition of draping saris, was a big hit. It was an initiative by Deviditi,

an organisation that celebrates Indian culture and has started a campaign to encourage women to wear saris. "We wanted to revive the culture of draping sari in a fun way, so that weaves get the attention that they deserve," says Vandana Gupta, co-founder, Deviditi, adding: "Those who performed are mostly homemakers, doctors and lawyers. Not a single person was a professional dancer. We all are doing this for the common love of saris." To foster the cause, a Facebook community called the India Saree Challenge was set up six months ago, and it has been receiving a good response. "We don't want this ethnic drape to suffer a common fate like the

Japanese Kimono. We want to make sure we don't go the Japanese way where they did away with their kimono culture, making it almost obsolete in current times," says Sapna Khandelwal, co-founder, Deviditi. "We have planned a grand event called Saree Saga for December, which will be a culmination of numerous online campaigns and a series of events, all leading to women from diverse cultures celebrating the sari," informs Gupta and adds, "The event will include a ramp walk showcasing the evolution of sari through the ages, a talent show, dance performance, quiz sessions and an exhibition of saris from weavers across the country."

Building relations through traditional food

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI: While those who had to pass the area near Pragati Maidan to head home after work spent a couple of hours fighting hunger pangs stuck in traffic, the Heads of State attending the India-Africa Summit were treated to a lavish dinner hosted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Crafts Museum.

The dinner was put together by The Ashok and had on its menu culinary treasures from across India. The chefs put together a traditional meal incorporating elements of Kashmiri cuisine, coastal flavours of South India, the sweet and sour flavours of Gujarati food, cuisine from the North-West Frontier Province and Awadh.

The menu included a vegetarian platter with

chutney paneer tikka, subz til kebab and moti-e-zamin for starters. The main course included Kashmiri dum aloo, adraki gobi, dal Dera Ismail Khan and what the hotel claims to be the host's favorite vatana muthia nu shaak, served along with assorted Indian breads.

The non-vegetarian menu comprised kebab-e-bannu, tandoori prawns and pathar kebab for starters and malabar meen curry and dum ki gosht

biryani in the main course.

The beverage menu included a mint sorbet and *qehwa*/South Indian coffee. The meal ended on a sweet note with stuffed kala jamun served along with rabri, saffron flavoured sandesh, shrikhand and fresh fruits.

Senior executive chef Rajan Loomba, who put together the menu, said emphasis was on creating a combination of different varieties of authentic Indian cuisines.

Gala day for First Ladies of African nations today

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

While the African leaders will spend their day in discussions and negotiations with the Indian Government during the 3rd India-Africa Forum Summit on Thursday, the First Ladies will have a day out in national Capital to get the 'flavour of India.'

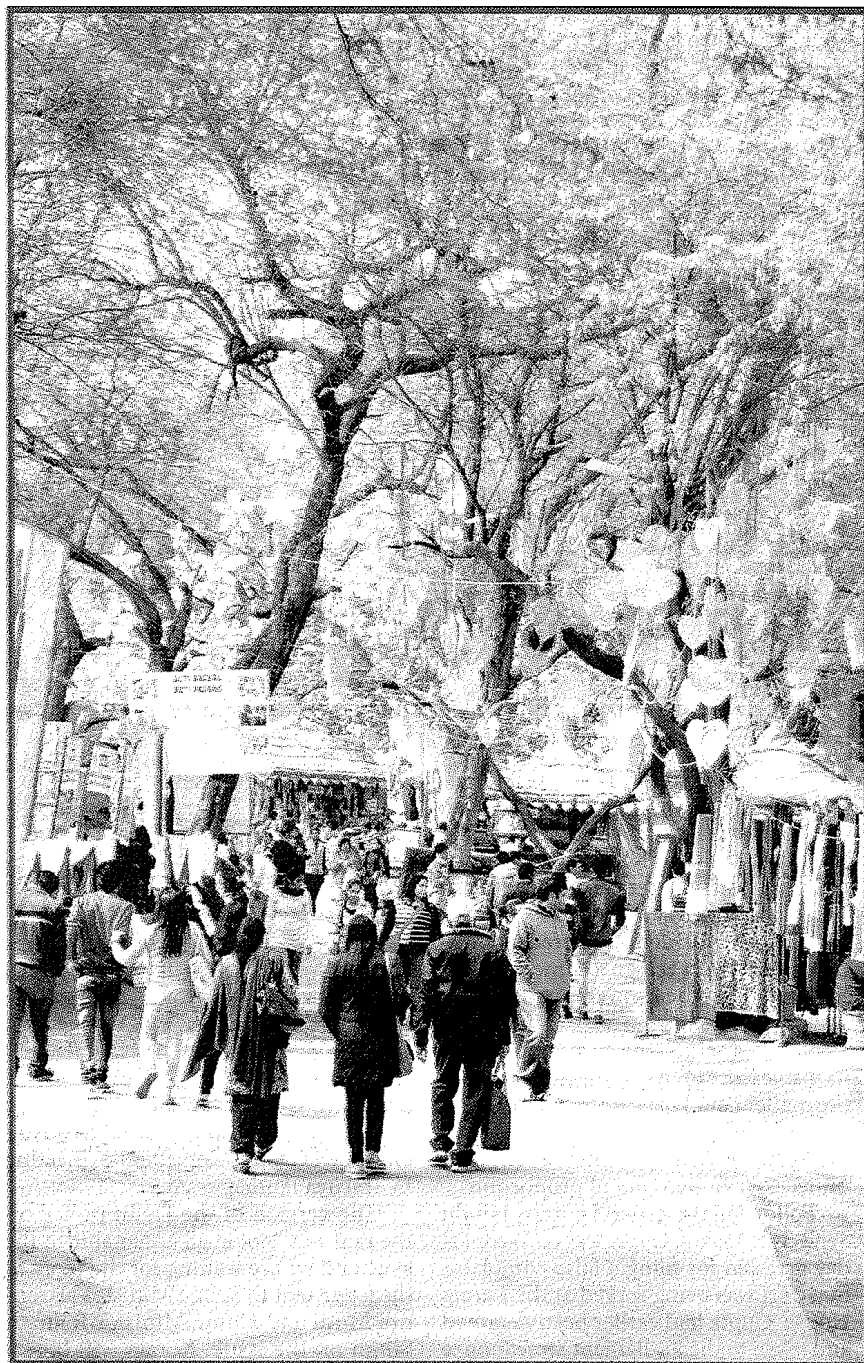
The Ministry of External Affairs has planned a day that has variety — sightseeing, fashion show, good food and a glimpse of India-Africa partnership — for the First Ladies to enjoy stay in India. According to Ruchira Kamboj, the officer looking after the programme of the first ladies, a four-hour schedule is specially tailor-made to showcase mini-India.

