

The Only National Textile Daily

Tecoya Trend

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New Year, New Hope

By Tecoya Team

As we bid good-bye to 2007 and welcome 2008, it is only natural to be nostalgic about the year that has just rolled by. It was a year that took the country to greater heights, a year that found the winds of change sweeping the country much faster, a year that compelled the world to focus attention on it, a year that left behind a more vibrant and prosperous India, fully deserving the description, Incredible India!

NEW BREED

Economy boomed in 2007 with the GDP growth kissing 9 per cent. The number of people below the poverty line shrunk further and the ranks of middle income group swelled. Membership of the billionaire club expanded and more Indians occupied the Fortune 500 list. In fact, the year has spawned a new breed of global entrepreneurs and wealth creators. Propelled by the robust economy and globally competitive companies, they have ridden a surge in stock market.

The index has reached heights which were previously considered untouchable and were in the realm of only imagination. Significantly, the wealth creators used their wealth not just to bolster their standing but also for pushing for social changes by establishing knowledge institutions, charity trusts and welfare centres that will have far reaching effect on bringing about all round development of the country to make it a real super power.

Captains of India's major industries made bold forays into new ventures during 2007 and succeeded in globally spreading their wings faster. New foreign acquisitions and joint ventures have made them much stronger and competent and also taken them to leading positions in their respective fields in the world, steel being a classic example.

An increasing member of non-resident Indians made the country proud, the more recent one being Vikram Pandit who has just ascended the coveted position of Citi Group's new global CEO, the youngest ever CEO of US's largest financial services company. Several NRIs occupy high offices in the political field also in their adopted countries. Remarkable breakthroughs were made by Indians in the field of science and technology including astronomy. And if one may add for whatever it is worth, India won the world cup in the newest format of cricket in 2007!

Yes, 2007 did see remarkable developments that added to the glory of Incredible India!

RECORDS GALORE IN COTTON

Not to be left behind, cotton also contributed its share and succeeded in making a mark of its own. There were records galore in 2007. Not only was a new record set during the year in production but productivity also climbed to a new peak narrowing the gap between the world average and India's. What is more, cotton exports touched a new record level to make India the second largest exporter of the

commodity in the world, after USA.

In fact, India has taken a double march in cotton during the first seven years of the new millennium. While production rose by only 28.4 percent during the preceding seven years i.e. from 1993-94 to 1999-2000, production doubled between 2000-2001 and 2006-2007. Similar was the contrast in the growth of productivity, the respective figures being 9.4 percent and 97 percent.

The credit for these remarkable achievements can be shared by all the major stakeholders of cotton economy – scientists, development officers, market men in the private, state and cooperative sectors, processors and the textile industry. Above all, the policy and financial support provided by the government played a crucial role.

The end result has been a synergistic manifestation of several factors such as the accelerated technology transfer to more number of farmers over much larger areas due to the strenuous efforts of the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC); greater involvement of private sector agencies in development efforts for which government also extended the needed financial support; boost in the area under bollworm resistant Bt Cottons, thanks to the large scale seed multiplication and aggressive marketing strategies of the seed companies; generally favorable weather conditions with only minor aberrations; and low to moderate incidence of pests and diseases because of the timely and effective control measures adopted by an increasing number of farmers.

TASKS AHEAD

Notwithstanding the remarkable achievements accomplished, Indian cotton has still a long way to go, particularly in regard to the further improvement of productivity, to catch up first with the world average and then with some of the leading producers of world cotton. The 500 kg. barrier in per hectare yield has been crossed in 2007, the aim should now be to raise the bar to 600 kg. in 2008. This need not remain a pipedream since considerable potential still awaits exploitations and almost double this level has already been recorded in front line demonstrations conducted on farmers' fields. Simultaneously, efforts to improve purity and quality have to be further intensified under TMC. The government's support for the same has already been signalled through the approval for the extension of TMC during the 11th plan.

It is equally important to keep the cost factor in focus. Production cost per kg can automatically be brought down by raising productivity and by optimizing the use of inputs and by ensuring that only quality products are used, be it seed, fertilizers or pesticides. Contract farming would considerably help in this regard as it will take care of all these aspects in one go benefiting both the formers and the user industry. Already, several mills have embarked on contract farming projects and reaped rich benefits which encouraged them to expand the area under the projects. Mills will be well advised to enter this potential field in large numbers.

In fact, the motto for the future should be not just "more" cotton but "more, better and cheaper cotton".

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

The question being asked in some circles is whether the rapid growth of cotton industry is really sustainable or whether the country will be weighed down by a high volume of the commodity without commensurate demand. This apprehension stems from the fact that mill consumption is not rising commensurately while there is a limit to India's raw cotton exports as there are strong contending countries for the world market which itself may swing this way or that depending on the demand-supply equation from year to year.

There are no two opinions about the close linkage between the growth of cotton and that of its user industry whose fortunes had not been steady. During 1990s, the industry was in doldrums due mainly to a demand recession, resource crunch, technological backlog and quota restrictions. However, thanks to its undaunted entrepreneurial spirit and the policy and timely financial support extended by the government, as well as the dismantling of the quota system, the industry came out of the crisis much stronger. Through huge investments in recent years, it acquired a new vigour and vitality

Continued on Page 3



Volkman awards Golden Spindle to Ramco Group

By Our Staff Reporter

MUMBAI, DEC. 31—

Volkman, now known as Oerlikon Saurer and represented in India by ATE – recently presented its 'Golden Spindle' to the Rajapalayam-based Ramco Group.

