



Trump's new tariff will disrupt supply chain



Investing in skills will ensure long-term stability and competitiveness

Mohammad Mohsin (CIP)
Chairman, ROMO Group
Chief Coordinator, Oikko Parishad



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ACY	Semi Dull, Full Dull, Super Bright, Dope Dyed, Melange	50+20 to 450+70	36 to 288	2880	Virgin and Recycled
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April	11 April 2025	Textile Fibre, Yarn & Fabric	*****
	12 April 2025	Apparel Supply Chain Management	*****
	19 April 2025	Apparel Supply Chain Management	*****
	25 April 2025	Textile Fibre, Yarn & Fabric	*****
May	2 May 2025	Weaving & Woven Processing	*****
	3 May 2025	*****	Product Development
	9 May 2025	Weaving & Woven Processing	*****
	10 May 2025	*****	Product Development
	16 May 2025	Knit Dyeing & Finishing	*****
	23 May 2025	Knit Dyeing & Finishing	*****
June	20 June 2025	Denim Development & Manufacturing	*****
	21 June 2025	*****	Garments Washing & Effects
	27 June 2025	Denim Development & Manufacturing	*****
	28 June 2025	*****	Garments Washing & Effects
July	4 July 2025	Industrial Engineering	*****
	5 July 2025	*****	Garments Washing & Effects
	11 July 2025	Industrial Engineering	*****
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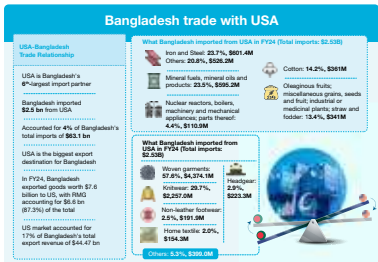
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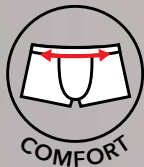
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Trump's new tariff will disrupt supply chain

Abrar Hossain

A major uncertainty has arisen in the Bangladeshi garment industry. The announcement of a new 37 percent tariff on the United States has left garment owners in a dilemma with about \$800 million worth of ready-made garment shipments. These goods are currently at ports or on ships and their fate after the tariff hike is in doubt.

The tariffs have created substantial uncertainty, leading to panic-driven sell-offs globally. Analysts warn that prolonged instability could further erode business confidence and disrupt supply chains. The long-established supply chain might be disrupted, and a potential threat of manufacturing loss, and unemployment is inevitable.

On April 2, the US President announced a 37 percent tariff on Bangladesh, which will be effective from April 9. There is no certainty about the tariff situation of products that have been ordered before and are currently being produced in factories. In particular, there is uncertainty about the consequences of products that will be shipped to the United States after the tariff increase.

BKMEA President Mohammad Hatem said their main concern at the moment is the shipment of goods. "About \$800 million worth of goods are exported to the US every month, most of which are currently at ports or on ships. The big question now is, will the new tariffs apply to these goods or not?" he said.



Figure: On April 2, the US President announced a 37 percent tariff on Bangladesh, which will be effective from April 9

Some of the U.S clothing and footwear retailers and brands are demanding a big discount from Bangladeshi suppliers and are putting the work orders on hold to adjust the new reciprocal tariff measures, exporters said.

Experts say the US decision to impose tariffs must be dealt with politically and diplomatically. If the situation is not handled in a timely manner, it could create a major crisis for Bangladesh's garment industry and workers. If for some reason, the factory's income decreases, there may be a pressure to reduce the wages of workers as well.

Garment owners have warned that if shipments are suspended, it will create problems in repaying bank loans, which will hinder the opening

of new LCs. This could lead to factory closures and create concerns about workers' salaries and allowances.

Moreover, brands sourcing from Bangladesh may face ethical dilemmas about balancing cost pressures with responsibilities towards workers and environmental sustainability. Tariffs can complicate these decisions by increasing costs and potentially leading to shortcuts in labor standards.

However, low Labor and low manufacturing cost used to be the key USP for Bangladeshi Apparel and Textile industry making it the third largest exporter in the US market. Brands importing from Bangladesh utilized this advantage for a long time, but this recent tariff may change the situation for Bangladeshi industry owners to remain competitive as before. As experts suggests brands might negotiate accordingly and comply with the current shipments and orders otherwise the local manufacturers will suffer a huge setback.

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Foreign dependence and imported energy exacerbating the crisis

Textile Today Analysis

Bangladesh's textile industry, as its economic backbone, faces challenges because of a serious energy crisis that arises from its dependence on imported energy, although Bangladesh has enough resources. Imported energy dependency, neglected domestic resources, and potential and inadequate government policies are the core reasons behind this crisis.

The industry now experiences mounting production expenses, significantly reducing its global competitive edge. The textile industry faced catastrophic production limits because of severe energy deficits, which have recently triggered gas disruptions alongside regular power blackouts.

Underutilization of domestic resources

In 1997 at Magurchhara and in 2005 at Tengratila, three catastrophic gas explosions occurred during well drilling by foreign companies. These explosions destroyed approximately 550 billion cubic feet of gas, causing irreparable environmental damage. In Tengratila, the explosion was caused by Niko's incompetence, which Niko itself admitted in a written statement to BAPEX. Yet, in BAPEX's nearly 30-year drilling history, there has not been a single accident. However, experts believe the state does not give BAPEX the support and attention it deserves.

BAPEX drills each well for 800 million BDT, whereas foreign companies charge an average of 1.5 billion BDT. For a 3D survey, BAPEX charges between 900,000 and 1.3 million BDT, while foreign companies charge up to 20 million BDT.



Figure: Imported energy dependency, neglected domestic resources, and potential and inadequate government policies are the core reasons behind this crisis.

Gas dependency and power crisis

Petrobangla Annual Report 2024 documents Bangladesh's daily gas usage requirement at 3,800 million cubic feet (MMcf) but shows the national supply reached only 2,700–2,800 MMcf, leaving almost 1,000 MMcf unmet. The power shortfall between domestic requirements and available supply obliges textile industries and others to use expensive imported liquefied natural gas (LNG).

According to the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) report, Bangladesh purchased 1,244 billion cubic feet of LNG between 2018 and 2023, spending \$15 billion mainly from the spot market. In 2023, LNG imports were 5.2 million metric tons, up 19 percent from the previous year.

This gas is mainly used for power generation. LNG spot market is very much volatile, prices surged to \$37/MMBtu in 2022, after maintaining a level of \$10/MMBtu in 2021.

BAPEX conducts extensive surveys to locate gas, but foreign companies receive permits for well drilling and extraction. Due to faulty drilling by foreign companies, gas wells get damaged, and BAPEX ultimately has to repair them.

External companies such as Russian company Gazprom invest more heavily in drilling operations since their well costs span \$5.5 - \$6 million, whereas BAPEX operates at \$3 million per well.

The difference in drilling costs shows how Bangladesh might cut its annual energy expenditures by around \$300 million through local capability development.

Analysis of BAPEX data shows that BAPEX drilled 17 wells from 2004 to 2013. Gas was discovered in each of these wells. Among these Titas, Kailashtila, and Shahbazpur are notable. Since 2014, Russian oil and gas company Gazprom has been tasked with drilling wells in the country's onshore fields alongside BAPEX.

The company has drilled seven

Economic challenges and IMF loan

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has advised Bangladesh to reduce subsidies in the energy sector. In response, the government has proposed increasing industrial gas prices by 150%. The proposed gas price per unit is set to rise from 30.75 BDT to 75.72 BDT.

Announcements about increasing electricity rates and fuel and fertilizer prices will likely arrive during the upcoming days. These are just to secure the remaining \$2.39 billion of the \$4.7 billion IMF loan.

However, a recently published White Paper stated that during the 15-year rule of the Awami League government, an average of approximately \$16 billion was laundered from Bangladesh each year.

Additionally, political influence in the banking sector's loan disbursement has led to severe economic crises. Furthermore, from the \$60 billion investment in the Annual Development Program (ADP) and various development projects, around \$14 to \$24 billion has been lost due to political extortion, bribery, and inflated budgets. If this massive amount of money laundering had been prevented, or if the interim government could recover these funds, there would have been no need to take a \$4.7 billion loan.

Moreover, by the end of 2024, remittance inflows reached a new high of \$26.89 billion, significantly contributing to the country's economy. In December 2024, Bangladesh received \$2.638 billion in remittances through banking channels and other informal sources.



wells. At that time, Gazprom was tasked with drilling wells in the same areas BAPEX had discovered. There are allegations that the Russian company was tasked with drilling the gas fields they discovered because BAPEX did not have the capacity. The foreign company had to pay two to three times more than BAPEX's estimated cost for this.

Energy sector privatization

Under the Bangladesh Petroleum Act 1974, instead of achieving self-sufficiency in strategic energy resource extraction, Bangladesh opened its energy sector to international oil companies (Big Oil). During the Awami League government in 1998, the government distributed four hydrocarbon blocks to British operators Shell Cairn Energy and the Australian company Santos. The governments led by BNP-Jamaat gave Chevron sole control rights in 2005 before ConocoPhillips received permission from Sheikh Hasina's government during her term in 2009. In 2012, Gazprom started its market operations before ONGC acquired control of approximately 60% of Bangladesh's energy resources in 2021.