Seventeen First Ladies have arrived with the African lead-

ers. On Wednesday, they spent most of the time shopping Indian handloom and handicrafts at Dilli Haat and Central Cottage Emporium, besides spending time with embassy staff and doing a bit of Delhi sightseeing.

On Thursday, the MEA will take them to Akshardham for a visit. Later they will meet the 'barefoot grandmas' from Africa who train in Tilonia in Rajasthan on solar lighting systems. This will be followed by a fashion show showcasing threads of Varanasi.

The lunch will be cooked by master chef Kunal Kapoor, who will also demonstrate the art of cooking some dishes to the first ladies. The ladies will later join their husbands for the banquet hosted by President Pranab Mukherjee.



Celebrating diversity

OUR CORRESPONDENT

The much acclaimed calendar event of Haryana Tourism, the 30th Surajkund International Crafts Mela, will be celebrated from February 1-15, 2016 at Surajkund, Faridabad.

The Mela showcases the richness and diversity of the handicrafts, handlooms and the cultural heritage of India.

It is jointly hosted by Haryana Tourism Corporation and Surajkund Mela Authority in collaboration with the Union Ministries of Tourism, Textiles, Culture and External Affairs.

This festival has come to occupy a place of pride and prominence, attracting more than a million domestic and foreign visitors during the Mela.

The Mela has grown in stature and it attained an international status in 2013 and is now attracting more and more foreign participation. A record number of 20 countries took part in the 29th Surajkund International Crafts Mela-2015.

Every year, a country is also chosen to be the partner nation that showcases the best of its art, culture, traditions and heritage during the fortnight.

Dr Sumita Misra, Principal Secretary, Tourism Department, government of Haryana stated that a confirmation from China Tourism administration has been received on Monday morning regarding their participation as a partner nation for the 30th Surajkund International Crafts Mela-2016.

The craftspersons, cultural troupes and master chefs from China will present their talent and skills to enthrall the

The Mela showcases richness and diversity of the handicrafts, handlooms and the cultural heritage of India



visitors at the forthcoming Mela.

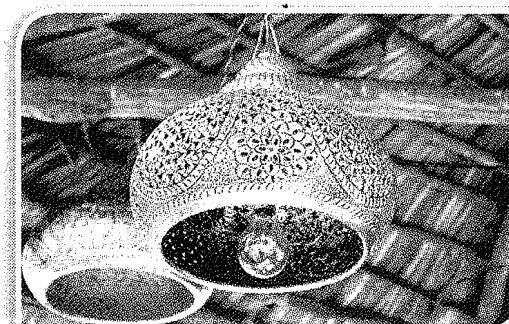
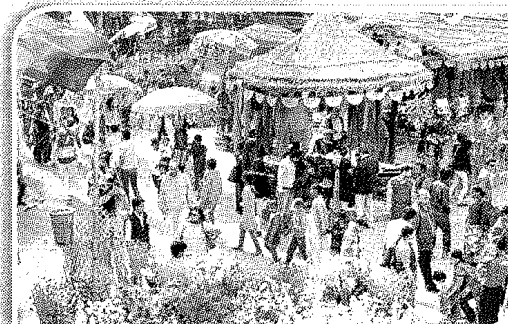
Dr Misra further added that the participation of China as the partner nation of the 30th Surajkund International Crafts Mela-2016 will also gel with the agreement signed during the visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping to India in Septem-

ber, 2014 in which it was decided to commemorate the year 2016 as 'Year of China in India'.

The participation of China as a partner nation will surely add new flavour and zing to the Mela. The concept of partner nation has been envisioned

broadly to focus on a country's art, craft and cuisine.

In the preceding years, Thailand, African nations, Sri Lanka and Lebanon had the honour to be the partner nation of this biggest crafts fair of the world.



WEAVING AND HANDLOOM TO START IN SEVEN DISTRICTS OF HARYANA

CHANDIGARH: Aiming to provide vocational skill training to people, courses related to clothing, spinning, weaving and handloom will be started in seven districts of Haryana under the Integrated Skill Development Scheme. The districts where the programmes will be started are – Panipat, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Hisar, Bhiwani, Ambala and Rohtak. A spokesman of the Industrial Training Department on Wednesday said the Haryana government, which has completed one year of its tenure with the catchline of 'Ek Varsh, Sarvatra Harsh', has started Skill Development Mission in the State for technical education and industrial training and constituted Haryana Skill Development Mission.

20 देशों के राष्ट्राध्यक्षों ने वैश्विक मुद्दों पर साथ मिलकर काम करने की रणनीति की प्रशंसा की

पीएम मोदी के मुरीद हुए अफ्रीकी देश



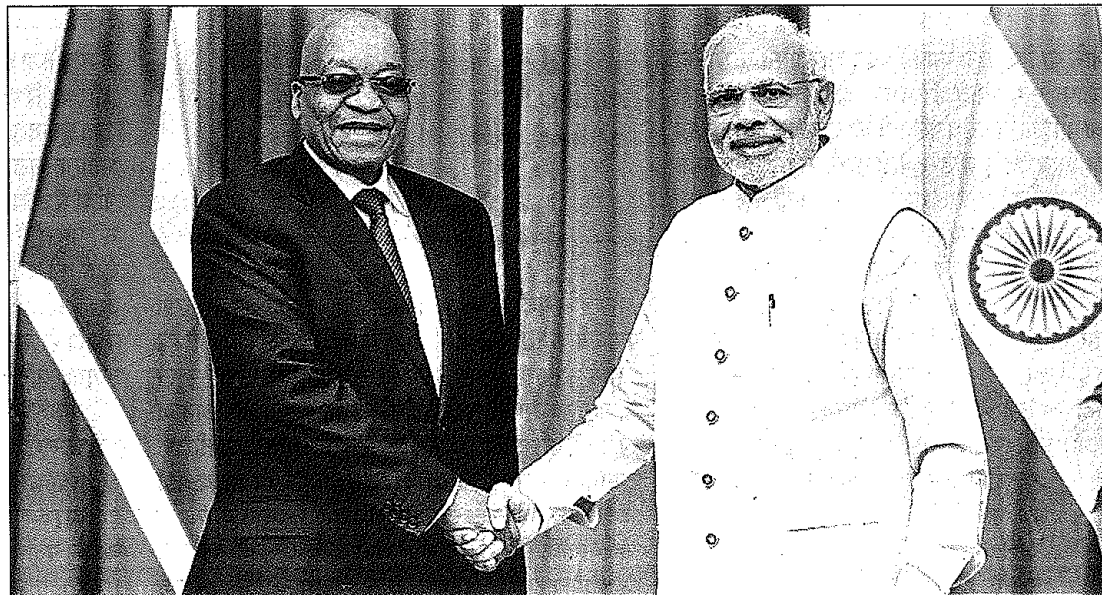
नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