It may be noted here that Oerlikon Saurer has a tradition of awarding a 'Golden Spindle' to their customers who have installed more than 10,000 spindles of Volkman two-for-one twister (TFO). The Ramco Group was the proud winner of this Golden Spindle, having installed 104 Volkman VTS CO-10 TFO machines of 192 spindles, within a record period of 2 years.

The award was handed over to Mr. P. R. Ramasubrahmaneya Rajha, Chairman of Ramco Group, at a function in Rajapalayam, by Mr. Gerd Poehlmann, Sales and Marketing Head of Oerlikon Saurer.

The function was also attended by Mr Michael Niemeyer, Sales Director from Oerlikon Saurer and other senior officials from the Ramco Group and A.T.E.

Ramco group is currently on an expansion drive, to increase

the spindleage from 300,000 to 400,000 and rotors from 3,000 to 10,000.

Mr Sunil Bhatnagar, Vice President, A.T.E., welcome address the function emphasised the mutual trust and relationship A.T.E. enjoys with Oerlikon Saurer and Ramco Group.

Mr Gerd Poehlmann spoke

about the Oerlikon Saurer Group and their philosophy of developing high quality products that result in high customer satisfaction. Mr Michael Niemeyer thanked Ramco Group and their technicians for their outstanding support to Oerlikon Saurer.

Mr. Ramasubrahmaneya

Rajha, Chairman of Ramco Group, in his highly motivating address spoke eloquently on the bond of togetherness of Ramco Group as one big family and thanked all the employees of Ramco Group for their contribution in the growth and success of the company.

Ramco has one of the largest installations of Volkman

TFOs in India.

The team at Ramco Group, under the guidance of their President, Mr S Kanthimathinathan, and General Manager (Works), Mr V Raju, put the various models of TFOs available in the market through stringent evaluation on techno-economic parameters and finally decided in favour of Volkman TFO as the best option.

This large installation is yet another eloquent testimony to the superior performance of the machine and the excellent service – Complete Customer Care – provided by A.T.E.



AEPC to host 40th IIGF in capital from 22nd Jan 08

From Our Correspondent

NEW DELHI, DEC. 31—

The fashion and apparel sector has been one of the most booming and glamorous industries in the world. The demand for the newest collection and the latest trends in the market always remains high, and this is one sector that will always remain in the top of the list amongst all industrial sectors.

Witnessing this very demand and the varied opportunities in this sector, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) presents India International Garment Fair (IIGF) 2008, scheduled to be held from January 22nd to 24th 2008.

A breathtaking and exclusive collection of garments, fabrics, fashion accessories and the like manufactured by some of India's premier fashion and export houses will be showcased at the 40th IIGF. Buyers will have a wide range to choose from, starting from superlative quality Casual Wear, City Wear, High Fashion/Occasional Wear, Lingerie, Sportswear etc.

Holiday Notice

The offices of Tecoya Trend will remain closed on 1st January 2008 due to New Year. There will be no issue of the newspaper dated 2nd January 2008.

Readers are requested to make a note of the same.

Art-Silk	115/100	79-50
	125/72	78-50
Ex-Bhiwandi	128/36	76-00
Taxes/Octroi Extra	128/72	77-00
100 DENIER BRIGHT	135/36	75-00
CRCI	226-00	120/36
IRCI	226-00	265/36
KRCI	224-00	265/108
NRCI	216-00	110/36
BRC	232-00	115/36
120 DENIER BRIGHT	140/36	74-00
BRC	214-00	74-00
CRCI	215-00	150 Weft
IRCI	214-00	150/350
KRCI	212-00	127-00
NRCI	196-00	2/60 100% Airjet
CRCI	198-00	
IRCI	200-00	
KRCI	198-00	
NRCI	192-00	
CRCV	195-00	
IRCV	193-00	
KRCV	192-00	
NRCV	205-00	
120 DENIER DULL	80/36 Roto	80-00
CRCI	215-00	83-00
IRCI	219-00	84-00
KRCI	215-00	84-00
120 DENIER BLACK	80/108/2 S/Z	85-00
BRC	238-00	85/300
130 DENIER BRIGHT	150/34 Roto	77-00
BRC	218-00	76-00
150 DENIER BRIGHT	80/72 Cotluk FD	88-00
BRC	190-00	88-00
CRCI	204-00	84-00
IRCI	204-00	84-00
KRCI	198-00	89-00
NRCI	197-00	84-00
CRCI	195-00	98-00
IRCI	193-00	76-00
KRCI	193-00	87-00
NRCI	189-00	91-00
CRCV	189-00	98-00
KRCV	186-00	83-00
NRCV	186-00	87-00
150 DENIER SAFFRON	80/72 Cat. LIM&HIM	108-00
BRC	224-00	86-50
180 DENIER BRIGHT	75/72 FDY	89-00
BRC	196-00	90-00
180 DENIER SAFFRON	71/72 SD LBS	20/6
BRC	212-00	28/6
225 DENIER BRIGHT	80 Roto (Dyeing)	98-00
BRC	181-00	28/24
225 DENIER SAFFRON	75 Tex GFD	92-00
BRC	197-00	30/24
300 DENIER BRIGHT	80 Tex	94-00
BRC	173-00	44/24 Bright
CRCI	169-00	41/24 Full Dull
IRCI	168-00	44/24 FD Crimp
KRCI	167-00	44/10 SD Crimp
NRCI	167-00	60/48 Bright
450 DENIER BRIGHT	150/34 Roto	81-00
BRC	161-00	70/24 Bright
CRCI	154-00	237-00
IRCI	154-00	267-00
KRCI	153-00	267-00
NRCI	153-00	248-00
450 DENIER BLACK	300/72	207-00
BRC	177-00	119-00
CRCI	149-00	208-00
IRCI	149-00	210-00
KRCI	150-00	197-00
NRCI	148-00	760-00
BRC	158-00	730-00
600 DENIER BRIGHT	130 Micro Velvet	730-00
CRCI	149-00	730-00
IRCI	149-00	730-00
KRCI	150-00	730-00
NRCI	148-00	730-00
BRC	158-00	730-00