The US multinational company Chevron supplies 60 percent of the gas extracted from the country's gas fields under a Production Sharing Contract (PSC). All 15 deep-sea hydrocarbon blocks came under the control of American multinational ExxonMobil as the company obtained full control in 2023, thus expanding international power within

Bangladesh's energy sector.

Foreign companies strategy

Foreign companies always hold an actionable share of produced gas that ranges from 50% to 75% in deep-sea operations. These contracts' terms and conditions favor foreign investors for making profits.

Through these agreements, foreign companies control substantial amounts of extracted natural gas. When Bangladesh needs more gas than its allocation, it needs to purchase at international market prices. Foreign companies do not extract gas according to Bangladesh's needs but rather accelerate their extraction efforts to maximize quick profits.

Enhancing domestic gas production

Managing Director Mohammad Ali noted in the BAPEX 2024 Annual Report that "current extraction capacity is insufficient, and while new exploration efforts are underway, they require significant time and investment."

Despite the recent issue with outdated technology and funding shortages, the Ministry of Power Energy and Mineral Resources aims to boost domestic gas production by 20-25%.

Titas Gas Field Expansion will produce an extra 150 MMcf/day by 2025, while Bhola Gas Field Exploration begins with an estimated daily output of 70 MMcf/day. Besides, we must increase the capacity of BAPEX, explore new gas fields and



quickly acquire the ability to extract them at our own pace.

Alternative natural resources

According to experts, the energy sector needs immediate alternatives such as local coal extraction. By extracting only 20% of its coal reserves, Bangladesh can obtain 1.564.6 million tons of coal, which is equivalent to a supply of 40.6 trillion cubic feet (TCF) of natural gas.

According to Petrobangla, the proven reserves are 28.79 TCF. Of this, 20.33 TCF have been extracted as of June 2023, leaving reserves of 8.46 TCF, which is equal to the demand for the next nine years.

Experts and Researchers say that delta countries worldwide are rich in oil and gas. Similarly, one of the major obstacles to offshore oil and gas exploration was the maritime boundary dispute. This issue was resolved with Myanmar in 2012 and with India in 2014. Myanmar discovered gas in its territory and has been extracting and exporting it abroad. India has also discovered gas in its maritime zone. However, Bangladesh has yet to launch extensive sea oil and gas exploration efforts.

According to a report by LightCastle Partners, implementing renewable energy solutions across the sector could reduce energy costs by 15-20% and improve overall sustainability, enhancing the "Made in Bangladesh" brand globally.

The solution to these problems needs to focus on both BAPEX empowerment alongside technology advances and international associations. Combining renewable energy systems with solar power and wind turbines and a smart grid management strategy helps decrease energy imports while lowering overall operational expenses.

Future strategies for coal extraction:

Bangladesh establishes sprawling open-pit operations to develop local coal extraction for energy security and crisis avoidance. According to data from the Geological Survey of Bangladesh (GSB), Bangladesh has 7,823 million tons of coal reserves, with an estimated market value of \$1.3 trillion.

A JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) presentation indicated that the coal reserves in five mines are equivalent to 200 trillion cubic feet (TCF) of gas.

The use of coal in power generation is steadily increasing. As per the government's master plan, 10,000–11,000 MW of electricity will be produced from coal shortly, requiring large coal imports. This will demand significant foreign exchange spending, which may exceed \$6 billion annually at current international coal prices.

Balancing extraction with national needs

The amount of gas that can be extracted from Bangladesh gas fields is certainly not needed all at once. It can be used over many years. However, the extracting companies will undoubtedly want to extract as quickly as possible to maximize their profits.

Dhaka University Geology Department Professor and Energy Expert Badrul Emam said, if foreign companies are free to extract and sell as much as they want, that's one scenario. On the other hand, agreements can be made in the country's interest, ensuring that gas is extracted according to national demand. Such agreements exist in many countries, and foreign companies understand their rationale. Everything depends on our negotiation skills.

Therefore, we must have a policy that serves our interest. We must extract gas with our own capacity according to our own needs. If we have to make agreements with foreign companies, it can be on a service basis. Or if there is a production sharing contract, we must have the majority stake.

Trump announces 90-day tariff pause for all, except China

Desk Report

On 9th April, U.S. President Donald Trump announced a 90-day pause on tariff hikes for most countries, triggering a global market rally. Wall Street surged, with the S&P 500 jumping 9.5%, while Asian markets also posted strong gains.

Trump's announcement, made via Truth Social, marks a temporary retreat from his aggressive global tariff strategy. He cited outreach from over 75 countries seeking negotiations as the reason for the pause.

However, the relief did not extend to China. Trump sharply increased tariffs on Chinese imports to 125%, accusing Beijing of disrespect and trade manipulation.

In response, China imposed 84% tariffs on U.S. goods and is reportedly planning new economic stimulus to offset the impact. Trump remained confident a deal would be struck but criticized Chinese leadership for lacking direction.

Japan and the EU welcomed the pause but continued to push back on other levies. Meanwhile, Trump defended his approach as a way to revive U.S. manufacturing and counter unfair trade practices.

As the U.S.-China trade war escalates, global uncertainty persists. With 90 days now ticking, the world watches to see whether this pause leads to negotiation—or deeper conflict.



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\$10B Bangladesh apparel market US tariff shocks exports, RMG leaders see new way

Sayed Abdullah

Bangladesh trade with USA

USA-Bangladesh Trade Relationship

USA is Bangladesh's 6th-largest import partner

Bangladesh imported **\$2.5 bn** from USA

Accounted for **4%** of Bangladesh's total imports of **\$63.1 bn**

USA is the biggest export destination for Bangladesh

In FY24, Bangladesh exported goods worth \$7.6 billion to US, with RMG accounting for \$6.6 bn (87.3%) of the total

US market accounted for 17% of Bangladesh's total export revenue of \$44.47 bn

What Bangladesh imported from USA in FY24 (Total imports: \$2.53B)



Iron and Steel: **23.7%, \$601.4M**
Others: **20.8%, \$526.2M**



Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products: **23.5%, \$595.2M**



Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof: **4.4%, \$110.9M**



Cotton: **14.2%, \$361M**



Oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder: **13.4%, \$341M**

What Bangladesh imported from USA in FY24 (Total imports: \$2.53B)



Woven garments: **57.6%, \$4,374.1M**



Knitwear: **29.7%, \$2,257.0M**



Non-leather footwear: **2.5%, \$191.9M**



Home textile: **2.0%, \$154.3M**



Headgear: **2.9%, \$223.3M**

Others: **5.3%, \$399.0M**



The United States is the largest destination for Bangladesh's exportable goods among all countries. The trade volume between the two countries is \$10.5 billion. Of this, the value of goods imported by Bangladesh from the USA is slightly more than \$2 billion. The value of goods exported from Bangladesh to that country is slightly more than \$7 billion, of which 87% is readymade garment (RMG) products. As a result, Trump's new tariff has naturally affected Bangladesh's garment exports. Therefore, businessmen in this sector are most worried about this issue. This reciprocal measure, a response to Bangladesh's existing

74% duty on US goods, has left RMG leaders reeling, ranking Bangladesh's tariff as the second highest in South Asia and 15th worldwide.

The stark reality of the new US tariffs paints a grim picture for Bangladesh's garment exporters. Consider a simple example: a shirt produced in Bangladesh, previously subject to a 16% tariff, entered the American market at a final price of \$11.60, built upon a base production cost of \$10. This price point, while reflecting the existing tariff, allowed for a degree of competitiveness. However, the newly imposed 37% tariff fundamentally alters this equation. Now, that same shirt, once a staple of affordable

fashion, will see its price soar to over \$15. This substantial price hike represents a seismic shift in the product's affordability, potentially driving US consumers, who are often price-sensitive, to reconsider their purchasing habits and seek alternatives. This has sparked alarm among industry leaders who warn of significant trade disruptions and a sharp decline in the nation's competitiveness within the crucial American market. The newly imposed US tariffs are seen as a catastrophic setback for Bangladesh's \$10 billion RMG exports to the US, with industry leaders predicting substantial gains for rival nations.

"We currently pay 15-16% in tariffs to access the US market. A 37% tax hike will be a big blow."



MA Jabbar
 Managing Director
 DBL Group

"The USA market holds a big chunk of our apparel export. Ultimately, it will have a significant impact on exports because some of our apparel sourcing competitor countries' tariffs are lower than ours. So, we have already fallen into a huge threat. And I have seen on today's news that buyers are demanding a 10% to 15% discount on the existing price in India. In our case, it will be discount rate will be much higher - around 25% to 30%. Honestly, we do not make much profit, and continuing the export like before to the USA market will be tough for us."



Fakir Kamruzzaman Nahid
 Managing Director
 Fakir Fashion Ltd.

Shovon Islam, Ex-Director, BGMEA & Managing Director, Sparrow Group of Industries said, "The current tariff situation or the USA's shift to eliminate

its trade deficit with the world has come as a complete and unwelcome surprise – a real bolt from the blue – for both our business and our buyers. For Bangladesh, an additional 37% tariff on top of the existing 16% will create an extremely challenging situation, making it extremely difficult to survive, so the cost must be passed on to buyers. In the long run, out of \$8 billion, we will lose \$2 to \$3 billion in goods in the USA market. Most alarming thing is I am hearing from the US buyers is that we might lose 20% to 30% of orders in the next season – the holiday season."