अफ्रीकी देशों के नेताओं ने प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के नेतृत्व और अफ्रीका से संबंधों को नई ऊंचाइयों पर ले जाने की उनकी प्रतिबद्धता को सराहा है। ज्यादातर अफ्रीकी देश प्रधानमंत्री मोदी की इस बात से सहमत दिखाई दिए कि भारत के साथ रणनीतिक, व्यापारिक और सांस्कृतिक क्षेत्र में भागीदारी की असीम संभावनाएं हैं।

प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने बुधवार को करीब 20 अफ्रीकी देशों के राष्ट्राध्यक्षों से मुलाकात की। बैठकों में यह आम राय बनी कि अगर भारत और अफ्रीकी देश मिलकर काम करेंगे तो दुनिया में इनकी आवाज की ताकत बढ़ जाएगी। अफ्रीकी देशों के राष्ट्रप्रमुख और शासनाध्यक्ष गुरुवार को भारत अफ्रीका फोरम शिखर सम्मेलन में भाग लेंगे।

सुरक्षा परिषद में प्रतिनिधित्व के लिए दबाव बढ़ाएंगे: बातचीत से मिले संकेत के मुताबिक आने वाले दिनों में संयुक्त राष्ट्र और अन्य वैश्विक संस्थाओं में भारत और अफ्रीका का प्रतिनिधित्व बढ़ाने के लिए दबाव बनाया जाएगा।

दक्षिण अफ्रीकी राष्ट्रपति जैकब जुमा ने मोदी से मुलाकात में वैश्विक शासन प्रणाली के सुधार की पुरजोर वकालत की। उन्होंने कहा कि दूसरे विश्वयुद्ध के बाद बनाया गया संयुक्त राष्ट्र का ढांचा 21वीं सदी में प्रासंगिक नहीं हो सकता। विदेश मंत्रालय के सूत्रों के अनुसार, जुमा ने कहा कि संयुक्त राष्ट्र में और खासतौर पर सुरक्षा परिषद में सुधार के लिए सभी



नई दिल्ली में बुधवार को दक्षिण अफ्रीका के राष्ट्रपति जैकब जुमा से हाथ मिलाते प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी। • रॉयटर्स

नाइजीरिया के समक्ष उठाया 11 भारतीय कैदियों का मुद्दा

प्रधानमंत्री ने नाइजीरिया के राष्ट्रपति मुहम्मद बुहारी के समक्ष वहां की जेल में बंद भारतीय पोत के 11 सदस्यीय चालक दल का मुद्दा उठाया। विदेश मंत्रालय में पूर्वी और दक्षिण अफ्रीकी प्रभाग के संयुक्त सचिव तन्मय लाल ने कहा, मोदी ने हमारे पोतों में से एक पोत के 11 चालक दल के सदस्यों का मुद्दा विशेष रूप से उठाया जो कुछ समय से नाइजीरिया की जेलों में बंद हैं। बुहारी ने मामले को देखने का आश्वासन दिया।

समान विचार वाले देशों का साथ आना महत्वपूर्ण है। उनका कहना था कि संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद के सदस्य देशों के वीटो अधिकारों की वजह से सीरियाई संकट समेत दुनिया के कई संघर्षों का समाधान नहीं निकल सका। आतंकवाद के खतरे से निपटने के तौर तरीकों पर जुमा और मोदी के बीच विस्तार से चर्चा हुई।

अफ्रीकी नेताओं के परिधानों का खुद ध्यान रखा

प्रधानमंत्री द्विपक्षीय मुलाकात में अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर भारत और अफ्रीका के साथ आने के महत्व को रेखांकित करना नहीं भूलते हैं। इसके अलावा वह पर्सनल केमिस्ट्री को लेकर भी काफी संजीदा हैं। प्रधानमंत्री ने खुद रुचि लेकर सभी राष्ट्राध्यक्षों के लिए परिधान व प्रतीक चिन्ह उपहार के रूप में तैयार कराए हैं। राष्ट्राध्यक्षों के लिए आयोजित रात्रिभोज में भारतीय संस्कृति की झलक दिखाई गई। अफ्रीकी नेताओं ने महाद्वीप में भारत की विकास परियोजनाओं की सराहना की और स्वास्थ्य देखभाल, शिक्षा तथा क्षमता निर्माण समेत विविध क्षेत्रों में संबंध और प्रगाढ़ करने की वकालत की।

‘भारतीय उद्यमी अफ्रीकी देशों में निवेश बढ़ाएं’

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

विदेश मंत्री सुषमा स्वराज ने भारतीय कंपनियों से अफ्रीकी देशों में निवेश बढ़ाने का आह्वान किया है। भारत-अफ्रीका कारोबार मंच के कार्यक्रम में बुधवार को सुषमा ने ये अपील की।

अफ्रीकी देशों के विदेश मंत्रियों के साथ वार्ता के अनुभवों के आधार पर सुषमा ने कहा कि वहां भारत के लिए कारोबार और निवेश के अपार मौके हैं। भारत का निवेश दोनों पक्षों के लिए लाभदायक होगा। उन्होंने कहा आर्थिक वृद्धि और विकास का उतना असर कहीं नहीं दिखता, जितना अफ्रीका में दिखता है। मंत्री ने कहा कि अफ्रीकी देशों से व्यापार एक दशक में 10 गुना बढ़कर 72 अरब डॉलर हो गया लेकिन यह भारत और अफ्रीका के आकार को देखते संभावनाओं से काफी कम है।

12 अफ्रीकी देशों के विदेश मंत्रियों से मिली सुषमा



रंगभेद नीति से अफ्रीका पिछड़ गया
: सुषमा ने कहा कि रंगभेद नीति की वजह से अफ्रीका काफी पिछड़ गया लेकिन अब स्थिति बदल गयी है। कुछ अफ्रीकी देश तो अल्पविकसित देशों की सूची से बाहर हो रहे हैं। लेकिन भारत से मिलने वाली मदद को लेकर चिंता की जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि अब तक जो काम भारत सरकार कर रही थी अब वे काम भारतीय कंपनियों करेंगी।

विदेश मंत्री सुषमा स्वराज ने बुधवार को तीसरे भारत-अफ्रीका शिखर सम्मेलन से इतर अफ्रीकी देशों के 12 विदेश मंत्रियों के साथ द्विपक्षीय बैठक की। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने भी नेताओं से मुलाकात की। सुषमा ने मंगलवार को आठ अफ्रीकी विदेश मंत्रियों से मुलाकात की थी। बुधवार को उनकी 12 अन्य मंत्रियों से मुलाकात होनी है।

बेहतर कारोबारी माहौल की जरूरत
: उन्होंने भारतीय और अफ्रीकी कंपनियों से कहा कि वे परस्पर फायदेमंद संयुक्त कारोबार उद्यम के लिए मेक इन इंडिया पहल का फायदा उठाएं। सुषमा ने कहा कि प्राकृतिक संसाधनों से भरपूर अफ्रीका मेहनती आबादी और अच्छे नेतृत्व के बावजूद पिछड़ गया, लेकिन अब उसे राजनीतिक स्थिरता और अनकूल कारोबारी माहौल की जरूरत है।