DYED	Century	84-00
	Nimar	84-00
	Sharda	82-00
(Excluding excise duty)		
SIYARAMSILK MILLS	38S WEFT 5 KG	493-00
	85 Weft	137-00
	85/350	146-00
	85 Roto	136-00
	85/350 Roto	150-00
	80/108 R Micro D	144-00
	80/108 R Warp MD	158-00
	80/1000	172-00
	80/72 R Cotlook	149-00
	80/72/350 R C	166-00
	150 Weft	122-00
	150/350	127-00
	2/60 100% Airjet	-----
GREY		
ALOK INDUSTRIES		
	80 Roto	83-00
	80 Micro Roto	84-00
	80/72 Roto	84-00
	150 Roto	76-00
	150 Micro	77-00
BHILOSA		
	80/36 Roto	80-00
	75 GFT	83-00
	80/72 Micro Roto	84-00
	80/108	85-00
	80/108/2 S/Z	-----
	150/34 Roto	77-00
	150/36 Tex	76-00
	80/72 Cotluk FD	88-00
	150 DD Black Roto	84-00
	150/34 Black Tex	83-00
RAJRAYON		
	75 Roto	89-00
	80 Roto	89-00
	80/72	84-00
	80/108 Roto	98-00
	150 Micro Roto	76-00
	80 Tex	87-00
	80/72 Cotluk/FD	91-00
	80/72 LIM	-----
	80/108 LIM	98-00
	150 Micro LIM	83-00
	S/Z LIM&HIM	87-00
	80/72 Cat. LIM&HIM	108-00
	75/36 SD FDY	86-50
	75/72 FDY	89-00
	71/72 SD LBS	90-00
SUNFLAG		
	80 Roto (Wvg)	97-00
	80 Roto (Dyeing)	98-00
	75 Tex	92-00
	75 Tex GFD	94-00
	80 Tex	91-00
	85 Tex	90-00
	77/300 TPM	108-00
SYNFAB SALES		
	80/48 Roto	81-00
	80/72 Roto	82-00
	80/108 Roto	83-00
	150/34 Roto	75-00
	150/108 Roto	76-00
	150/72 Cationic R	98-00
	150/72 Roto FD	87-50
	80/72 FD Double R	94-00
	80/72 Cationic DR	103-00
	300/72	74-50
	130 Micro Velvet	90-00
	130 Cat. Velvet	103-00
	80/34 Black DR	89-50
UNIFY TEXTURISER		
	80 Roto	83-00
	80 Tex	82-00
	80/72 Roto	84-00
	80/108 Micro Roto	87-00
	150 Roto	77-00
	150 Tex	-----
	150/108 M Roto	78-00
	150/216 M Roto	85-00
	300 Roto	77-00
	150/34 - 300 Twist	88-00
	300/72 - 126 Twist	84-00
WELLKOWN POLYESTER		
	80/108 SD Micro	91-00
	80/72 SD Micro	90-00
	80/34 SD Roto	88-00
	80/72 FD	93-00
	80/72 Double FD	96-00
	150/72 FD	99-00
	80/72 Cationic	103-00
	80/72 Double Cat.	106-00
	150/72 Cationic	100-00
	80/34 Black Roto	98-00
	80/34 Double BR	100-00
	80/72 Black Roto	107-00
	80/72 D Blk Roto	110-00
	80/72 Dope Dyed	108-00
	80/72 Double DD	111-00
	150/34 BI Roto	90-00
	150/34 DBI Roto	92-00
	75-50	-----

WEAVING KNITTING PROCESSING GARMETING
ALOK INDUSTRIES LIMITED
 THE COMPLETE TEXTILE HOUSE
 Peninsula Towers, Peninsula Corporate Park,
 G. K. Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai 400 013.
 Tel.: 2499 6200 / 6500 Fax: 022-2493 6078.