"This tariff change could inadvertently benefit countries with lower existing tariff rates compared to the new, higher rates imposed on Bangladesh. Consequently, as buyers seek to mitigate increased costs, alternative sourcing destinations like Jordan, Egypt, and Kenya, which may now offer a more favorable tariff structure, could see an increase in demand and emerge as attractive alternatives to Bangladesh. This shift in buyer preference is already being observed as businesses explore options to maintain their competitive edge," Shovon added.

AKM Saifur Rahman Farhad, Vice President, Bangladesh Garment Buying House Association (BGBA) said, "I think the additional 37% tariff imposed by the Trump administration recently will threaten Bangladesh's garment industry, as well as the overall economy and foreign exchange earnings. To put it simply, Bangladesh is the 2nd largest exporter of garments in the world."

"The new US tariffs dramatically increase the total duty on Bangladeshi goods. For cotton, the current duty of 15.2% plus the new 37% tariff results in a total duty of 52.2%. For synthetic materials, the current 28% duty combined with the 37% tariff leads to a total duty of 65%. Comparatively, Vietnam faces different tariff rates. Their cotton duty, with existing rates and the new tariffs, totals 55%, while their synthetic duty totals 58%. Turkey, on the other hand, experiences a 10% increase across

both cotton and synthetic materials. Notably, Turkey benefits from a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) that grants duty-free access to 3,500 product lines. While India is in fifth position. The current tariff on cotton is 16%, adding 26% to it gives a total tariff of 42%. The current tariff on synthetics is 20%, adding 26% to it gives a total tariff of 46%."

"We have to convince them to reduce the existing \$6 billion trade deficit with the USA. What we can do is buy more US cotton to produce their garments, edible oil, and gas, etc. These are the options we can look at, as this is a high priority for us."



Shovon Islam
 Managing Director
 Sparrow Group

"That means, the newly imposed tariffs will make the price of Bangladeshi garments higher than the garments of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th largest exporting countries. As a result, Bangladesh's position may fall from 2nd to 4th or 5th. Although labor wages are higher in countries like China, India, and Vietnam, they have many advantages: They use their fabrics and trims, while we import most of them. About 75% of a garment's cost is fabric and trims. In Bangladesh, we only add 25% value as CM (Cut & Make), which we call FOB (Free on Board) price, which is essentially the sweat of the workers and the labor of the owners. There is no room to reduce costs in this 25% unless high-tech technology is used, which is very expensive, and there are shortages and high prices of gas and electricity," Saifur Rahman Farhad added.



Saifur Rahman Farhad said, "According to the latest data, our total garment exports (July '24 - February 25) are \$26796.42 million, out of which exports to the United States alone are \$5067.54 million, which is 18.91% of our total exports! It is highly unlikely that we will find such a large buyer or even a market elsewhere. If we lose this market due to the tariffs, I believe our garment industry and the overall economy will face a huge challenge."

The Way Forward

As the shockwaves of these steep US tariffs reverberate through Bangladesh, economists and exporters are urgently advocating for immediate countermeasures. Their recommendations include initiating swift negotiations with US trade representatives, considering reductions in tariffs on goods imported from the United States, and strategically leveraging Bangladesh's significant role as a major consumer of American cotton in these discussions.

Apparel industry's leading figures are proposing a dual strategy to lessen the impact. The first element involves offering duty-free access to US agricultural goods, notably including cotton, a key input for Bangladeshi manufacturers. The second part of their proposed approach entails actively increasing the volume of imports from the United States. Shovon Islam strategized that the govt. must act now and devise strategies for short, mid and long-term. He said, "What will be the short-term strategy? What we are hearing from our buyers is that 'just hold steady, let us observe and assess the whole situation.' What I am hearing from buyers is that orders will fall as brands will buy less due to the increased price (due to the 51% tariff) and assessing that, our midterm strategy should be to negotiate from govt. to govt. level with the Trump administration. We have to convince them to reduce the existing \$6 billion trade deficit with the USA. Yes, Bangladesh, suddenly

increasing this massive import from the US is not feasible for us. But we have to show some progress to send a positive message to the US government. What we can do is buy more US cotton to produce their garments, edible oil, and gas, etc. These are the options we can look at, as this is a high priority for us. Other countries like Vietnam, India, etc. have already promised extensively to evade the tariff. The challenge is that these countries trade diverse products. Whereas, our majority item is apparel and a big cost goes into importing. So, buying more from the USA is not

"The coming three months will be decisive as the Trump administration considers these tariffs. With Dr. Yunus's economic and political expertise and his understanding of our industry, we must prioritize negotiation. Without a swift resolution, we face imminent factory closures, buying house collapses, and severe job losses."



AKM Saifur Rahman Farhad
Vice President
BGBA

an option either for us. In the long term, doing close negotiation and maintaining a balanced trade is the only way out for us."

"We have to act with urgency and immediately to resolve this crisis. For instance, the Indian government's trade delegation is already here and negotiating with its US counterparts. For us, it has to be the same."

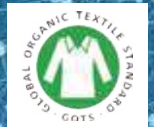
As a way out, Fakir Kamruzzaman, who is also a Director of Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA), said, "Urgent government-level negotiations with the US govt. are critical to sustain existing trade. At once, a strategic assessment of import duties in the tariff-affected sectors is required to identify immediate opportunities for reductions. So, the govt. needs to review the whole scenario and make a well-thought-out decision. With Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus in charge, he is our main strength. I am optimistic about a favorable solution. Otherwise, it will be a disaster and Bangladesh's garment exporters will at least lose 40% to 45% in the USA market because of the increased price."

"The majority of us produce basic garments at a low margin, and on top of that, if the buyers expect a 25% to 30% discount, then entrepreneurs will not be able to give this much discount and ultimately, we will lose the US market. Certainly, we do not want that to happen. The govt. must take immediate measures, and I heard that the Chief Advisor has already called for a high-level meeting," Fakir Kamruzzaman added.

Saifur Rahman Farhad said, "To maintain exports by reducing product prices, China, India, and other governments are providing various incentives on export prices, which is helping them further reduce their product prices. However, in our country, these incentives are being continuously reduced, citing the World Bank."

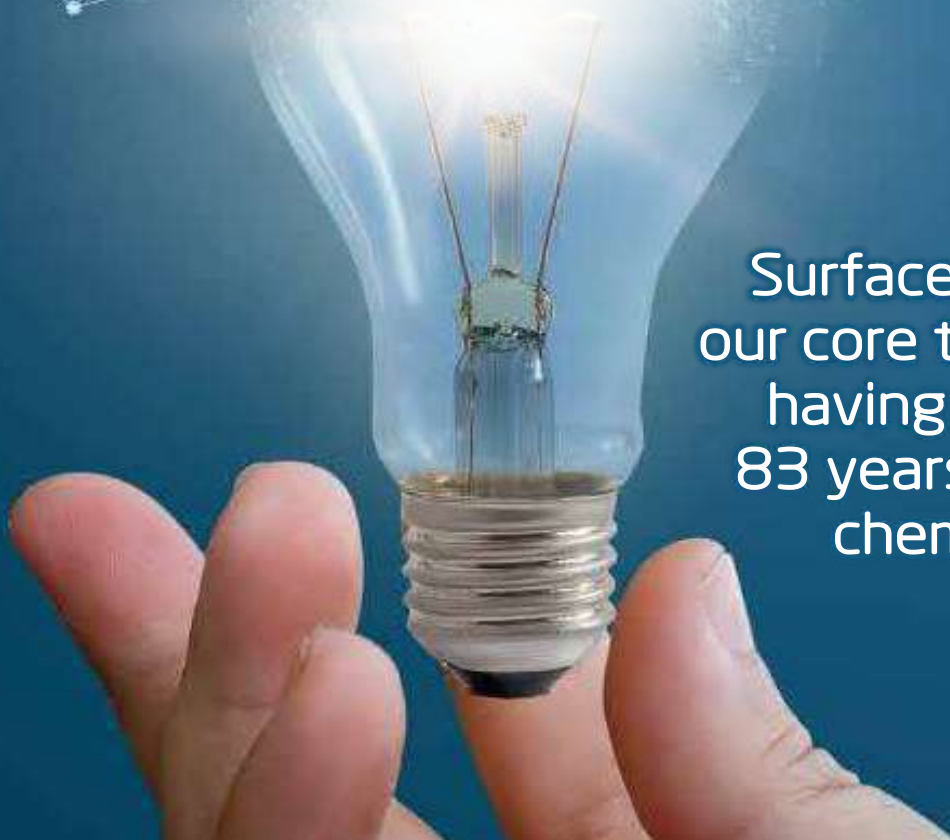
"Their work quality and efficiency are higher, lead time is shorter, port facilities are abundant, shipping costs are lower, and bureaucratic complexities are almost non-existent. America has signed FTAs (Free Trade Agreements) with 30 countries. America conducts 86.1% of its total exports to those countries and imports 89.6% from them. However, we do not have FTAs with any country except Nepal, with which we have no significant trade."