संसार

संतोष कुमार गंगवार वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) ने किया सिल्क फैब प्रदर्शनी का उद्घाटन

सिल्क फैब प्रदर्शनी शुरू, 117 संस्थाएं ले रही भाग

भास्कर न्यूज | नई दिल्ली

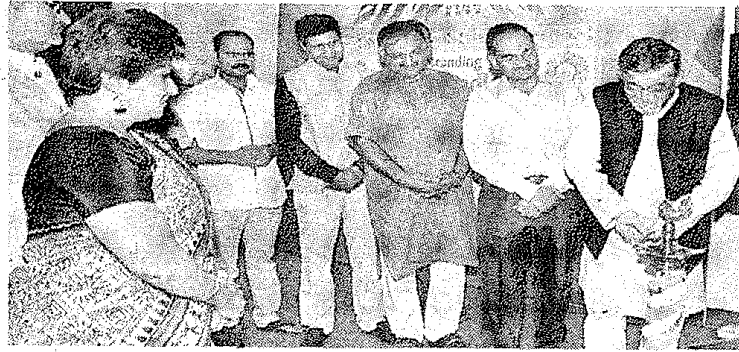
संतोष कुमार गंगवार वस्त्र राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) भारत सरकार ने कांस्टीट्यूशन क्लब नई दिल्ली में बुधवार को सिल्क फैब प्रदर्शनी का उद्घाटन किया। यह प्रदर्शनी कांस्टीट्यूशन क्लब, रफी मार्ग में आयोजित की गई है। इस अवसर पर उन्होंने कहा कि यह प्रदर्शनी, बुनकारों तथा उपभोक्ताओं को पारस्परिक संप्रेषण का अवसर प्रदान करती है। उन्होंने बताया कि प्रधानमंत्री जी द्वारा 7 अगस्त को चेन्नई में प्रथम हथकरघा दिवस के अवसर पर इंडिया हैंडलूम ब्रांड लांच किया गया।

विकास आयुक्त हथकरघा के कार्यालय, वस्त्र मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा राष्ट्रीय हथकरघा विकास निगम (राहविनि) के माध्यम से सिल्क फैब प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन एक ऐसी पहल है, जिससे

प्रातः 11 बजे से सांय 8 बजे तक जनता

प्रदर्शनी 8 नवंबर तक दो सप्ताह के लिए प्रातः 11 बजे से सांय 8 बजे तक जनता के लिए खुली रहेगी। प्राथमिक हथकरघा बुनकर सहकारी समितियों को संबंधित राज्य सरकारों द्वारा संस्तुति प्रदान की गई है। प्रदर्शनी में भारत के दूर-दराज स्थानों पर निर्मित रेशम उत्पाद, प्रदर्शन तथा उनकी बिक्री के लिए लाए गए हैं।

हथकरघा बुनकर देश के विभिन्न शहरों में अपने उत्पादों को सीधे उपभोक्ताओं को बिक्री कर सकते हैं। प्रदर्शनी में 15 राज्यों की 117 संस्थाएं भाग ले रही हैं। प्रदर्शनी में विशिष्ट हथकरघा कारीगरी के लिए राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार से सम्मानित बुनकर भी भाग ले रहे हैं। भारत में रोजगार क्षमता की दृष्टि



वस्त्र मंत्रालय द्वारा प्रायोजित सिल्क फैब प्रदर्शनी का उद्घाटन करते संतोष कुमार गंगवार।

से कृषि क्षेत्र के उपरांत हथकरघा ही सबसे बड़ा क्षेत्र है, जहां 45 लाख लोगों को प्रत्यक्ष एवं अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से राजगार मिला हुआ है। हथकरघा बुनाई के साथ हमारी परंपराएं जुड़ी हुई हैं तथा प्रत्येक क्षेत्र की अपनी एक खास कारीगरी है। पोचमल्ली, पैठानी, कोंजीवरम, जामदानी, बालूचरी

तथा इकत, हथकरघा वस्त्रों के कुछ ऐसे नाम हैं जो अपनी विशिष्ट बुनाई, डिजाइन और परंपरागत शैली के कारण पूरे विश्व के उपभोक्ताओं को आकर्षित करते हैं। इन प्रदर्शनियों के माध्यम से हथकरघा संस्थाओं को अपने उत्पादों को उचित दरों पर विक्रय का अवसर तो मिलता ही

उत्पादन में निम्न को सुनिश्चित करना है

- उत्पादन में उच्च गुणवत्ता, दोषा मुक्ता, हाथ से बुने हुए, प्रमाणिक, विशिष्ट उत्पाद
- जीरो डिफेक्ट
- प्रमाणिक पारंपरिक डिजाइन
- पर्यावरण पर शून्य प्रभाव
- सोशल कंप्लायंस
- स्वैच्छिक आधार पर अनुपालन

है साथ ही साथ रंगों, डिजाइन और बुनाई के संबंध में उपभोक्ताओं की पसंद का भी पता चलता है।

सिल्क फैब प्रदर्शनी के सभी भागीदारों को प्रेरित किया गया है कि वे अपने उत्पादों पर हैंडलूम मार्क का लेबल लगाएं इससे हथकरघा बुनकर समुदाय की आमदनी में वृद्धि का उद्देश्य भी पूरा होगा।

शिल्पोत्सव में आएंगे कई देशों के शिल्पकार

नोएडा (एसएनबी) । 30 अक्टूबर से शुरू हो रहे शिल्पोत्सव की तैयारियां पूरी हो चुकी हैं। बुधवार को आयोजन स्थल पर डीएम एनपी सिंह और पर्यटन विभाग के निदेशक अभिलाष शर्मा ने प्रेसवार्ता कर मेले की जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि मेले का उद्घाटन पर्यटन मंत्री ओमप्रकाश सिंह करेंगे।

इस बार मेले में नेपाल, भूटान, साउथ कोरिया, थाइलैंड, चीन, श्रीलंका समेत कई देशों के शिल्पकार हिस्सा लेंगे। मेले की थीम पर्यटन एवं हस्तशिल्प होगी। मेला परिसर को अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्वरूप देने की कोशिश की जा रही है। इस बार साज सज्जा और सुरक्षा पर विशेष ध्यान दिया गया है। मेले में हर दिन अलग-अलग स्कूलों की छात्र-छात्राएं सांस्कृतिक प्रस्तुति देंगे। आयोजकों ने बताया कि मेले में प्रवेश के लिए 20 रुपए