VALSON INDUSTRIES		
	150 Weft	130-50
	150/350	142-50
	85 Weft	141-00
	85/300	152-00
	85/0 Roto	130-00
	80/108 Micro	147-00
	160/108 Micro	148-50
	80/72 Roto Cotluk	172-00
	30/14/1000	290-00
	2/60 100% Poly	214-00
VALSON POLYESTER		
	150 Weft	126-00
	150/350	138-00
	80 Weft	135-00
	85/300	145-00
	80 Roto	134-00

Nylon		
SURAT PRICES		
(INCLUDING VAT AND EXCISE DUTY)		
CENTURYENKA		
	20/1 Semi Dull	256-00
	20/10	262-00
	20/6	268-00
	28/6	236-00
	28/24	266-00
	30/24	242-00
	44/24 Bright	208-00
	41/24 Full Dull	219-00
	44/24 FD Crimp	218-00
	44/10 SD Crimp	201-00
	60/48 Bright	206-00
	70/24 Bright	196-00
JCT LIMITED		
	20/1 Semi Dull	237-00
	20/10 Bright	267-00
	28/6 Full Dull	248-00
	40/24 Full Dull	207-00
	44/10 SD Crimp	119-00
	44/24 FD Crimp	208-00
	44/24 Bright	210-00
	70/24 Bright	197-00
MODIPON		
	20/1 Semi Dull	-----
	30/1 Semi Dull	-----
	20/1 SD	-----
	114/24 SD	-----
	20/1 SD Black	-----
	20/1 Bright	-----
	20/6 Bright	-----
	20/8 Bright	-----
	20/12 Bright	-----
	30/24 Bright	-----
	20/6 Bright	-----
	28/6 Bright	-----
	28/24 Bright	-----
	210/24 Bright	-----
	28/24 FD FOY	-----
	41/24 FD DT	-----
	45/24 FD FOY	-----
	44/24/1 FD Crimp	-----

Cotton Yarn		
10S PER KG.		
	Krishna	68-00
20S PER KG.		
	Akola	81-00
	Century	82-00
	Krishna CBE	83-00
	Parbhani	82-00
	Shrihari	83-00
24S PER KG.		
	Akola	84-00

84-00	Ganesh	1005-00
84-00	Karthikaya	980-00
82-00	Kottayam	965-00
	Laxmi	975-00
	Satya	997-00
	Vrajeswari	1012-00
120S COMB 10 LBS.		
	Bhojraj	1505-00
	Kottayam	1605-00
	KLRF	1585-00
	Sugana	1555-00
Blended Yarn		
INDO RAMA		
	20s PV 65/35	108-00
	30s PV 65/35	116-00
INDO RAMA		
	20s POLY	98-00
	30s POLY	107-00
INDO RAMA		
	20s PV 65/35	115-00
	1/40 PV 65/35	130-00
	1/45 PV 55/45	135-00
	1/60 PV 65/35	154-00
	2/40 PV 65/35 TFO	145-00
	2/60 PV 65/35	180-00
	2/60 PV 55/45	184-00
	2/76 PV 65/35	212-00
RIM		
	2/18 PV 65/35 TBL	106-00
	2/20 PV 65/35	106-00
	2/24 PV 65/35	110-00
	2/30 PV 65/35 TFO	111-00
	2/40 PV 65/35	135-00
	2/50 PV 65/35	168-00
BANSWARA		
	2/30 PV 65/35	116-00
	2/40 PV 65/35	160-00
	20 SILKY SLUB	141-00
BHILWARA SPINNERS		
	1/15 PV 65/35	106-00
	1/40 PV 65/35	131-00
	2/24 PV 65/35	122-00
	2/30 PV 65/35 (TFO)	130-00
	2/30 PV 65/35 (SPL)	127-00
	2/40 PV 65/35	148-00
	2/21 PVT NT	112-00
	2/32 PVT NT	120-00
	1/12 P/V SLUB	103-00
	2/24 P/V SLUB (G)	138-00
	2/30 P/V SLUB (G)	144-00
BIRLA TEXTILE		
	30s 65/35 PV	108-00
	2/30 65/35 PV	118-00
	2/30 65/35 PV	129-00
100% POLY YARN		
ADITYA		
	2/60 POLY	165-00
	2/76 POLY	200-00
BHILWARA		

SPINNERS		
	1/10 POLY	168-00
	1/15 POLY	198-00
	1/20 POLY	101-00
	2/20 POLY SHT RT	127-00
	2/24 POLY	113-00
	2/30 POLY (TFO)	115-00
	2/30 POLY (NTFO)	116-00
	3 & 4/12 POLY	99-00
GIMATEXIND		

GREY CLOTH

Grey Mulls			
Count	Reed x pick	Width	Rs./Metre
100x120	80x72	49"	17-00 to 17-75
100x100	78x68	49" Com	14-50 to 15-00
90x100	76x66	48"	13-50
70x90	64x56	48.5" Comb	10-75 to 11-00
80x100	68x64	49" Comb	12-50 to 14-25
80x100	68x64	49" Semi Com	11-50 to 12-75
60x80	58x48	47"	9-85
60x80	58x50	47"	9-70 to 10-00
60x80	56x44	47.5"	9-00
44x60	62x62	47"	11-25

