

Textile mills awaiting TUFs subsidy release

Banikinkar Pattanayak

New Delhi, Jan 29: Textile mills, hamstrung by a cash crunch and poor demand, have been awaiting the release of subsidies worth Rs 2,500-3,000 crore for more than three years now against investments made under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFs).

The amount is due because of non-payment of subsidies against investments made by textile units during the so-called black-out period (June 20, 2010 to April 27, 2011) as well as errors in reporting of the dole-out amount by banks to the textile commissioner, sources told *FE*.

The black-out period refers to the time when the government had halted subsidy payment temporarily, seeking to change the contours of the TUFs from an open-ended scheme to a close-ended one and announced the introduction of the revised scheme only from April 2011.

To look into the issue, the government has set up an inter-ministerial steering committee, headed by textile minister Santosh Kumar Gangwar, which will soon finalise a consultant to accurately calculate the subsidy amount to be paid, although mills estimate the subsidy

to be a maximum of Rs 3,000 crore. Once the consultant submits its report, the panel will consider it before placing a final proposal for the clearance by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

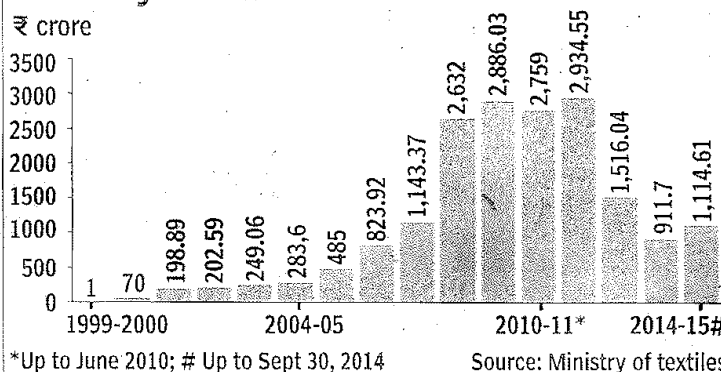
The government mainly provides interest subsidy against loans to units, capital subsidy and limited cushion against exchange rate fluctu-

The government targeted to attract investments worth Rs 1,51,000 crore through the scheme during the current Plan period.

Budget 2013-14 had announced the continuation of the TUFs during the 12th Plan period through 2017 with a subsidy allocation of Rs 11,952 crore.

After a 33% spurt in the last fiscal, India's cotton yarn

Subsidy disbursal



ation for investing in new technology.

The TUFs was introduced in 1999 to make available funds to the textile industry for upgrading technology at existing units as well as to set up new units with state-of-the-art facilities so that its viability and competitiveness in the domestic as well as international markets would enhance.

export registration started tumbling below the 100 million-kg mark from April 2014, as Chinese demand faltered. Since the capital-intensive spinning segment accounts for the bulk of investments under TUFs, the non-payment of subsidy amount for earlier investments is taking a toll on the balance sheets of spinning mills.

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DELHI | CHANDIGARH

Pulling the right strings

Puppets made with foam, paper and wood will be part of Ishara 2015

BY CHANPREET KHURANA
chanpreet.k@livemint.com

Dadi Pudumjee's south Delhi studio is playing host to puppets ahead of the Ishara International Puppet Festival, which starts next week.

There are Heer and Waris from the Ishara Puppet Theatre's own presentation at the 13th edition of the festival "Heer Ke Waris"—"the same puppets were used in the film *Haider*, but in Kashmiri dress," says the Padma Shri award winner. The Kuch Kuch Puppet Theatre has a mask replicating the grandfatherly likeness of Geppetto and a wooden boy for *Pinocchio*. There are puppets designed by crafts-

Masks and dolls: Geppetto and Pinocchio for the Kuch Kuch Puppet Theatre's show.

people at non-governmental organizations, including a pink sock-puppet with stringy hair, a horse-buggy "sculpted" with foam and marionettes. All these will be on sale at the festival.

Going by the Ishara 2015 programme, puppets seem to have outgrown material con-

cerns: They are no longer limited to rod- and string-manipulated dolls, but comprise animation and toys, among other things. Pudumjee, founder of the Ishara Puppet Theatre, says even an everyday object such as a matchbox can be a puppet.

The Taiwan-based Puppet Beings Theatre, for instance, will use object theatre as well as paper puppets in *The Adventure Of Puppets*, the story of two carpenters on a treasure hunt, who battle monsters and survive tornadoes.