टिकट रखा गया है। प्रवेश टिकट के लिए स्टेडियम के दोनों द्वारों पर चार-चार काउंटर बनाए गए हैं। सूचना केंद्र, सीनियर सिटीजन के लिए शटल सर्विस की सुविधा भी दी गई है। इस बार मेले में बांस-बल्ली की जगह हाइटेक पैगोडा टेंट लगाए गए हैं। यह टेंट वॉटर प्रूफ होने के साथ ही फायर प्रूफ भी होंगे। मेले में रोज शाम को बॉलीवुड के कलाकार रंगारंग प्रस्तुति देंगे। मेले के दौरान रवि किशन, सुदेश भोसले, अनन्या मिश्रा, बडाली ब्रदर्स, अशोक मस्ती, सिंजनी कुलकर्णी, निजामी ब्रदर्स, कविता कृष्णमूर्ति आदि कलाकार प्रस्तुति देंगे। मेले के दौरान सुरक्षा के पुख्ता इंतजाम किए जा रहे हैं। अस्थायी पुलिस चौकी के साथ ही मेटल डिटेक्टर, फायर ब्रिगेड व सीसीटीवी कैमरों का प्रबंध किया गया है।

समिट: द्विपक्षीय रिश्तों को मजबूत करने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री मोदी की पहल भारत आ गया पूरा अफ्रीका

भारत-अफ्रीका सम्मेलन

- 19 अफ्रीकी देशों के राष्ट्राध्यक्षों से मिले प्रधानमंत्री मोदी
- यूएन में स्थाई सदस्यता के लिए भारत की सबसे बड़ी कूटनीतिक पहल
- आतंकवाद से प्रभावित देशों को मदद देगा भारत

नई दिल्ली (ब्यूरो)। लगभग पूरा अफ्रीका दिल्ली में उतर आया है। अधिकांश अफ्रीकी देशों के राष्ट्राध्यक्ष भारत पहुंच चुके हैं। भारत अफ्रीका सम्मेलन 2015 में हिस्सा लेने के लिए आए इन राष्ट्राध्यक्षों से द्विपक्षीय बैठक करने का सिलसिला प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने शुरू कर दिया। मोदी ने बुधवार को 19 देशों के राष्ट्राध्यक्षों से मुलाकात की और आपसी सहयोग के तमाम मुद्दों पर बातचीत की।

प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने दक्षिण अफ्रीका, युगांडा, चाड, नाइजर, नाइजीरिया, बेनिन, लेसोथो, मोजाम्बिक, बोत्सवाना, जिम्बाब्वे, केन्या, जिबुती, घाना, गिनी, गैबोन समेत कुछ अन्य देशों के राष्ट्राध्यक्षों से मुलाकात की। विदेश मंत्रालय की तरफ से तैयार हर देश के साथ बातचीत का अलग-अलग मसौदा था, जिसके आधार पर पीएम ने द्विपक्षीय रिश्तों को आगे बढ़ाने को लेकर बातचीत की। द्विपक्षीय चर्चा में अलग-अलग देशों के साथ ऊर्जा, खनन, स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा, कृषि क्षेत्र में सहयोग को मजबूत करने को लेकर



भारत-अफ्रीका समिट के दौरान बुधवार रात प्रगति मैदान में हुए रात्रिभोज में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के साथ पारंपरिक परिधान में स्वाजीलैंड के किंग मस्वाती थर्ड।

बात हुई है, लेकिन संयुक्त राष्ट्र के मौजूदा स्वरूप में बदलाव भारतीय हितों के हिसाब से सबसे अहम रहा। विदेश मंत्री सुषमा स्वराज ने एक दिन पहले अफ्रीकी देशों के विदेश मंत्रियों के साथ बैठक में यह साफ कर दिया था कि संयुक्त राष्ट्र के स्वरूप में बदलाव के लिए भारत को अफ्रीकी देशों का सहयोग चाहिए। आज पीएम मोदी ने भारत के इस रुख को आगे बढ़ाया।

दक्षिण अफ्रीका के राष्ट्रपति जैकब जुमा ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र में बदलाव के मुद्दे पर भारत को पूरा समर्थन दिया। जुमा ने कहा कि द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के बाद दुनिया काफी बदल चुकी है और इसके मुताबिक ही



समिट में शामिल होने इथोपिया के प्रधानमंत्री हेलेमरियम डेसालजेन पत्नी रोमन के साथ नई दिल्ली पहुंचे।

संयुक्त राष्ट्र की सुरक्षा परिषद में बदलाव होना चाहिए। उन्होंने आतंकवाद का मुद्दा भी उठाया और कहा कि समान विचार वाले देशों को इसको लेकर एक मंच पर आना चाहिए। इस बात का अफ्रीका के कई अन्य देशों ने भी समर्थन किया। पीएम मोदी ने कई देशों को आर्थिक व तकनीकी मदद देने का आश्वासन दिया। चाड व नाइजर जैसे देशों ने भारत से स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र में ज्यादा सहयोग की मांग की तो गिनी और बेनिन जैसे देशों ने तरह-तरह की तकनीकी मदद का प्रस्ताव भेजा है। मोजाम्बिक को भारतीय कंपनियों का तेल व गैस क्षेत्र में निवेश चाहिए तो घाना खनन में निवेश चाहता है।

Hotels in the capital roll out the red carpet for dignitaries

NAVADHA PANDEY

New Delhi, October 28

From flying in chefs for African delicacies to personalised pillows, luxury hotels in the Capital have left no stone unturned in extending hospitality to African dignitaries from 54 countries, who are here for the four-day Indian-African summit.

To coincide with the summit, ITC Maurya has curated a culinary feast 'A Taste of Africa' at its restaurant, The Pavilion, featuring delicacies from across the continent.

African delicacies

"Chef Ryan Houston and Chef Kurt Quadflieg have flown down to Delhi for a week to introduce the authentic flavours of this cuisine. The delicacies include roasted baby potato salad with blue cheese dressing, butternut bobotie with spicy tomato chutney, braised goat shanks in basil, red wine & balsamic vinegar, rooibos creme brulee, etc," a spokesperson from ITC Maurya told *BusinessLine*.

"Personalised menus by chefs, spa treatments, butlers, security and every minute de-



PM Narendra Modi welcomes King Mswati III of Swaziland on the sidelines of the Africa Summit in New Delhi, on Wednesday **REUTERS**

tail has been kept in mind to ensure a luxurious experience for the delegates," said Vivek Shukla, General Manager at The Lalit, New Delhi.

Chefs from The Ashok, the flagship hotel of India Tourism Development Corporation, have prepared the menu for the dinner hosted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Crafts Museum, Pragati Maidan on Wednesday.

Rajan Loomba, Senior Executive Chef, The Ashok, said: "For Wednesday's dinner, our emphasis was to create a combination of different varieties of authentic Indian cuisine."