Grey Cambric

COUNT	REEDXPICE	WIDTH	RS/METRE
60x60	88x80	39" Ichal	11-00
60x60	92x88	49" Comb Dyed	19-00 to 20-00
60x60	92x04	49" export	21-00 to 22-00
40x60	72x72	38"	12-50 to 13-50
2x1	72x72	40"	21-00 to 23-00
2x2	72x72	40"	28-00 to 35-00
55x55	80x80	39"	15-00 to 16-00
55x55	72x72	39"	13-50 to 14-50
Chiffon	80/1400		19-00 to 20-00

Powerloom Grey

COUNT	VAREITY	WIDTH IN CMS.	PR. HAND
100x120	Mill Comb 80x72	119	17-05
100x100	Mill Comb 76x66	119	14-80
40x60	HD Comb 62x52	117	12-15
Century Cotton	9.000 Kgs.	47"	11-90
	10.000 Kgs.	37/38"	13-25
	11.000 Kgs.		14-50
	12.000 Kgs.		15-75
	12.500 kgs.		16-25
	11.500 Kgs.		15-50
	8.800 Kgs.	37/38"	12-00
	9.400 Kgs.		12-50
Raymond 40 PV	9.700 Kgs.		16-00
80/72x40PV	8.800 Kgs		13-00
80/72x40PC	9.000 Kgs		13-25
Raymond	11.000 Kgs.	47"	16-00
	11.500 Kgs.	45"	16-50
	9.400 kgs		13-00
Mink Micro	7.800 Kgs.		11-00
80/108/80/108	6800 Kgs.		9-25
	9.000 Kgs.		13-50

**GREYARTSILK
SHIRTING**

Table (NC)		Net Cash
2/60 Cotton x 76 Polyester	88x80	17-15
20/80 Bosky (Nylon) 4,200	46"	11-90
P.V. Satin 80/150	47"	12 Kgs. 15-00
TEXO BOSKY		
76x76	7.200 47"	10.00 to 10.25
	7.000 47"	9.80
	6.800 47"	9-25
	6.600 47"	9-00
	6.200 47"	8-75
76x76	6.200 Roto	8-25
	6.400 Roto	8-50
	6.800 Roto 36"	9-50
Roto	5.700 Plain	8-50
76x76	5.400	8-50
84x150 47" Rinkle	7.50 kgs	8-00
150x150	Tex plain 51" 8500	9-00
150x150	Tex Dobby 46" 12,000	12-25
84x150 37" Dobby	7.5 kgs.	8-00
60sx60s 47"	74x74	13-00
Normal	72x72	11-75
	72x68	10-50
	76x76	10-25
	68x68	10-50
50s P.C. 47"	84x76	16-00
50s P.V.xTex 47"	84x76	16-50
2/40x2/40 36"	11.5 kgs	20-15
2/40x2/20s 48x52	11.50 kg	19-40
D. China 46"	Print	16-15
D. China 46"	Dyed	17-15
50Br. x 60 Devi Silk	46"	17-00
45x45PV 84/76	48"	16-00
45X45 PV 80/76	48"	17-25 to 17-50
40X40 Cotton Cord	38"	13-15
45x45 84/76	38"	15-50 to 16-00
50x50 P.C. 84/76 Dyeing	48"	15-50
40x40 Cotton Saten	38"	17-65
45x40 Cotton Saten	38"	12-65

SAREE CLOTH

60s	86x76	47"	13-00
Swiss Cotton	2/60	37"	9.400 kgs. 19-00
Swiss Cotton	2/60	37"	9.800 kgs. 20-00
Swiss Cotton	32s	37"	9.800 kgs. 13-50
32s P.V.	Swiss Cotton 37"		8,800 kgs. 12-00
Swiss Cotton	38" G.K.	7,800 kg	11-00
42s P.C.	Swiss Cotton 47"	8,100 kg.	10-75
Gadhwal Border			11-75
Patti			7-35
Acrylic Patta			8-25
Radhika Cheks			12-00

VISCOSE COTTON

120 x 100	80x72		15-50
120 x 100	76x72		13-75
120 x 80	68x64		13-00
Viscose Cotton	80x72		16-50
Rayon	2/4020	56x56	22-25
Staple	30x30	64/64	18-25

New Year, New Hope

Continued from Page 1 Col 6

by modernization of processing and management systems, capacity expansion and rehabilitation. In the process, it gained in capacity, capability, and competitiveness and above all in confidence.

The resurgent industry embarked on new strategies and explored new avenues to gain further strength and stature. Cross border acquisitions and mergers and joint ventures with textile related companies in several countries so as to expand and strengthen the global reach marked this phase, resulting in higher profits. Serious initiatives were also made towards horizontal and vertical integration.

SETBACK

Unfortunately, however, the industry was again plagued by problems. Government suspended the operation of the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFs) and there were inordinate delay in the disbursal of interest subsidy. Meanwhile, interest rates also marched northward.

To add to industry's woes, the rupee steadily and steeply appreciated against US dollar which hit textile exports hard. There was a 22 percent drop in textile exports in October. It became impossible to protect the bottom-line and there were widespread job cuts. Although government did provide some relief to exporters, it was too little to bring cheer to the industry.

It is, however, heartening that although after undue delay, government has now revived the TUFs in a modified form. Although the interest subsidy has been reduced from 5 to 4 percent in regard to the spinning sector, incentives to other segments and the decentralized sector have been stepped up. This may prove to be helpful toward the modernization and expansion plans which had been stalled for some time now.