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Future of apparel embracing digitalization, sustainability & resilient supply chains

Ummay Salma

The global apparel market is projected to reach \$1.84 trillion by 2025, accounting for approximately 1.63% of the world's GDP. This growth is driven by factors such as economic expansion in emerging markets, increased consumer spending, and the proliferation of fast fashion. However, the industry faces significant challenges, including heightened competition from low-cost online retailers, evolving consumer preferences, and stringent environmental regulations.



Figure: Digitalization is transforming the apparel landscape.

Consumers are increasingly shifting and gravitating towards online shopping, seeking convenience and competitive pricing. This shift has intensified competition, particularly from online-only retailers who can operate with lower overhead costs. Traditional brick-and-mortar stores are compelled to adapt by enhancing their online presence and integrating omnichannel strategies to meet

evolving consumer expectations.

Digitalization is transforming the apparel landscape. Digitalization has emerged as a pivotal strategy for apparel companies aiming to enhance efficiency, responsiveness, and sustainability. Technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), blockchain, and Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) are being integrated to streamline operations and improve transparency.

Market growth and digital adoption

global apparel market Size (2020-2025)

Year	Market Size (USD Trillion)
2020	1.50
2021	1.60
2022	1.68
2023	1.75
2024	1.80
2025	1.84

Source: Uniform Market

AI-driven tools enable brands to analyze vast amounts of data, facilitating accurate demand forecasting, personalized marketing, and inventory optimization. For instance, AI can predict fashion trends by analyzing social media patterns, allowing brands to align their collections with consumer preferences. This not only enhances customer satisfaction but also reduces overproduction, contributing to sustainability efforts.

Blockchain technology offers immutable records of transactions, enhancing transparency across the supply chain. Consumers can trace the origin of products, verifying ethical sourcing and manufacturing practices.

This level of transparency builds trust and aligns with the growing consumer demand for ethically produced apparel.

RFID technology facilitates real-time tracking of inventory, reducing losses and improving stock management. By providing accurate data on product location and movement, RFID enhances operational efficiency and reduces waste, aligning with sustainability goals.

Sustainability is a core business imperative here. Environmental concerns have placed sustainability at the forefront of the apparel industry.

The sector is responsible for a significant portion of global carbon emissions, prompting regulatory bodies and consumers to demand more sustainable practices.

Circular fashion models and brands are adopting circular fashion models, focusing on recycling, upcycling, and extending the lifecycle of products. Initiatives such as clothing take-back programs and resale platforms are gaining traction, reducing textile waste and promoting a circular economy.

The use of sustainable materials, such as organic cotton, recycled polyester, and biodegradable fabrics, is becoming more prevalent. These materials reduce environmental impact and cater to the eco-conscious consumer segment.

Regulatory Compliance of Governments worldwide are implementing stricter environmental regulations, compelling brands to adopt sustainable practices. Non-compliance can result in financial penalties and reputational damage, making sustainability a critical business consideration.

Evolving Trade Policies and Supply Chain Resilience and Global trade dynamics are continually shifting, influenced by geopolitical events, trade agreements, and economic policies. These changes impact sourcing strategies, production costs, and market access for apparel companies.

To mitigate risks associated with trade uncertainties, brands are diversifying their sourcing strategies. This includes establishing relationships with suppliers in multiple regions and investing in local manufacturing capabilities to reduce dependency on any single market.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted vulnerabilities in global supply chains, prompting companies to enhance resilience. Strategies include building buffer inventories, adopting agile manufacturing processes, and leveraging digital tools for real-time supply chain visibility.

Digitalization and sustainability in action

H&M's Sustainable Initiatives are following-

H&M has implemented a garment collecting program across its stores, encouraging customers to recycle unwanted clothing. The collected items are either reused, recycled, or repurposed, supporting the brand's commitment to a circular economy. Additionally, H&M aims to use 100% recycled or sustainably sourced materials by 2030, demonstrating leadership in sustainable fashion.

Adoption of digital technologies in apparel industry (2025 projections)

Technology	Adoption Rate (%)
AI & Analytics	75
Blockchain	60
RFID	85
3D Printing	50

Source: Industry Projections

Nike's Digital Transformation- Nike

has embraced digitalization through its Consumer Direct Offense strategy, focusing on direct-to-consumer sales and digital engagement. The company utilizes AI and data analytics to personalize customer experiences, optimize inventory, and streamline operations. This digital focus has contributed to increased profitability and market share.

Patagonia's Ethical Practices- Patagonia is renowned for its commitment to environmental sustainability and ethical manufacturing. The company uses organic and recycled materials, ensures fair labor practices, and advocates for environmental conservation. Patagonia's transparency and activism resonate with consumers, strengthening brand loyalty.

The apparel industry in 2025 is at a crossroads, facing challenges from digital disruption, sustainability demands, and shifting trade policies. Companies that proactively embrace digital transformation.

Dr. Yunus receives BIMSTEC chairmanship for 2 years

Desk Report

Bangladesh has officially received the chairmanship of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) for the next two years, taking over from Thailand.

The handover took place during the BIMSTEC Summit held on April 4, where Chief Adviser Dr. Muhammad Yunus received the chairmanship from the Prime Minister of Thailand.

In his statement of acceptance, Dr. Yunus emphasized the need for an inclusive and action-oriented BIMSTEC and outlined Bangladesh's vision and priorities for strengthening regional cooperation during its tenure.

He reaffirmed Bangladesh's commitment to advancing collaboration among member states and underscored his government's unwavering dedication to safeguarding the constitutional rights of all citizens, including women, and members of ethnic and religious minorities.

Dr. Yunus also stressed the urgency of implementing the BIMSTEC Framework Agreement on Free Trade Area (FTA)



Figure: Dr. Muhammad Yunus, Chief Adviser, Bangladesh.

and highlighted the importance of executing the BIMSTEC Master Plan on Transport Connectivity to ensure smooth regional integration.

Additionally, he urged BIMSTEC to take visible and proactive steps to engage Myanmar in efforts to foster stability in Rakhine State, paving the way for a safe, dignified, and voluntary return of the forcibly displaced Rohingya population to their homeland.

Chief Advisor's visit to China Paves the way for deeper Bangladesh- China strategic cooperation

Nurnahar Akter Tania

The recent visit of Chief Advisor Dr. Yunus to China marks a pivotal moment in Bangladesh-China relations, signaling a renewed commitment to strengthening diplomatic, economic, and strategic cooperation.

As his first bilateral engagement, the trip has been widely regarded as a major step in elevating ties between the two nations.

As per a report, China is currently one of Bangladesh's largest trading partners. Currently, China's bilateral trade with Bangladesh has exceeded \$10 billion. However, Bangladesh's trade deficit with China is very high. Bangladesh exports only \$1 billion worth of goods from China, compared to \$9 billion worth of imports.

This visit has set high expectations for both governments to follow through on their commitments. With renewed diplomatic warmth and expanded economic collaboration on the horizon, the relationship between Bangladesh and China appears poised to enter a new phase of deeper strategic engagement and regional influence.

Dr. Yunus began his visit by attending the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2025 in Hainan from March 26 to 27, at the invitation of the forum's secretary-general. He then traveled to Beijing from March 27 to 29, where he engaged in high-level discussions with Chinese leaders, most notably a meeting with President Xi Jinping on March 28. This meeting, seen as a potential turning point for Bangladesh's regional economic role, covered a broad array of critical issues.

Among the key topics discussed were



Figure: The trip has been widely regarded as a major step in elevating ties between the two nations.

investment in manufacturing and energy, bilateral trade, and business relocation, alongside strategic matters such as the Free Trade Agreement (FTA), healthcare cooperation, infrastructure development, and adjustments to loan repayment terms.

Shafiqul Alam, the chief advisor's press secretary, said that through this visit, industrial and investment relations between Bangladesh and China will be strengthened. Bangladesh will be a suitable country for Chinese investment.

The current government of Bangladesh will ensure all kinds of facilities for Chinese investors. On the instructions of the chief advisor, the relevant government institutions have made preparations accordingly.

Capital goods are the most imported items from China. Bangladesh is one of the largest garment exporters and most of the raw materials for garment manufacturing come from China. In addition, boilers, cotton, electrical equipment and parts, plastics, yarn, iron, steel, etc. are also imported from China.

In terms of "Economic and Technical Cooperation" agreement, the visit was accompanied by several other cooperation documents, with a strong emphasis on the healthcare sector.

The two sides reaffirmed their

commitment to high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, enhancing industrial and supply chain connectivity, and advancing mutual modernization goals.

A high-ranking Bangladeshi official confirmed that four specialized hospitals have been established in Kunming to serve Bangladeshi nationals, with plans underway for a similar healthcare facility in Bangladesh. This underscores a growing partnership in medical infrastructure and public health service delivery.

The discussions also touched on two pressing regional issues: the Rohingya refugee crisis and the Teesta River Comprehensive Management and Restoration Project (TRCMRP).

The statement also stressed the importance of political trust, peaceful coexistence, and strategic synergy, as the foundation of the China-Bangladesh Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership.

As global dynamics shift and regional challenges evolve, sustained cooperation between Bangladesh and China could serve as a model of mutual development, peace, and strategic alignment.

The success of this visit lays a strong foundation for future collaboration, reflecting the importance both countries place on a shared, forward-looking partnership.