Each puppet has different characteristics.

Foam puppets, for example, have a flexibility that is often missing in wooden puppets, and the life-sized dolls that Pudumjee favours create a different impact from the much smaller glove puppets. A performance, Pudumjee says, would change completely depending on the kind of puppet used.

As in previous years, Ishara will have acts by Indian and international puppeteers. The Indian acts will include one by Puran Bhat of the Capital's Katputhli Colony. Among the international artistes, the UK-based Finger and Thumb Theatre's Drew Colby will depict *Aesop's Fables* in hand shadows; and the SA Marionetas, Teatro and Bonecos company from Portugal will put a new spin on the traditional European glove puppet performance.

Pudumjee is excited about the performances by groups from Afghanistan and Iran. The Safety Pin Theatre group from Iran, he explains, is adapting the well-known story of *Red Riding Hood* to talk about women's issues. "Some very interesting things are coming out of Iran," he says.

Pudumjee says Indian puppetry is facing twin pulls—while practitioners like Choiti Ghosh and Sudip Gupta are innovating in terms of the kinds of puppets we use and the stories we tell, there are also examples like the Bharatiya Lok Kala Mandal in Udaipur, which has been holding the same show for 50 years. "Traditional puppeteers have strong technique. What some of them need is guidance on dramaturgy, production, and telling newer stories," says Pudumjee.

The Ishara International Puppet Festival will be held from 3-11 February, 7.30pm, at India Habitat Centre, Lodi Road, and Epicentre, Sector 44, Gurgaon. Tickets, ₹350, available on www.kyazoonga.com. The Chandigarh leg of the festival will be from 5-8 February, 7.30pm, at Tagore Theatre, Sector 18.



Harman serves notice to ShopClues

Bengaluru: Harman International (India) Pvt. Ltd said it issued a legal notice to ShopClues.com, alleging sales of fakes of its popular JBL brand and asking the online marketplace to remove those products from its site. In response, a ShopClues spokesperson said the online retail firm is working with the brand to resolve the matter. Brands are increasingly complaining about sales of fakes and secondhand products on online marketplaces, which connect shoppers with sellers. Apparel brands such as Puma have also issued legal notices to e-tailers asking them to pull fake products from sites. **MIHIR DALAL**

पुलिस ने गुरुवार को संभाल ली मेला परिसर की सुरक्षा व्यवस्था की कमान, दर्शकों के लिए 800 पुलिसकर्मी रहेंगे मुस्तैद

हेलीकॉप्टर से कर सकेंगे सूरजकुंड मेले का दीदार



फरीदाबाद | कार्यालय संवाददाता

हस्तशिल्प का महाकुंभ विश्व प्रसिद्ध अंतरराष्ट्रीय सूरजकुंड मेले की तैयारी अंतिम चरण में है। दर्शक हेलीकॉप्टर से मेले का दीदार कर सकेंगे। गुरुवार को दिल्ली बैठक में यह फैसला लिया है। इसका जिम्मा पवन हंस नामक कंपनी को दिया है।

मेले के सभी रास्तों पर पर्याप्त पार्किंग व्यवस्था की गई है। सुरक्षा के

मद्देनजर पुलिस ने गुरुवार को मेले की कमान संभाल ली है। हस्तशिल्पियों और लोककलाकारों का आना शुरू हो चुका है। मेले में जाने वाले दर्शकों को तीन स्तरीय सुरक्षा घेरे की जांच से गुजरना होगा। मेले के उद्घाटन के लिए प्रधानमंत्री और राष्ट्रपति के न आने के कारण इस बार पुलिसकर्मियों का संख्या बल गत वर्ष के मुकाबले कम रहेगा। पुलिस ने मेला परिसर में मिनी कंट्रोल रूम बनाना शुरू कर दिया है।

मेले में चाट-पकोड़ी मिलेगी सस्ती: प्राधिकरण ने बीते साल के मुकाबले करीब बीस फीसदी रेट कम करने की शर्त पर ठेके कम कीमत में दिए हैं। मेला अधिकारी राजेश जून के मुताबिक दिल्ली चाट-पकोड़ी की दुकानें, साउथ इंडियन खाना के अलावा करीब पांच



फरीदाबाद में गुरुवार को सूरजकुंड मेले का जायजा लेते एडीसी डॉ. आदित्य दहिया। साथ में हैं एनआईटी डीसीपी सुमित कुमार व अन्य। • हिन्दुस्तान