LEVERAGING ADVANTAGES

The industry is already leveraging advantages through vertical integration and cross-border acquisitions and joint ventures. However, it can also further leverage the strength embedded in the decentralized sector. In the past, obviously because of the perceived conflict of interests, the organized sector did not take kindly to the sprawling decentralized sector. The perception and approach has now changed as there has been proper realization of the dividends that can be reaped by both the sectors through cooperation rather than confrontation. The very fact that the ICMF has taken a new avatar as CITI is ample proof and symbolic of this change. This augurs well for the future growth and development of the Indian textile industry as a whole.

Through a fusion of the rich traditional creations representing the cultural heritage in the decentralized sector, particularly handlooms, with the modern innovative technologies at the command of the organized sector, wonderful and artful creation can be made that can captivate alike the consumers and fashion leaders the world over. What is more, such creations can command astronomical prices.

In this context, one should also refer to the retail boom in the country. Indian fashion designers, who would earlier pride themselves on the exclusivity of their offerings, are now gearing up to be a part of the retail boom. Having tied up with reputed, leading retailers, Indian designers are said to be moving one step further and tying up with the established brands or private labels of retailers to enter the ready-to-wear market end expand their customer base.

THE WORLD OF FASHION OPENING UP

A related encouraging development is that global fashion houses are now rushing to India. They are said to have large investment plans for Indian designer wear industry and the fashion market here is attracting the attention of investors from several countries like France, Singapore, Mauritius, Dubai and the US. Some overseas fund houses have expressed interest in investing huge sums in this segment and the proposals one under the consideration of the Fashion Design Council of India. Obviously, they want a pie of the Indian fashion industry in general and the designer wear segment in particular. The designer wear industry now lacks the people, systems, processes and financial resources to scale up operations rapidly and thus the above moves are bound to impart greater vigour and vitality to this lucrative segment.

In this context, the recent comment of the chairman, TEXPROCIL, that there is a growing paradigm shift in the relationships between suppliers and buyers are of relevance. The earlier transactional relationships are changing into long term relationship where the suppliers have to play a larger role. The focus is on Value, Delivery and Service, rather than on Price. The onus is on suppliers to be innovative in product development by understanding the design trends based on demand forecasting. There is need to reduce lead time by developing efficient Supply Chain Management System.

DEMAND NEEDS TO BE CREATED

Several new avenues are opening up for the textile industry's exploitation. Among the frontier technologies, Nanotechnology seems to be full of promise. This is a virgin field and possibilities of introducing innovative textiles that would fascinate the consumer appear to be numerous.

HUGEMARKET

Apart from such technologies, one redeeming feature is that there exists a huge domestic market, the potential of which is yet to be fully exploited. In fact, the industry can make up the losses caused by the dent in export market, to a large extent, by fully exploiting the domestic market. Until recently, the main focus of the industry was urban-centric. The time has come for it to spread out in rural areas. By developing suitable and affordable products that can attract the rural folk which suit their working conditions, the industry can boost their sales and profits.

With the invasion of satellite televisions and other modern technological innovations, even in remote villages, the rural folk are now eager and ready to improve their lifestyles. Perhaps, it may not be beyond the realm of reality if one were to visualize a worker in the

village donning jeans to his workplace. But it may be necessary to cut out the frills to make the garments comfortable and affordable.

In fact ready-to-wear garment industry is a major star on the horizon. It holds enormous growth potential in the coming years. Last few years nearly belonged to garments. Every section of the society has taken to readymade garment as never before. And this trend can be expected to only further intensify in future. It is estimated that the next five years will witness a triple jump in the growth of garments. Production, estimated at 7-8 billion pieces, worth around Rs. 93,328 crores in 2005-2006, is projected to scale a record level of 19 billion pieces valued at about Rs. 300,000 crores in 2011-2012.

Although export potential may be dented by the dipping dollar, it can be more than compensated by the vibrant domestic market which is fast emerging as a saviour for producers of all types of garments. It is not just the affluent class that will drive the future growth of garments. Actually, it is the burgeoning middle class that is emerging as the real driver of readymade garment growth. The great convenience that is offered by the read-to-wear garment which has a wide range to suit all tastes and pockets is a big attraction for the middle income group.

The booming economy has put more money in the middle income class pockets while as mentioned earlier, the influence of movies and TVs has been so strong that they are now eager to modernize their lifestyles by taking to fashionable and new-look outfits in a big way.

Sensing this, several reputed international brands are eyeing India and setting stores by its vast expanding market to expand volumes and increase profits. The crowd in the market is thickening and if domestic companies are to move ahead, they have to focus on brand building and consumer bonding to establish reputation and compete effectively. Customer tastes change like the proverbial weather which necessitates constant market monitoring and refinement of products through the use of better fabrics and embellishments, in keeping with the fashion trends. Aggressive market is of course sine-qua-non. These strategies are essential even to small companies and only to the bigger ones.

Likewise, industry can further expand the sales by targeting specific groups like upper strata of society, youth, sports persons, women, students etc, by producing a range of new items that will be best suited to each. Similar initiatives in catering to the needs of inner wear market by using organic cotton can also be thought of. In fact, innovative products and aggressive marketing strategies seem to be the need of the day, and they can be expected to yield rich dividends.