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Optimizing Dia and GSM Variations in Knitted Fabrics (S/J 100% cotton): A Process Control Approach for Enhanced Quality and Efficiency

Industry Expert: Md. Nuruzzaman, CEO, LN dyechrome

Factory Supervisor: Md. Mostafizar Rahman, Asst. Manager, Dyeing R&D; Md. Md. Masud Ali Rownok, Sr. Executive, Corporate Sustainability; Pavel Reza Parvez, Manager, Laboratory, Aukotex Group

IM: S M Mehedi Hasan Loman, Md. Rakib Raihan, Northern University Bangladesh

Project Coordinators: Sanjoy Saha, Faysal Ahmmad

Key Insight

1. Process development is crucial for knit production.
2. Real-time data analysis was used to address the problem of Dia and GSM variation.
3. GSM and DIA variations can be minimized through proper process optimization.

4. Experimental findings:

- » GSM variation averaged 2.5%, and DIA variation averaged 3% initially.
- » Process improvements can reduce variations to zero, ensuring better quality.

5. Key process improvements for better results:

- » Using the same brand knitting machines for consistency.
- » Applying a suitable amount of enzymes to control GSM.
- » Implementing biased joining to reduce DIA variation.
- » Ensuring accurate stentering and compacting.

6. Overall Findings:

Proper process monitoring and integration effectively minimize DIA and GSM variations.

Abstract:

Manufacturing of knitted fabrics involves intermeshing of yarn loops where one loop is drawn through another to form a stitch. Since the last few years knitted fabrics are used in the manufacturing of fashion garments and even it has the potential in the formal wear segments. (Mobarak Hossain et al., 2019)

This study express that what to do for reducing the variation of dia and GSM. By implementing some process control we can achieve better result.

This research highlights the SOP for reduction of the variation. This is a real time data analysis for solving the problem. Same brand kintting m/c, suitable amount of enzyme uses, biased joining, fixed or accurate stentering and compacting maintaining all these steps we found

better result. The findings indicate that process monitoring and proper integration can effectively minimize dia and GSM variation.

Keywords: Dia, GSM, knitting, Gauge, Enzyme, stentering, compacting.

1. Introduction:

GSM and Dia is very important terms in textile industry. The main mechanism of the Stentering machine, under feed roller to feed the fabric, over feed roller to increase and decrease GSM, spending roller to remove the crease mark, to adjust the bowing angle, Fabric wheel to stretch the fabric and contact with chain. (Mobarak Hossain et al., 2019)

The mechanism of the compactor machine is classified in four sections. The function of compactor is to drive the fabric forward with stretch and at an angle to control

the fabric as required length and spirality. The overfeed mechanism to increase & decrease the GSM & dia of the fabric. Here also steam is applied to soft the fabric. This is the third section of the machine it's also called the compaction station (blanket). Here to control the GSM & calendaring the fabric surface. (Mobarak Hossain et al., 2019)

Our problem is after finishing when we get final product we found variations from our required dia and GSM. It must be needed to optimize the variation and helps to run the factory profitable and efficient.

2. Baseline:

Our main problem is that after finishing we do not get the amount of dia and gsm that the buyer wants for a fabric.

If we can maintain the same brand of Knitting machine, decreasing use of excessive enzyme, biased joining & lengthwise compacting then we think it might be possible to reduce DIA and GSM variations.

INPUT	PROCESS	OUTPUT
Yarn	Knitting	Gray Fabric
Gray Fabric	Dyeing	Dyed Fabric
Dyed Fabric	Stentering/ Drying	Stentering/ Drying fabric
Stentering / Drying fabric	Compacting	Finished Fabric

Table 1: Key particulars of baseline

Maintain proper yarn parameters and mixing before knitting. Maintain m/c brand, m/c dia and gauge, S/L. Then use proper amount of enzyme follow up cycle time at dyeing. Setup properly stenter and compactor and done this lengthwise with fixed dia and re check the fabric dia and GSM. Our inspected fabric was dyed in dyeing m/c. Then the fabric was dried with Stenter m/c in required temperature. Then compacting was done in compactor and get finally finished fabric.

3. Experiment and Trial:

SL	Gauge	Dia	Stitch length	Yarn Count (Ne)	Required GSM	Finished GSM	Required Dia	Finish Dia	Left Shrinkage (%)	Right shrinkage (%)	Twist Shrinkage (%)
1	24	32	3.05	32s	176	180	182	183	-0.9%	-6	Nil
2	24	32	3.05	32s	176	181	182	177	Nil	-8%	3%
3	24	32	3.05	32s	128	122	171	146	5.9%	8.9%	5.6%

Table 2: Dia, GSM & Shrinkage Variation of required fabric & Finished fabric

First, select a similar Dia Gauge knitting machine from the knitting floor. Also, tried to take the same yarn count and stitch length used for each fabric. After finishing we take a sample for testing. Firstly, take the conditioned fabric

for test on the GSM cutter pad so that no crease or crinkle is formed. Secondly, cut the fabric with a GSM cutter (the cut area was 100 square cm). Thirdly, to take the weight of the fabric by an electric balance. According to Figure 1, the first and second sample has 2.27% & the third sample has 4.68% gsm variation then required GSM

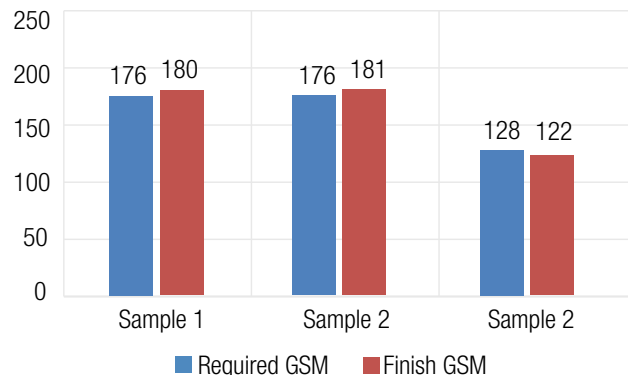


Figure 1: Variation of GSM

Fourthly, multiply the weight of the cut sample by 100. (Azharul Islam, 2014) The result is the GSM of the fabric. Also after finishing with ribbon Dia from different parts of a fabric and took an average value. Both the grey GSM and finished GSM were calculated for all the three fabric samples and the results are shown in table 1 and figure 1 & 2

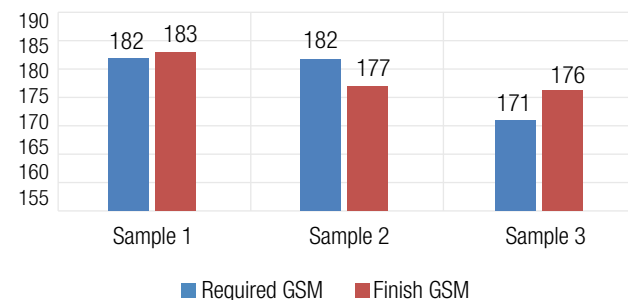


Figure 2: Variation Of Dia

As per figure 2, the dia variations of sample 1, 2 & 3 are respectively 0.54%, 2.74% & 2.92%



Investment Summit 2025

Bangladesh showcases a new era of economic potential

Arif uz Zaman



Figure: Bangladesh and political parties collectively assured investors that efforts were underway to resolve these problems and ensure long-term policy stability.

The 'Bangladesh Investment Summit-2025' held at the Intercontinental Hotel in Dhaka marked a significant departure from previous years, both in scale and tone. This year's event projected a rebranded image of Bangladesh as a promising destination for foreign investment, drawing over 600 high-profile investors from a record 42 countries, including the United States, China, Japan, Germany, South Korea, the Netherlands, and the UAE.

For the first time, the summit presented Bangladesh's evolving investment climate with tangible efforts to shift perceptions. The Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) spearheaded the event, outlining specific and practical steps to overcome challenges that have traditionally hindered foreign investment. Alongside BIDA, the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) facilitated field visits for international investors to key economic and export processing zones, offering a direct glimpse into the country's industrial and infrastructural capabilities.

Throughout the four-day summit, both domestic and international stakeholders engaged in open discussions about persistent obstacles

in the investment environment. Issues such as delays in obtaining certifications, limited support from the National Board of Revenue (NBR) in import-export processes, bureaucratic red tape, inadequate resources, corruption, and lack of policy continuity were identified as major challenges. Nevertheless, the interim government of Bangladesh and political parties collectively assured investors that efforts were underway to resolve these problems and ensure long-term policy stability.

Chief Adviser Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus set a visionary tone for the summit by urging investors to "bring business to Bangladesh to change the world." His message resonated with many participants, who expressed optimism about Bangladesh's trajectory and showed keen interest in sectors like textiles and apparel, pharmaceuticals, and light engineering—areas poised for rapid growth.

Prominent companies that attended included Alibaba, Deloitte, Samsung, Toyota Tsusho Corporation, Visa, Uber, China Harbor Engineering, Power-China, and Inditex Group, among others. These global brands acknowledged Bangladesh's progress and emphasized its strategic position

as a safe and competitive investment destination.