स्वाद बीते साल के मुकाबले कम कीमत में मिलेंगे। हालांकि इनके भाव शनिवार तक तय हो जाएंगे। मेले में लेबनॉन, नेपाल, श्रीलंका और अफ्रीकन देशों के नॉनवेज व्यंजनों का

स्वाद भी चखा जा सकेगा।

800 पुलिसकर्मी आएंगे मेले में: अंतरराष्ट्रीय सूरजकुंड हस्तशिल्प मेले में 20 देशों के हस्तशिल्पी और कलाकार शिरकत करेंगे। यही नहीं देशी-विदेशी

वीआईपी भी मेला देखने पहुंचते हैं। इस वर्ष सूरजकुंड हस्तशिल्प मेले में आने वाले दर्शकों की सुरक्षा के लिए 800 पुलिसकर्मी मौजूद रहेंगे।

120 सीसीटीवी लगेगी: पार्किंग से लेकर मेला परिसर के हर कोने पर सीसीटीवी कैमरे के जरिए नजर रखी जाएगी। पुलिस द्वारा चिन्हित की गई जगहों पर सीसीटीवी कैमरे लगाए जाएंगे। ये कैमरे रात में भी काम करेंगे। गत वर्ष 100 कैमरे लगाए थे। इस वर्ष 120 कैमरे लग रहे हैं।

लगेगी बुलेट प्रूफ मचान: आतंकी हमले को नाकाम करने के लिए बम निरोधक दस्ता, बुलेट प्रूफ मचान, बुलेट प्रूफ जैकेट और अत्याधुनिक हथियारों से लैस कमांडो दस्ता, स्वेट दस्ते की भी मेले की सुरक्षा में तैनाती होगी।

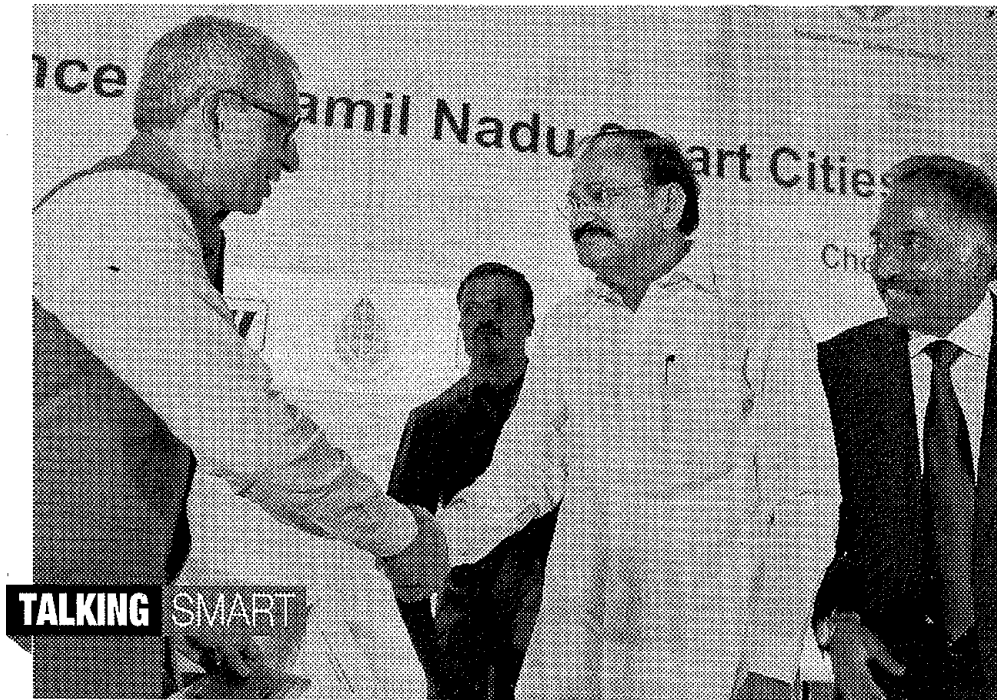
Statesman, Delhi

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Crafts fair: The 29th edition of the Surajkund International Crafts Mela is to begin on Sunday. Final touches are now being given to the elaborate arrangements made for the grand annual event.