Home textile is another field that is opening up fast. None other than the Union Textile Secretary recently stated that the Indian home textile industry is at the threshold of a tidal wave of growth. It has all the ingredients to emerge as a powerhouse of home textiles. The momentum building up for some time is expected to accelerate, catapulting India into the league of major home textile producers in the world in the near future. India is considered to be a repository of diversify and with its rich cultural heritage, from which it draws its designs, would pay multiple dividends to the Indian home textile industry.

The global home textile market, estimated at \$85 billion in 2006 is projected to post an annual growth rate of 16 percent. India's exports of home textiles are placed at \$3.5 billion now and a three-fold jump to \$15 billion is stated to be feasible by 2012. Successful overseas acquisitions of brands, factories and retail chains by Indian companies have further strengthened India's home textiles segment enabling it to play a greater role globally.

The future belongs to ready-to-wear garments for the main consuming classes and designer wear for the upper strata. India can hope for making a mark in both these categories, particularly after the recent launching of the proposed scheme for skill development.

BETTER DAYS AHEAD

One can surely hope that the dark clouds which had gathered over the textile industry towards the later half of 2007 will vanish under the new dawn to be ushered by 2008, and they will drift to parched cotton fields to produce another bumper cotton crop that can boost the fortunes of both the cotton and textile industries.

Yes, New Year, New Hope!

Political instability push oil prices up

SINGAPORE, DEC 31 (AFP)—

Oil prices rose today due to instability in Pakistan and on the Turkish border with Iraq, heading towards USD 100 per barrel again on the last trading day of the year, dealers said. New York's main contract, light sweet crude for February delivery, was 35 cents higher at USD 96.35 per barrel.

The contract had briefly approached USD 98 on Friday, a one-month high, after the assassination of Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, before falling back due to profit-taking. Oil prices have roughly doubled in 2007 from a low point of just below USD 50 in January, with some analysts predicting a price of USD 100 or higher during 2008.

Dealers said a US report last week showing a higher-than-

expected drop in US crude stockpiles had also supported prices, which are still within sight of the all-time record of USD 99.29 per barrel reached in November.

Brent North Sea crude for February delivery was 41 cents higher at USD 94.29 per barrel. It hit a one-month peak, USD 95.86, in London on Friday and achieved its all-time high of USD 96.53 in November.

Dealers said Bhutto's killing, which plunged Pakistan into crisis and sparked global condemnation, would have a psychological impact on the market even though the country is not an oil producer. "Political unrest around the world has once again become a major factor," said David Johnson, an oil analyst with Macquarie Securities in Hong Kong.

CII pleads confidentiality of corporate data collected

From Our Correspondent

NEW DELHI, DEC. 31—

The Collection of Statistics Bill, 2007 moved to replace the Collection of Statistics Act, 1953, empowers the government to seek sensitive corporate data. An informant asked to furnish any information under the provisions of the Act shall be bound to furnish such information. Moreover, the Bill provides that the statistics officer or any person authorised by him in writing may enter any premises for the purposes of collection of statistics and may inspect and take copies of it.

The Bill has drawn concerns from the industry since it provides extensive areas in which information can be collected. The power to collect information should be amplified through guidelines to include the communication of purpose behind collecting information.

The guidelines should also limit the collection to macro level information and exclude confidential information, personal identifiable information, sensitive industry or competitive information, third party

information and economic value attached information.

In cases where corporates are bound under confidentiality agreements with outside parties, or in case of price-sensitive information that cannot be disclosed before making a disclosure to the stock exchange under the Listing Agreement, corporates should be entitled to seek additional time to submit the requisite information.

Formal request for collection of information should be made in writing since other methods are unreliable and can be misused by unscrupulous elements unless stringent safeguards/controls are also prescribed to ensure authenticity/confidentiality.

Sufficient time should be given for submission of such information and an extreme step like entering the premises should be backed by justifiable reasons and may be resorted to only when information required has not been submitted even after a reasonable time has elapsed.

Government should not outsource the collection of

statistical information, being sensitive information, to any agency without prescribing adequate safeguards and governance process and liability/responsibilities of such agency in the event of misuse or breach of information/confidentiality.

Appropriate Government as proposed in the Bill should be limited to government at the Central and State level and not include its instrumentality like Panchayats or Municipalities. This is necessary to ensure control over confidential/sensitive information and avoid misuse of information.

Publication of information must be permitted only after obtaining a Court order to that effect, after an opportunity of hearing to informant. A Right to Appeal mechanism against requisition of information should be provided for within the Act.

A specific provision that even by filing an application under Right to Information Act such information cannot be obtained by any third person must be incorporated to secure confidentiality.

TEA seek funds for discharge project

COIMBATORE, DEC. 31—

The Tirupur Exporters' Association (TEA) has requested Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M Karunanidhi to help secure funds for executing the Marine Discharge Project, which has been included in the industrial policy unveiled last month.

In a memorandum to Karunanidhi, TEA said that exporters have formed a Special Purpose Vehicle, Textile Eco Solution Tamil Nadu Ltd (TEST Ltd), for implementing the project and Tamil Nadu Water Investment Co. Ltd (TWIC), which was entrusted to prepare the project report, has estimated Rs 816.20 crores as the cost.