Noteworthy announcements and commitments included:

- DP World, a major logistics company from Dubai, expressed interest in investing in Chittagong's New Mooring Container Terminal and other port infrastructure projects.
- Holcim Group, a major player in Bangladesh's cement industry, signaled plans to expand and initiate a carbon conservation project.
- Inditex CEO Oscar Garcia pledged to deepen partnerships with Bangladeshi suppliers.
- A delegation of US investors showed intent to enhance economic ties, while the New Development Bank committed to a \$1 billion loan.
- Handa Industries of China pledged \$150 million in the textile sector, while \$14 million was promised for an accessories factory in the Japanese Economic Zone.
- Local startup ShopUp secured \$110 million in new investments.
- Bangladesh signed an MoU with the ILO to strengthen labor rights protections.
- A landmark cooperation agreement was signed with NASA, marking a milestone in space collaboration.

As a follow-up, a 200-member business delegation from China is scheduled to visit Bangladesh next month for further discussions with the Ministry of Commerce. The momentum generated at this year's summit suggests that Bangladesh is positioning itself strongly as a viable and attractive investment hub on the global stage.



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COMPLIANCES



"CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS A BETTER TOMORROW".



Investing in skills will ensure long-term stability and competitiveness

Sanjoy Kumar Saha & Sayed Abdullah



Figure: Mohammad Mohsin (CIP), Chairman, ROMO Group and Chief Coordinator, Oikko Parishad.

In a candid interview with Textile Today, Mohammad Mohsin (CIP), Chairman, ROMO Group and Chief Coordinator, Oikko Parishad – a prominent figure in Bangladesh's textile and readymade garment (RMG) industry – addressed acute challenges and future strategies. He highlighted the sector's resilience amidst global fashion volatility, yet

underscored the urgent need for enhanced management practices and skill development to ensure long-term stability and competitiveness.

Mohsin also discussed the 'Oikka Parishad's' goals for SME support and BGMEA's non-political leadership and concluded by outlining ROMO Group's vision for specialized apparel production and strategic expansion.

Textile Today: What strategic path do you recommend for the textile and apparel (T&A) industry as it is at a crossroads?

Mohammad Mohsin: The textile and readymade garment (RMG) industry, accustomed to the volatility of global fashion, has consistently faced challenges. However, the current confluence of labor unrest, energy

shortages, financial instability, and supply chain bottlenecks is creating unmatched strain. The recent worker situation has underscored the urgent need for enhanced management practices.

Skill development will ensure long-term stability

We must prioritize skill development to ensure long-term stability, including owner-worker relations, productivity, workplace conditions, sustainability, and buyer management. Available workers have been the RMG sector's biggest advantage. So, investing in skills is the only way to guarantee our price competitiveness and future in the global fashion industry.

Regrettably, our industry has not adequately prioritized skill development. China, despite having a higher wage country than us, is still more price competitive. To address this, the government can implement essential measures such as training programs and integrating skill-building into academic curricula. The BGMEA can also play a vigorous role in promoting skill development. Furthermore, individual factories should take proactive steps to enhance the skills of their workforce. Thanks to Textile Today as it has been working on uplifting human development.

Securing stable energy

A stable and cost-effective energy holds the key to the industry's survivability. Right now, we need an energy policy and a stable supply of gas. Or our industry will not survive.

Textile Today: What is 'Oikko Parishad's' plan to improve conditions for small to medium factories? And your view on the upcoming BGMEA election.

Mohammad Mohsin: A big chunk of the industry consists of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) but they are the most deprived segment. Over the years, past BGMEA Boards have failed to hear their outcry.

After the 5th of August, the govt. was forced to dismantle the then board and appoint an Administrator. As an entrepreneur, I think it is embarrassing for us. Governments will come and go, but why should it affect BGMEA? One of our main goals and objectives is to run BGMEA with non-political, experienced, and successful individuals. We want those who will be elected will work for the betterment of the sector. Not for personal or political gains.

We must prioritize skill development to ensure long-term stability, including owner-worker relations, productivity, workplace conditions, sustainability, and buyer management. Available workers have been the RMG sector's biggest advantage. So, investing in skills is the only way to guarantee our price competitiveness and future in the global fashion industry. Regrettably, our industry has not adequately prioritized skill development. China, despite having a higher wage country than us, is still more price competitive. To address this, the government can implement essential measures such as training programs and integrating skill-building into academic curricula.

To secure these objectives and to secure the rights of SME members, the Oikko Parishad has been formed.

We are looking for leadership in the upcoming BGMEA election that is committed to the industry's well-being and avoids political entanglements. Political changes should not result in forced office removals. We insist on stability, particularly concerning office transitions, and emphasize the importance of prioritizing SMEs for sustainable industry growth.

Textile Today: What are the implications of the water tax for

the industry, and what's your assessment?

Mohammad Mohsin: I welcome Advisor Syeda Rizwana Hasan's statement of consideration of a groundwater usage tax. The global trend is to discourage industrial groundwater consumption and I agree that this should be the case in Bangladesh too. Introducing a groundwater tax requires a preceding guideline that details accessible alternative water sources. Otherwise, our competitiveness in the global sourcing market will be severely impacted. Understanding the long-term impact of groundwater extraction requires a detailed investigation. Afterward, a policy promoting water sustainability through reduction, reuse, and recovery must be established.

Textile Today: What are the implications of LDC graduation for the T&A industry?

Mohammad Mohsin: While there are discussions regarding a potential delay in Bangladesh's LDC graduation due to concerns about the country's readiness, it is key to recognize that such delays are temporary. With continued economic growth, graduation is inevitable. Many fear that they might lose the cash incentive facility after graduation. I am against direct cash incentives for entrepreneurs. Instead, I believe those funds could be more effectively utilized to enhance industry infrastructure or improve worker welfare.

Textile Today: Kindly share about ROMO Group's future vision.

Mohammad Mohsin: Since our inception in 2007, ROMO Fashion has maintained a position of relative stability. Our strategy centers on capitalizing on our strengths in specialized apparel manufacturing. We focus on innovation and producing specialized items within our areas of expertise. As we embark on our expansion plans for 2025, we will continue to adhere to this principle.

BIMSTEC Summit 2025

Bangladesh to play key role in regional cooperation

Nurnahar Akter Tania



Figure: Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus, Chief Adviser to the Interim Government of Bangladesh, represented the country at the summit.

At the 6th BIMSTEC Summit held in Bangkok on April 4, Bangladesh assumed a pivotal role as the regional grouping adopted the landmark Bangkok Vision 2030. Its first-ever formal vision document, charting a roadmap for an inclusive, prosperous, and interconnected Bay of Bengal region.

Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus, Chief Adviser to the Interim Government of Bangladesh, represented the country at the summit and officially accepted the BIMSTEC chairmanship for the next two years from Thailand.

In his address, Dr. Yunus reaffirmed Bangladesh's strong commitment to deepening regional cooperation and working toward shared prosperity through enhanced connectivity, trade, and people-to-people ties.

The summit, attended by leaders from Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, marked a series of milestone decisions that are expected to reshape regional collaboration. Among the key highlights were:

- **Adoption of the Bangkok Vision 2030** — BIMSTEC's first comprehensive strategic plan to

promote sustainable development, free trade, connectivity, and inclusive growth across member states.

- **Signing of the Maritime Transport Cooperation Agreement** — a critical step to improve seaborne trade and connectivity in the Bay of Bengal.
- **New partnerships with IORA and UNODC** — through the signing of Memorandums of Understanding, BIMSTEC will strengthen collaboration on maritime security, crime prevention, and regional development.
- **Institutional strengthening through the BIMSTEC Charter and Rules of Procedure** — laying the foundation for more effective and structured cooperation among member states.

However, according to foreign policy analysts and economists, BIMSTEC has not achieved much in its journey of 27 years.

The combined economic size of BIMSTEC members stands at around \$4.7 trillion, highlighting the bloc's vast potential for boosting intra-regional trade, but its intra-regional

trade accounts for just 7 percent of its total trade, which is 25 percent for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean).

But for Bangladesh, this summit is particularly significant as the country stands to benefit directly from enhanced connectivity and free trade initiatives under the proposed BIMSTEC Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

Given Bangladesh's strategic geographic position in the Bay of Bengal, improved maritime and transport links are expected to unlock new opportunities for its textile and export sectors, strengthen regional supply chains, and attract more foreign direct investment.

Additionally, regional collaboration on disaster management, food security, and climate resilience — all key areas of the Bangkok Vision — align with Bangladesh's own national priorities.

In his speech at the summit, Dr. Yunus called for actionable steps on trade facilitation, the early implementation of transport connectivity plans, and collective efforts to foster stability in Myanmar's Rakhine State, which is central to enabling the safe return of Rohingya refugees.

As Bangladesh assumes the chairmanship, the coming two years will be a unique opportunity for the country to shape the future of BIMSTEC cooperation — especially in areas such as sustainable economic growth, blue economy development, green energy transition, and digital connectivity.

The outcomes of the 6th Summit reflect not only the region's collective aspirations but also Bangladesh's growing diplomatic leadership in South and Southeast Asia.