The dinner menu will feature signature recipes of The Ashok, with Tandoori Prawns, Kebab-e-Bannu, Chutney Paneer Tikka, Subz Til Kebab and Moti-e-Zamin for starters, and Malabar Meen Curry, Gosht Biryani, Kashmiri Dum Aloo, Panir Rihaana, Adrakhi Gobhi, Dal Dera Ismail Khan and the host's favourite Vatana Muthia nu Shaak, for the main course.

The beverage menu included Mint Sorbet, Qehwa/South Indian coffee and The Ashok's Stuffed Kala Jamun served along with Rabri, Saffron-flavoured Sandesh, Shrikhand and Taaze Phal (fresh fruits) for dessert.

Wily pink bollworm survives Monsanto's Bollgard-II

Cotton research body confirms resistance in insects in Gujarat

KV KURMANATH

Hyderabad, October 28

Pink bollworm, the wily worm that eats away cotton bolls, has developed resistance to Monsanto's second generation biotechnology protection Bollgard-II.

The Nagpur-based Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR) has confirmed the resistance to the technology in some parts of Gujarat.

"There is resistance to Bollgard-II. We have collected some insects. They are eating up the bolls," CICR Director Keshav Kranthi told *BusinessLine* here on Wednesday.

Impact on seed industry

This development could have a serious impact on the seed industry as almost complete cotton area is covered by BG-II seeds.

A constituent of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the CICR conducts basic research in cotton to improve yield and fibre quality. It also collects, conserves, evaluates and catalogues cotton germplasm in the country.

The CICR Director feels that the resistance could be more in the next



Bollworm larva feasts on cotton crop

three-four weeks and in the next season.

Company response

Asked whether the reports were true, a Monsanto spokesperson said that resistance is a natural, evolutionary process. "However, its development and further spread can be delayed if proper mitigation practices are followed, including planting a mandatory refuge at farmers level," he said.

Growing a refuge crop (other than cotton) around the main crop is a safety mechanism advised by the scientists and regulators to delay resistance. However, in the absence of awareness, extension mechanism, majority of the farmers give a go-by to this norm, quickening the resistance-building process in the worms.

"We continue to find that our technologies are still bringing great value

to farmers in all the regions where they are used. We remain committed to developing new high-performing products to give farmers a wider choice of insect-control technologies," Monsanto spokesperson added.

Background

Four years after it got the permission from Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) in 2006 for commercial release, the firm admitted that its entomologists detected and, ultimately confirmed, pink bollworm resistance to the first-generation single-protein (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) Bollgard I cotton in four States in Western India.

Just around that time the company launched Bollgard-II promising protection against pink bollworm and other smaller pests. The technology is based on the premise that if the plant has the protection from within, farmers are not required to go for expensive pesticide sprays.

While Monsanto asserts that it is imperative to stay ahead of insect resistance through research, activists fighting against the genetically-modified crops argued that Bt is a classic example to show that it was futile to taking on monophagous (animals living only on one kind of food) as their ability to develop resistance is immense.

CAI expects cotton output to dip 4%

OUR BUREAU

Mumbai, October 28

The Cotton Association of India expects cotton output to be lower by four per cent at 370 lakh bales (lb) this season (started October) against 382 lb (of 170 kg each) recorded in the same period last year.

The crop damage in the northern zone due to the white-fly pest attack this year is cer-

tainly a cause of concern but nothing to panic, said the association in a statement on Wednesday.

Despite lower crop this year, it said the impact on supply would be lower as the country will have highest ever opening stock.

The crop output in northern zone comprising Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan is expected to be lower at 47 lb (53 lb).

In the central zone of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh the production is estimated at 205 lb (204 lb), while in the southern zone covering Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka it may be marginally lower at 112 lb (118 lb). The total supply including Odisha and other minor cotton producing is estimated at 370.50 lb (382.75 lb).

Spouses of African leaders to get a taste of India

Temple visits,
fashion show for
a dose of culture

OUR BUREAU

New Delhi, October 28

From a trip to Swami Akshardham temple to a meeting with students from the barefoot college, who have used solar lamps to change villages in Africa before witnessing a bespoke fashion show highlighting the handlooms of Banaras, and topping it off with an Indian meal specially prepared by two master chefs, the wives of the 17 African Heads of State or Government or State, will also have a busy day on Thursday.

Positive image

"We took many factors into consideration while drawing up the programme. The bottom-line was to showcase Indian culture and heritage at its very best.

"We feel we have come up with a package that is fair given the short time

that we have free," said Ruchira Khambhoj, India's Ambassador at UNESCO and former Chief of Protocol who has been called back for the Summit.

Programmes

She pointed out that starting the tour at the temple will showcase the classic part of Indian culture, while the fashion show will emphasise the handlooms and textiles of the country.

"Besides, one of India's best exports is food. We hope this programme gives our guests a glimpse into India," she added.

Apart from the first ladies the select gathering will also include "prominent" Indian ladies from the Government and banking sector, the official said without giving any details.

The programme is expected to be attended by the spouses of the leaders of Angola, Burundi, Ethiopia, Gabon, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania among others.

Cotton Corpn bought record ₹17,000 cr of crop under MSP in just-ended season

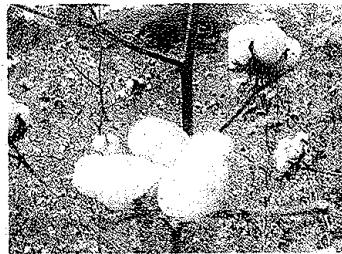
Bumper crop and weak demand from textile units hurt farmers last year

SURESH P IYENGAR

Mumbai, October 28

Coming to the rescue of farmers, the Cotton Corporation of India purchased cotton worth ₹17,000 crore, the highest ever under the government's minimum support price scheme, in the season that ended last month. The previous high was in 2008-09, when it bought ₹14,000-crore worth of cotton at an MSP of ₹3,000 a quintal.

Last year, a bumper cotton crop and weak demand from textile companies on the back of an economic slowdown saw prices dip below the support level of ₹4,100 a quintal. The Corporation had to buy 86.7 lakh bales, mainly in Maharashtra, Telangana and Punjab, against just four lakh bales



in the same period the previous season. It has already sold 78 lakh bales and opened the new season with stocks of nine lakh bales.

India became the world's largest cotton producer last year with an output of 6.51 million tonnes surpassing China's 6.48 mt.

Speaking to *BusinessLine*, BK Mishra, Chairman and Managing Director, Cotton Corporation, said transactions at MSP will be negligible this year as cotton prices are already firming up both in the domestic and international markets with the crop size expected to be much lower than last year.

"We may have to step in a bit

when prices soften during the peak arrivals in December, but otherwise no big intervention is required this year. In October, we had purchased a small quantity of 1,000 bales in Telangana," he said.

With the letter of comfort provided by the government, the Corporation does not see any difficulty in tying up funds for buying cotton. It has set up about 50 procurement centres so far and, like last year, hopes to have about 300 centres across the country.