The pipeline for the project would be laid from Tirupur, right bank of Noyyal River-Karur-Vaiyampathy-Oonaiyur-right bank of Vellar river till it confluences with Palk Bay and the annual operation and maintenance charges were estimated at Rs 2309.42 lakhs, TEA President, A Shaktivel, said in the memorandum.

The land fall point, the location of shoreline for disposal into sea would be Munpalai village in Manamalkudi of Pudukkottai district, he said.

Meanwhile, TWIC wanted clarification on meeting the cost of the disposal through tariff and availability of funds either from the State Government or TEST.

Prices firm

By Cotton Man

MUMBAI, DEC. 31--

The cotton prices firmed today on good demand from the user industry. The total arrivals of J-34 in the northern region were reported at 33000 bales of which 16000 were from Punjab; 12000 in Haryana and 5000 bales in Rajasthan. Desi arrivals were 1200 bales of which 50 were in Punjab; 500 in Haryana and 650 in Rajasthan.

The northern varieties are in candy. The kapas and seed prices are quoted in quintal.

READY DELIVERY		GUNTUR	
Punjab J-34 (SG)	2085-2130	Bunny Brahma PRM	20400
Haryana J-34 (SG)	2020-2050	Bunny Brahma SPL	-----
Rajasthan J-34 (SG)	1890-1945	AHMEDABAD	
READY DELIVERY		S-6 SUP	20500
Punjab J-34 (RG)	2105-2150	INDORE	
Haryana J-34 (RG)	2040-2070	H-4 Super	19900
Rajasthan J-34 (RG)	1920-1975		
Kapas J-34	2400-2580	MSCCGMFRATES	
Kapas Desi	2350-2450	(2006-07 SEASON)	
COTTONSEEDS		VTY H4/H6/MECH-1	
J-34	1290-1330	FAQ	19900
Desi	1340-1370	SUP	20000
COTTON DESI (RG)		SUP-Silver	20200
Punjab	1820-1830	SUP-Gold	20400
Haryana	1800-1810		
Rajasthan	1810-1830	(2005-06 SEASON)	
COTTON DESI (SG)		H4/H6/MECH-ALL	
Punjab	1870-1880	BF-2	N.Q.
Haryana	1900-1910	BF-1	18300
Rajasthan	1860-1880	FAQ	18500
		SUP	18700
		SUP-Silver	18900
		SUP-Gold	19100
		ANKUR	
		BF-2	N.Q.
		BF-1	N.Q.
		FAQ	18000
		SUP	18400
		SUP-Silver	18600
		SUP-Gold	18900
		LRA 5166/MCH-32/AK84365/	
		AJIT/LRK/1007/DMY-286	
		BF-2	17100
		BF-1	17300
		FAQ	17500
		SUP	17900
		SUP-Silver	18300
		SUP-Gold	18600
BHAINDA		AHH-468	
J-34 SG SPL	20600	BF-2	N.Q.
J-34 SG SUP	20500	BF-1	N.Q.
J-34 DR SPL (L/C bales)	20800	FAQ	17300
J-34 DR SUP (L/C bales)	20700	SUP	17800
SIRSA		SUP-Silver	18200
J-34 SG SPL	20100	SUP-Gold	18400
J-34 SG SUP	19900	NHH-44(VIDHARBHA)	
J-34 SG SEL	19800	BF-2	16500
J-34 DR SPL	20300	BF-1	16700
J-34 DR SUP	19800	FAQ	17000
SRIGANGANAGAR		SUP	17400
J-34 SG SPL	19400	SUP-Silver	17800
J-34 SG SUP	19300	SUP-Gold	18300
J-34 SG SEL	18900	NHH-44(MARATHAWADA)	
BHILWARA		BF-2	N.Q.
AGETIRG SPL	20200	BF-1	N.Q.
AGETIRG SUP	20000	FAQ	16900
AGETIRG SEL	19700	SUP	17000
AKOLA		SUP-Silver	17300
BB SPL (Conventional)	-----	SUP-Gold	17800
BBL SPL (Modern)	-----	Y-1/AKH-5/AKA-5/AK-8405/	
H-4 SUP (Conventional)	-----	AK-001/AKH-4/AK-235.	
H-4 SUP (Modern)	-----	FAQ	16800
AURANGABAD		SUP	16900
BB PRM (Modern)	-----	SUP-Silver	17200
BB SPL (Conventional)	-----	SUP-Gold	17700
BBL SPL (Modern)	-----		
H-4 SUP (Conventional)	-----	SICA Rates	
		(Per Candy)	
RAJKOT		Bengal Desi	15718
S-6 SUP	20600	V-797	16000
RAYAGADA		Jaydhar Karn.	17000
Bunny Brahma PRM	-----	J-34 (NEW)	18576
ADILABAD		MECH (MP)	19500
Bunny Brahma PRM	-----	Sankar-6 (NEW)	20200
Bunny Brahma SPL	-----	MCU-5	20800
HUBLI		DCH-32Karna	28500
Bunny Brahma PRM	-----	DCH-32 MP	N. Q.
Bunny Brahma SPL	-----		

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