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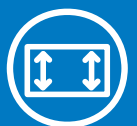
Crease free



Low tension



High reproducibility



High evenness

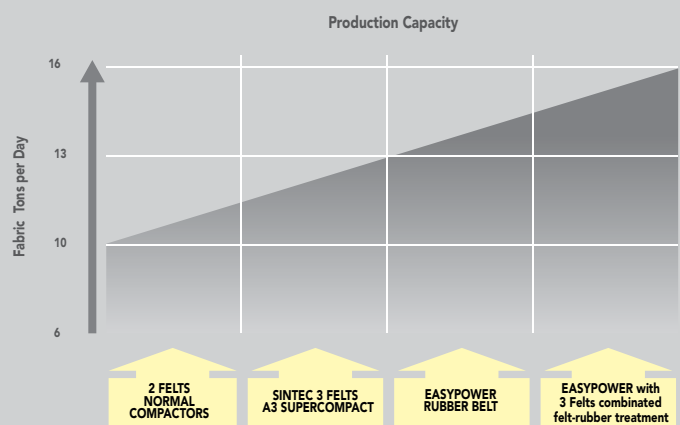
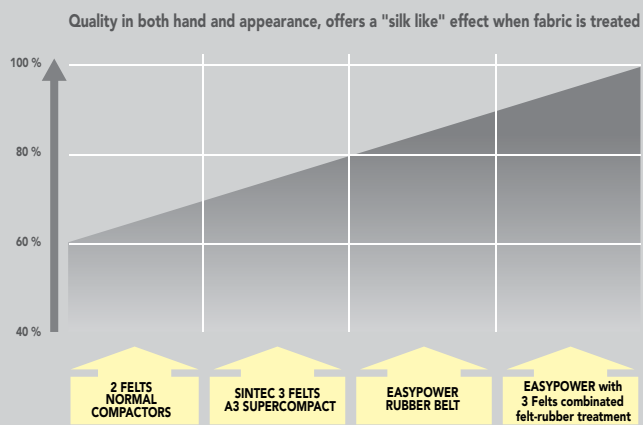




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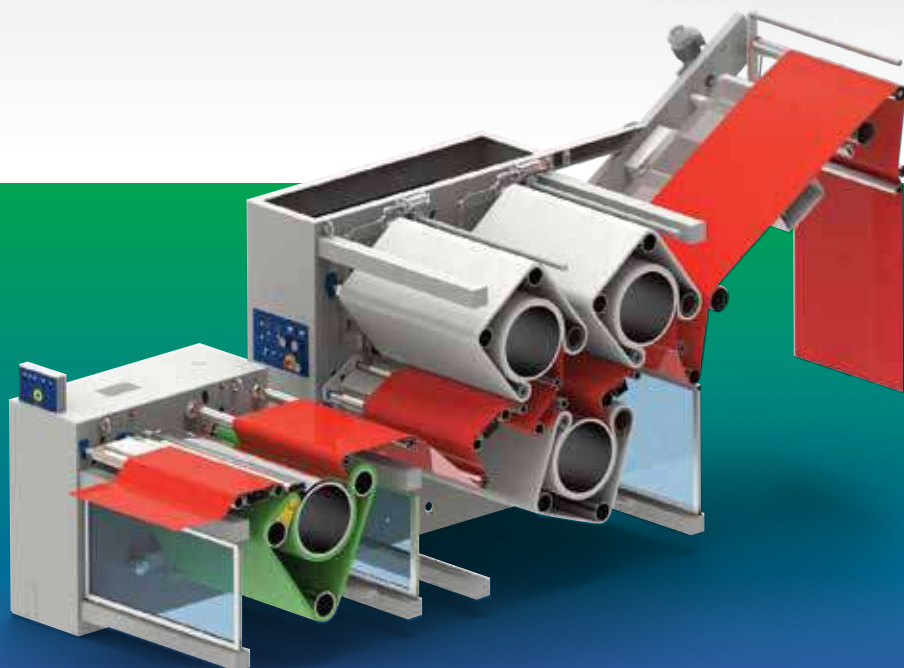
Sintec Finishing Compacting Line:
Easypower Rubber Belt with 3 Felts
A3 Supercompact Stabilization machine



Easypower:

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- zero water consumption
- no grinding of the rubber belt



TTIH Cell Meeting on ‘Identify fabric costing factors and replicate them in price levels to align with benchmarks for sustainable growth’

Proper costing methodology, market forecasting, and data analysis are the key to maintaining competitiveness

Najmus Sakib



Figure: Fabric Innovation Cell Meeting at Textile Today Office Premises

The Textile Today Innovation Hub (TTIH) hosted an insightful innovation cell meeting of the "Textile Engineering – Fabric Cell" on February 26, 2025. The session was moderated by Imtiaz Uddin Topu, GM, Fabrics, Hams Group. He added, "Day by day, making a profit in this business is becoming increasingly difficult. We didn't have to take into account a lot of fabric costing factors in the beginning, and orders were filled profitably. Profit margins are decreasing as a result of increased competition and pressure from buyers to reduce prices in accordance with their predetermined benchmarks. But the competition between us and other countries is intensifying. Even factories focusing on innovation and diversified products are struggling to sustain themselves."

The textile and apparel industry in Bangladesh is a significant contributor to the economy, but for long-term sustainability and competitiveness, fabric costing must be optimized. Aligning pricing strategies with global benchmarks require careful consideration of various cost factors.

In this meeting, the experts discussed about some key points.

Lack of proper costing tools

Buyers are now calculating costs very precisely using costing templates and other tools. They collect data from factories, categorize them into clusters, and set benchmarks accordingly. However, some factories share cost data based only on backward linkage, without considering process loss, resource loss, or buffer costs.

"Buyers are setting benchmarks by collecting data from factories. However, without proper costing knowledge, some factories may provide data without considering buffer costs or resource losses. This allows buyers to push for lower prices, making it challenging for factories to maintain sustainable profitability."



Imtiaz Uddin Topu
GM (Fabrics), Hams Group



Factories follow different costing strategies—some are cost-centric, running knitting and dyeing at no profit but adding a margin to the FOB price of garments to ensure overall profitability. Others are profit-centric, ensuring profit at each production stage. Since buyers gather cost data from all types of factories—whether cost-centric or profit-centric—and establish a uniform benchmark, it becomes increasingly difficult for factories to sustain profitability in the business. Factories focusing on innovation to stay competitive are also struggling in this landscape.

Rising operation cost

“We do not have control over increased utility cost. But we can minimize the process loss or skip any step by introducing multifunctional chemicals or new innovation.”



Bulbul Ahmed
Fabric & Quality Manager,
Stanley/Stella

Rising utility costs are beyond our control. However, we can mitigate their impact by minimizing process losses through the use of innovative chemicals. Implementing multifunctional chemicals can help reduce the number of baths or even eliminate certain processing steps. Investing in trials of new, innovative chemicals and considering suggestions from chemical suppliers can be beneficial in this regard.

Process loss keeps increasing in the absence of appropriate traceability. In order to make up for future shortages, operators occasionally keep extra fabric from a single lot, but this extra

fabric isn't recorded in the store. Sometimes they mix it with another batch, which results in discrepancies. The quality team might then request new fabric, which would result in a shortage, assuming that a dyeing error caused the shade variation. However, such incidents could be avoided if appropriate traceability was in place.

Analyze the market and predict upcoming trends.

“With proper understanding of the upcoming fashion trend we can offer buyers with new products and crosscheck our ability to fulfill upcoming orders.”



S.M. Emrul Kayes
Manager (Fabric Technology)
PDS Fashion USA Limited

As long as we remain buyer-driven, buyers will continue to squeeze our margins. To stay ahead, we must analyze consumer buying behavior, the duration of fashion seasons, and sustainable sourcing trends to develop a proactive product strategy for the next season. To effectively communicate with the buyer, we must understand their needs; otherwise, negotiation alone is not enough to secure an order.

We must establish a database to collect the minimum fabric prices of each factory, ensuring open access for all. This data will help create a baseline, factories should not go below a sustainable price while securing orders.

It is necessary to assign marketing staff with technical and marketing expertise. When these individuals understand their capabilities and

engage with buyers confidently, they can assure them that we can deliver the products they need.

Proper risk assessment can be achieved if mills categorize products based on price and associated quality challenges.

“While sourcing, the primary consideration is price rather than quality. If the quality is clearly specified along with the price reduction, sourcing professionals will benefit.”



Abul Hasnat
Manager (Quality - R/M)
Walmart Sourcing

The market is now open, providing the sourcing team with the opportunity to place orders in multiple countries, as data from various markets is readily available. They prioritize placing orders where the overall cost is lowest. However, a major challenge is ensuring timely order placement; otherwise, buyers may raise concerns. This process does not prioritize quality, nor is the financial impact of quality problems evaluated. Every member of the sourcing team is under pressure to prioritize cost reduction because they are all tasked with achieving cost savings. However, a lack of technical knowledge among many sourcing professionals leads them to ignore the possible difficulties that come with low-cost sourcing.

It would be easier for sourcing professionals to make decisions and better balance cost and quality if mills classified their products into A, B, and so on categories and linked each category to its corresponding risk factors.

Buyers must understand why Bangladeshi fabric prices are higher than Chinese prices

“Unlike China, we mostly deal with a small amount of garments. Our efficiency suffers as a result, and prices increase.”



Ahmad Hossain
Fabric Technical Head
MRT Sourcing.