It expects to export more to Vietnam and Bangladesh this year with China cutting down on imports to liquidate its inventory. "Last year, we had exported about 20 lakh bales to Bangladesh and 5-10 lakh bales to Vietnam. This year, exports to these countries should be higher," said Mishra.

Exports to China, he said, will depend on its policy as it is still left with about 10 million tonnes of inventory.

UNRAVELLING AT THE SEAMS

Job growth in the first year of the National Democratic Alliance government has been under pressure. According to data from the Labour Bureau's 25th Quarterly Report on Changes in Employment, 64,000 jobs were created in the most labour-intensive sectors in the quarter ended March 2015. However, jobs growth in three crucial sectors – leather, textiles, and gems and jewellery – has been low or negative. In the second of a three-part, Business Standard takes a closer look at what is happening on the ground.

Weak exports and swelling inventory hamper job creation

A reduction in demand and lower return on capital employed make expansion unviable for textile firms

VINAY UMARJI

Ahmedabad, 28 October

As one of the largest employers, the textile and clothing industry is under pressure from the global economic slowdown due to unfavourable government policies. This has not only impacted the industry's expansion plans but also the jobs situation in the industry.

According to the 25th Quarterly Report on Changes in Employment, released by the Labour Bureau, job creation declined by almost 70 per cent in the quarter ended March 2015 compared to the December 2014 quarter.

Industry sources say the industry employs over 55 million workers, of which 12 million are employed by the apparel industry.

According to industry sources, job creation has almost come to a standstill across the entire value chain, from yarn and fabric to garments. The handloom and powerloom industry, on the other hand, is witnessing job cuts with 3,000 and 2,000 jobs being cut during the October-December 2014 and January-March 2015 periods, respectively, according to the report.

According to industry experts, recent government policies such as withdrawal of interest subvention and duty drawbacks have rendered the export of cotton and synthetic textiles non-competitive. A bulk of cotton fabric in the country is handled by the handloom and powerloom industry, which has seen units being shut down or capacity utilisation halving in the past few months. Add to that the reluctance among youths to join the industry.

"Coupled with a demand recession, the sector is facing reluctance from the younger generation to join the handloom and powerloom industry. Recent government policies have rendered the cotton and synthetic fabric industry, of which handloom and powerloom form a part, non-competitive on the export front. In the powerloom sector alone, of the 2.4 million looms in the country, around 40 to 50 per cent are either idle or running at half the capacity," said Bharat Chhajaj, textile exporter and former chairman of the Powerloom Dev-



elopment and Export Promotion Council (PDEXCIL).

While data for handloom sector could not be ascertained, the PDEXCIL pegs total employment by the powerloom sector at 6.1 million workers.

In the textile value chain, yarn and fabric verticals are hit the most in terms of job creation, with some impact being seen in the garment vertical as well. India's cotton and synthetic yarn exports were dependent on China. However, in recent times, with China reducing its imports from India, an

inventory pile-up has resulted in a decline in capacity additions and utilisation, impacting job creation.

Industry sources say the apparel industry has been growing by three to four per cent, in terms of job creation.

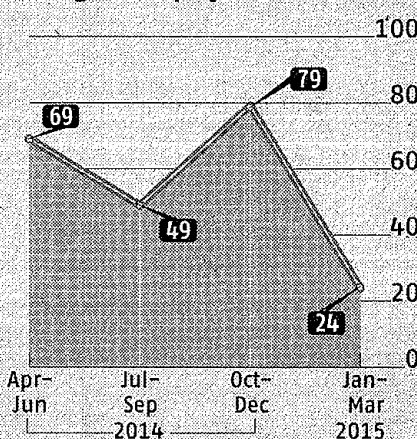
"Government policy has not been targeted towards the textile industry. Under 'Make

in India', production was expected to rise, but it has not been backed by policy from the Centre. With China reducing cotton yarn imports, rising inventory in the domestic textile sector has also led to a reduction in job creation. There has been an overall five to 10 per cent decline in capacity utilisation," said O P Lohia, chairman and managing director, Indo Rama Synthetics.

"There are several factors that have hampered job growth in the industry,

NOSEDIVE

Change in employment (in '000)



Source: Labour bureau

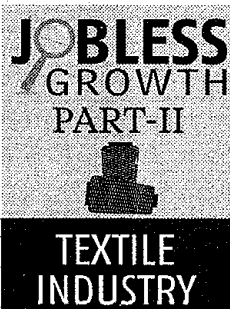
especially in the apparel sector. First, the industry has almost stopped expansion work. Second, the slowdown in exports has dampened outlook. And third, the domestic market, too, is not booming. There has been hardly seven to eight per cent growth in recent times and this rate of growth does not require any expansion to be made. This is why there is no expansion on the labour front as well," said Rahul Mehta, president of the Clothing Manufacturers' Association of India (CMAI).

The other reason why the apparel industry is not finding expansion viable is the rate of return on capital employed. With the central government taking back interest subvention of three per cent, interest rates on capital now cost apparel exporters 10-12 per cent.

"The rate of return on capital employed by apparel exporters has come down from around 18 per cent to 12 to 13 per cent in the past year. This has rendered any expansion unviable," a senior official at the Apparel Exporters Promotion Council (AEPCC) stated.

Meanwhile, the textiles industry anticipates a similar trend for the next couple of quarters. However, the apparel industry is hopeful that after November, the scenario should improve on the back of increased exports.

Tomorrow: Leather



IMPORTED GOODS

Made in China textiles a threat to Mumbai's Mulji Jetha market

By P.R. SANJAI
pr.sanjai@livemint.com

MUMBAI

A short walk from Zaveri Bazaar, the famed jewellery hub in South Mumbai, is the 136-year-old Mulji Jetha market, among the largest textile bazaars in Asia.

Hundreds of wholesale stores—and some retail ones too—cram the ancient buildings and their charming skylights.

Customers from Mumbai and beyond plonk themselves on white cushions placed on the floor and haggle endlessly. One such customer, over half a century back, was a certain Dhirubhai Ambani, who would purchase fabric in bulk for export to secure yarn-making licences from the government, before he went on to script the rise of India's largest private enterprise.

Mulji Jetha is still crowded, and customers stream in endlessly. But the market itself has changed fundamentally. Instead of fabrics from the country's traditional textile hubs, it is flooded with Chinese textiles.

The eclipse of the local textiles mirrors the decline of India's textile industry over time, even as competitors in the neighbourhood have turned nimble.

According to Premal Udani, managing director, Kaytee Corp. Pvt. Ltd, an apparel manufacturer that supplies to Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Mulji Jetha hardly had any imported items 25 years ago. Now, there are hardly any local textiles.

"The issue is critical for fabric compared to apparel. The Chinese onslaught, or flooding of cheap Chinese items, is yet to

happen in the apparel sector," said Udani.