PTI



Union urban development minister M. Venkaiah Naidu (second from right) shakes hands with CII Tamil Nadu State Council chairman Ravi Sam (left) as Adwaith Textiles managing director T. Chitty Babu (right) looks on at the CII TN Conference on Smart Cities in Chennai on Thursday. — PTI

Surajkund International Crafts Mela to begin on Sunday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Faridabad, 29 January

The 29th edition of the Surajkund International Crafts Mela is just two days away. Final touches are now being given to the elaborate arrangements made for the grand annual event.

With every passing year it has grown to the next level of expertise as far as the arrangements are concerned. This time, there is more attention on security arrangements and comfort of the visitors, and attempts are being made to remove the inconveniences faced by visitors and participants last year. In the

current edition, Chhattisgarh is the theme state and Lebanon the partner country. Artisans from 20 countries would be participating in the grand event, the highest so far in regards to the number of participating country.

In order to counter any act of terrorism, SWAT team will be deployed. In addition to SWAT, bomb disposal squad would also be on their toes during the 14-day fair. Quick response team has also been assigned for additional security. More than 1,200 police personnel would be deployed to avoid any untoward incident, said DCP NIT, Faridabad Sumit Kumar.

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To secure the fair ground and prevent theft at night, 125 night vision cameras have been installed.

Commissioner of Police Subhash Yadav said female police personnel in plain clothes will also be deployed on the Mela ground to prevent eve-teasing. DCP Kumar said besides securing the Mela compound, police are keeping a check in surrounding slum areas to rule out anti-social ac-

tivities.

Other than security, another major issue is that of parking. The mela authorities have demarcated 12 sites for parking of vehicles. The parking sites have been allocated in a way so that visitors coming from any direction i.e. Gurgaon, Delhi or Faridabad, feel comfortable in parking vehicles. Arrangements have been made to park more than 25,000 cars at a time. Apart from these

arrangements, parking facilities of hotels and restaurants will be utilised, said Rajesh Joon, Nodal Officer of Surajkund Mela Authority.

"Since, in past years we have experienced panic situation of parking in the week-ends, we have increased the total space available for parking this year," Joon said.

While there were rumours that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Mela, the authorities denied any such proposal. The opening ceremony will be presided over by Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and his counterpart in Chhattisgarh Raman Singh.

सूरजकुंड मेला 1 से

जासं, फरीदाबाद : सूरजकुंड मेला परिसर सज गया है। एक फरवरी से मेले का आगाज होगा। मेला शुरू होने में दो दिन शेष बचे हैं, ऐसे में विभिन्न प्रदेशों से शिल्पकार यहां पहुंचने लगे हैं। बृहस्पतिवार से उनके रजिस्ट्रेशन की प्रक्रिया शुरू हो गई थी। थीम स्टेट छत्तीसगढ़ के अलावा अन्य प्रदेशों के शिल्पकार व कलाकार यहां पहुंच रहे हैं। मेला परिसर को ऋतुओं की थीम पर सजाया गया है। हर तरफ खिले फूल, उड़ती तितलियां, छतरियों आदि से मेला परिसर को सजाया गया है।

Textile machinery market could double to ₹45,000crore in 7 years

THE size of India's textile machinery industry is poised to double to ₹45,000 crore in the next seven years from the present ₹22,000 crore on the back of new projects and the envisaged new textile parks, according to Sanjiv Lathia, chairman, India ITME Society.

विकसित भारत की थीम पर कैलेंडर

भारतीय फैशन इंडस्ट्री मेक इन इंडिया कैपेन में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकती है। इसी को देखते हुए मेक इन इंडिया की तर्ज पर आईआईएफडी के हाई एंड फैशन कैलेंडर का अनावरण किया गया। प्रोग्राम इंडिया थीम पर आधारित इस कैलेंडर के कवर पर डिजाइनर आउटफिट्स में शानदार मॉडल्स और बैकग्राउंड में कई प्रकार के



निर्माण दर्शाते ब्लॉक्स हैं जो विकसित होते भारत का संकेत देते

हैं। इसमें 13 अलग-अलग डिजाइनर्स की कला को शामिल किया गया है। फोटोग्राफर कुणाल बोस द्वारा खासतौर पर शूट किए गए इस कैलेंडर में 12 बैस्ट फैशन डिजाइनर्स के आउटफिट्स को दर्शाया गया है। अविनाश पठानिया व किरण खेवा ने गार्डन आफ फाइव सेंसेज के अंतर्गत स्टोरी अनफोल्ड में यह कैलेंडर जारी किया।