But he fears that may be next.

"If the government does not take a long-term approach, you may have to face the risk of organized mills going extinct in 10-15 years," Udani said.

In India, the textiles sector employs the maximum workers after agriculture. Prime Minister Narendra Modi wants the sector to triple in size—from the current \$110 billion to \$300 billion by 2020. The changing hues of Mulji Jetha market attests to the urgency of the task.

"The Indian textile industry is facing serious threat from China, and even Indonesia, across the value chain—from fibre to yarn to fabric and even garments—on account of dumping at very low prices," said Rajeev Gopal, chief marketing officer at viscose staple fibre maker, Birla Cellulose, a unit of Aditya Birla Group.

"The Indian textile industry, though competitive, specially in the upstream, is facing a squeeze on margins due to such low prices. This will result in closures and will discourage investments in this vital sector which is a large employment generator and a foreign exchange earner," he said, adding that the government will need to provide safeguards to ensure reasonable returns for the Indian industry.

The Chinese avalanche has reached the doorsteps of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) too, whose founder made his early fortune at Mulji Jetha.

On 24 September, Anil Rajvanshi, senior executive vice-president and head (corporate and industry affairs) at RIL, in his capacity as chairman of the Syn-

The eclipse of local textiles mirrors the decline of India's textile industry and reaffirms domination of the neighbours

thetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC), wrote to Arvind Subramanian, India's chief economic adviser, warning about a steady increase in imports of Chinese fabrics.

Last year, imports of fabrics touched \$850 million, or ₹5,500 crore, Rajvanshi wrote. "Ninety-five percent is imported for trading. This is at the cost of domestic industry and 100,000 labourers are rendered idle owing to these imports and revenue loss as the Modvat (modified value added tax) chain breaks. All our neighbouring countries, Bangladesh, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam and China, have same rate of VAT (value-added tax) or excise duties on all natural and man-made or synthetic fibres. The textile industry in all these countries has grown in double digits in the last five years," wrote Rajvanshi.

The purpose of Modvat is to avoid the cascading effect of taxes on both inputs and final products. The scheme permits a manufacturer of excisable goods—like textiles—to avail of credit on duty paid on the notified inputs received and used in or in relation to the manufacture of final products and to utilize such

credit towards the duty liability on disposal of final goods.

According to Udani, Bangladesh's apparel market was just \$3 billion five years ago, while India's was \$5 billion. Currently, India is just \$16 billion while Bangladesh has grown to \$28 billion. The eastern neighbour has now started making denim and will enter more categories, he cautioned.

According to SRTEPC data, availability of all fibres in India is 10 billion kg, with cotton at 6.5 billion kg and man-made fibres at 3.5 billion kg. In order to achieve Modi's target, India needs to double the size of fibre availability to 20 billion kg. With limited compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of cotton at 1.5%, the production of man-made fibres has to be increased three times to around 12 billion kg.

SRTEPC said imports of fibre, yarn and value-added products such as finished textiles should be discouraged, as it badly hurts the domestic industry, capital and manpower employed.

"Import of fabrics should be allowed to actual users and under advance licence only," it said. The association said that it was "shocking" that the value of fabric imported under advance licence is below ₹300 crore in the last three years while in the last year alone, imports, mainly from China, were to the tune of ₹5,500 crore.

SRTEPC said the bulk of fabric is imported by traders, who retail in India, hurting domestic textile producers.

Babubhai S. Ahir, promoter of textile firm Challenge Enterprises Ltd, said that "over 80%" domestic fibre manufacturers are now extinct, owing to what he called Chinese dumping.

"Domestic fibre manufacturers cannot match the price offered by Chinese companies. That is the reason you are seeing more Chinese fabric products in Mulji Jetha market," Ahir said.

CHART OF THE DAY

EASE OF DOING BUSINESS: INDIA SHOULD LEARN FROM NEPAL

The chart shows a few key benchmarks of the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business among South Asian countries. Nepal does better than India on almost all the yardsticks. While India's rank is 130, Nepal's is 99. Sri Lanka too does better than India, with a rank of 107. India has the consolation of scoring better than Pakistan and Bangladesh in spite of the latter having become a big textile and garment manufacturer and exporter.

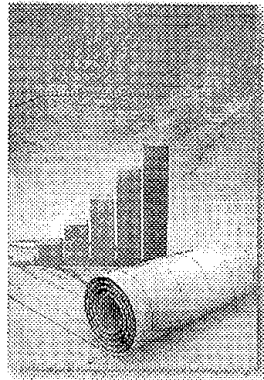
Countries	Starting a business		Construction permits		Getting electricity		Registering property		Enforcing contracts		Resolving insolvency	
	Procedures	Time (days)	Procedures	Time (days)	Procedures	Time (days)	Procedures	Time (days)	Time (days)	Cost (% of claim)	Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)	Time (years)
India	12.9	29	33.6	191.5	5	90.1	7	47	1,420	39.6	25.7	4.3
Nepal	7	17	10	86	5	70	3	5	910	26.8	41.5	2
Bangladesh	9	19.5	13.4	269	9	428.9	8	244	1,442	66.8	25.8	4
Pakistan	10	19	10	250.4	5	178.3	6	50	993.2	23	39.2	2.7
Sri Lanka	8	10	12	116	5	100	9	51	1,318	22.8	45.6	1.7

Source: World Bank Ease of Doing Business 2016

NAVEEN KUMAR SAINI/MINT

37.05m bales cotton output likely

Country's total cotton output has been estimated at 37.05 million bales for the season 2015-16 beginning October 1, the Cotton Association of India said on Wednesday.



Trident shares jump 6% on smart Q2 numbers

Textile firm Trident surged 6 per cent after it reported over two-fold rise in standalone net profit for Q2. After rising 8.57 per cent to Rs 47.50 in intra-day trade, the shares ended with a gain of 6.06 per cent at Rs 46.40 on the BSE.

Raymond Q2 net plunges 86% to ₹ 9.44 crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi

DIVERSIFIED group Raymond reported a massive fall of 86.14 per cent in its consolidated net profit at Rs 9.44 crore for the second quarter ended September 30 on account of under-performance of its engineering business. The company had posted a consolidated net profit of Rs 68.12 crore during the July-September period of previous financial year.

Raymond's total consolidated income from operation during the quarter under review increased by 2.18 per cent to Rs 1,492.59 crore as against Rs 1,460.74 crore during the same period of last financial year, Raymond said in a filing. "The Q2 of FY 2015-16 witnessed subdued consumer demand with extended end of season sales period. In addition to these factors, our continued investments in brand building and retail network expansion, besides under-performance of the engineering business impacted the quarterly results," said Raymond Whole-time Director H Sunder.

RAYMOND/BSE Rs 444.15 ▲

NSE Rs 447.00 ▲