The cost of Chinese fabric is used by buyers to set clothing costs, and they put pressure on Bangladeshi factories to lower their pricing. Three main causes contribute to the lower cost of Chinese fabric:

- 1. Supply chain:** China's supply chain is well-established, and it produces its own cotton, which lessens reliance on imports.
- 2. Expertise in a specific product:** With a strong focus on R&D, China excels in balancing quality and cost efficiency.
- 3. Large-Scale Production:** Chinese manufacturers handle bulk orders of the same product throughout the year, minimizing downtime for machine adjustments and improving overall efficiency.

Professionals who possess a minimum of technical knowledge should handle marketing.

We are still doing fabric marketing in an abstract way but for fabric marketing the marketing approach and technical expertise both are important. Technical expertise in fabric adds value and influences pricing power. We still take an abstract approach to fabric marketing, but technical know-how and a structured marketing strategy are

“The likelihood of obtaining the best price increases if the marketing team could inform the customer on the technical aspects of the fabric.”



Md. Zakaria Alam Jiku
Lecturer (Textile)
Textile Engineering College, CTG.

both necessary for successful fabric marketing. Technical know-how in fabric development increases pricing power and adds value.

We're not using our machines to their full potential right now. Their full potential is still unused even with the use of sophisticated European machinery. Furthermore, although fabric reprocessing is prevalent, the data analysis supporting these procedures is lacking. Now is the time to focus on maximizing machine utilization and using data to reduce reprocessing, as there is growing pressure to achieve cost efficiency.

Sustainability without strategic marketing

Garment factories are in a better position than textile processing factories in the current situation, where production costs are increasing daily. In an effort to lower production costs, processing factories are currently focusing on sustainability. Bangladesh is in a good position to satisfy buyers' demands for sustainability, but it does not yet have a strong marketing plan to capitalize on its environmentally friendly production methods and raise prices.

With the proper data use, additional cost savings are possible.

Understanding future trends ensures competitiveness and cost efficiency.

This includes: Analyzing global fashion and textile industry reports to anticipate material demand, aligning fabric development with upcoming sustainability regulations and buyer preferences. Predicting seasonal demands to optimize production planning and inventory management.

“Although our factories are meeting consumers' sustainability objectives, our products are not properly marketed.”



Md. Hasan Kajmir Mahmud
Director, Southwest Composite Ltd.

“Focusing on data analysis necessitates forming specialized teams with strong technical knowledge, segment-specific expertise, and the capacity to efficiently interpret and use data.”



Arif Mohammad
Managing Director
Luminent D&A (Agent of Erca Italy)

Whatever we are doing to save cost, that is benefitting the buyers. The buyers are negotiating to lower the price continuously. So whatever we do to save any cost that will go ultimately in the buyers pocket. That will lead to the perishment of small and medium factories and keep the large factories like 300 Ton to 1000 Ton survive. But eventually the large ones will also suffer. However, with proper data analysis and technical

Concentrated Fixing Agents

Fixing Agents Range

Finofix NFE conc	Concentrated High performance non formaldehyde fixing agent with redder / yellower Tone change.	70%	1 + 2 = 3
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Finofix CF Conc	Chlorine fastness non-formaldehyde fixing agent	40%	Standard
Finofix RD	Poly DADMAC base special non-formaldehyde fixing agent for direct and reactive dyes.	50%	1+1=2
Finylon RN ECO	Nylon Fixing agent in powder form.	100% Powder	1 + 1 = 2



knowledge in the specific field can save up to 30% cost in a particular field.

Any cost-cutting measures we take benefit the buyers. The buyers are constantly negotiating a price reduction. Therefore, whatever we do to cut costs will ultimately end up in the buyer's pocket. Small and medium-sized factories will perish as a result, while large factories that have capacity between 300 and 1000 tons will continue to exist. However, the big ones will eventually suffer too. However, it is possible to cut cost in a given cluster with the right data analysis and technical expertise. "I have expertise in dyes and chemical costing, and in my opinion, a 30% price reduction is achievable from the average price," Arif stated. But in order to do so, the following conditions need to be fulfilled:

1. A thorough understanding of the particular cluster.
2. Establishing a data analysis team to address the absence of a free and open knowledge-sharing mechanism.

Product diversification

"Buyers should be offered alternatives in design and raw materials to facilitate negotiations. Simply presenting a high-cost fabric to the buyer is not enough; we must work towards making it achievable."



Md Meherul Islam Sohel
DGM (Fabric Sourcing & Development)
Kenpark Bangladesh (Pvt) Ltd.

In today's competitive market, there is hardly any room to maintain a buffer. To tackle this situation, we can focus

on three key strategies:

- 1. Improve efficiency:** Have to be in a process of continuous improvement.
- 2. Product Engineering:** Buyers should be offered alternatives in design and raw materials to facilitate negotiations. Simply presenting a high-cost fabric to the buyer is not enough; we must work towards making it achievable.

- 3. Avoiding loss-making business –** We must ensure that our business operations remain profitable.

There are software tools available for fabric costing. Although they are not entirely accurate, using such software or costing templates helps minimize price variations between suppliers. For example, ERP-based factories experience lower cost variations because they have access to structured data for fabric cost calculations.

In addition, our industry frequently lacks the practice of costing approval. The absence of Post Order Costing (POC) is another problem, which leaves businesses frequently unsure of whether they are turning a profit or a loss on a given product. Establishing an appropriate pre-costing, costing, and post-order costing methodology is crucial.

Conclusion

The innovation cell meeting highlighted the importance of addressing fabric costing challenges to ensure sustainable growth in Bangladesh's textile and apparel industry. By prioritizing high-quality fabric and adopting traceability systems, manufacturers can maintain quality standards and build buyer trust. Strategic sourcing and price stabilization measures, such as long-term supplier contracts and hedging strategies, were identified as key to managing costs effectively.

The discussion also emphasized reducing sample development expenses through digital prototyping and implementing limited-sample

policies. Leveraging advanced technologies like AI and machine learning for demand forecasting and production planning can enhance efficiency. Finally, staying updated on global trends and sustainability regulations will help manufacturers remain competitive and align with buyer expectations. By adopting these strategies, the industry can secure long-term growth and strengthen its position in the global market.

Imtiaz Uddin Topu closed the session by thanking all participants and emphasizing the importance of such discussions in driving the industry forward.

The Textile Today Innovation Hub (TTIH) regularly hosts meetings as part of its "Innovation Cell" initiative, which gathers fellow members of the innovation cell member (Industry experts and professionals) to discuss emerging trends, best practices, and practical solutions for challenges in the textile and apparel manufacturing sectors.

These meetings are part of TTIH's broader mission to foster innovation, sharing knowledge and solutions that can drive sustainable growth and technological advancement.

More than 50 industry experts are Cell Members of Textile Today Innovation Hub in different cells. These cells are formed and aimed to disseminate experts' knowledge, build the innovation culture and help the industry to achieve the new competitiveness which is "INNOVATIVENESS".

Let's work together to redefine excellence in the textile and apparel industry!

To become a cell member, you must have at least 3 years of professional experience in the textile & apparel industry. To join the community, call 01734211085.



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EN 15343

CECERTIFICATION - TRACEABILITY OF PLASTICS RECYCLING AND RECYCLED PLASTIC CONTENT



WHAT IS EN 15343?

Sustainable plastic recycling is crucial to reducing waste, conserving resources and promoting economic growth.

Compliance with EN 15343, the European standard for plastics recycling traceability and recycled content, ensures that plastic manufacturers and packagers meet stringent traceability and recycling requirements.

This is often a key factor in regulatory compliance and can be essential for obtaining tax reductions on non-reusable plastic packaging.

WHAT ARE THE KEY REQUIREMENTS OF EN 15343?

A system with a documentary structure is required to meet the requirements of the reference standard, including:

- Control of incoming materials
- Control of the recycling production process
- Characteristics of recycled plastics
- Traceability
- Quality assessment
- Calculation of recycled content

WHO IS IT FOR?

Plastic manufacturers, packagers, recyclers and processors.

WHAT IS THE EN 15343 CERTIFICATION PROCESS?

You will need to follow the requirements specified in the standard, be prepared for the audits and rectify any nonconformities. The initial certification audit is divided into a Stage 1 Audit and Stage 2 Audit. Upon satisfactory audits, you will achieve certification which is subject to surveillance audits.

KEY BENEFITS

- Show your adherence to traceability and recycling standards to meet legal and regulatory requirements
- Enhance sustainability by reducing single-use plastics and contributing to a circular economy by incorporating recycled materials into your products
- Ensure compliance with the main obligations of the EU Directive on single-use plastics
- Support the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030 by implementing sustainable recycling practices
- Improve your brand reputation
- Apply for tax reductions

WHY SGS?

As a global leader in sustainability and certification, we offer unrivaled certification expertise and reliability. Our specialized knowledge in plastics recycling and sustainability enables us to provide customized solutions tailored to your specific needs – guiding you through every step of the certification process.

As an independent, accurate and trusted benchmark in the industry, we are dedicated to supporting your journey towards greater sustainability and regulatory compliance. We are here to help you enhance your recycling processes, improve operational efficiency and minimize the risks associated with non-compliance.

ABOUT SGS

We are SGS – the world's leading testing, inspection and certification company. We are recognized as the global benchmark for sustainability, quality and integrity.

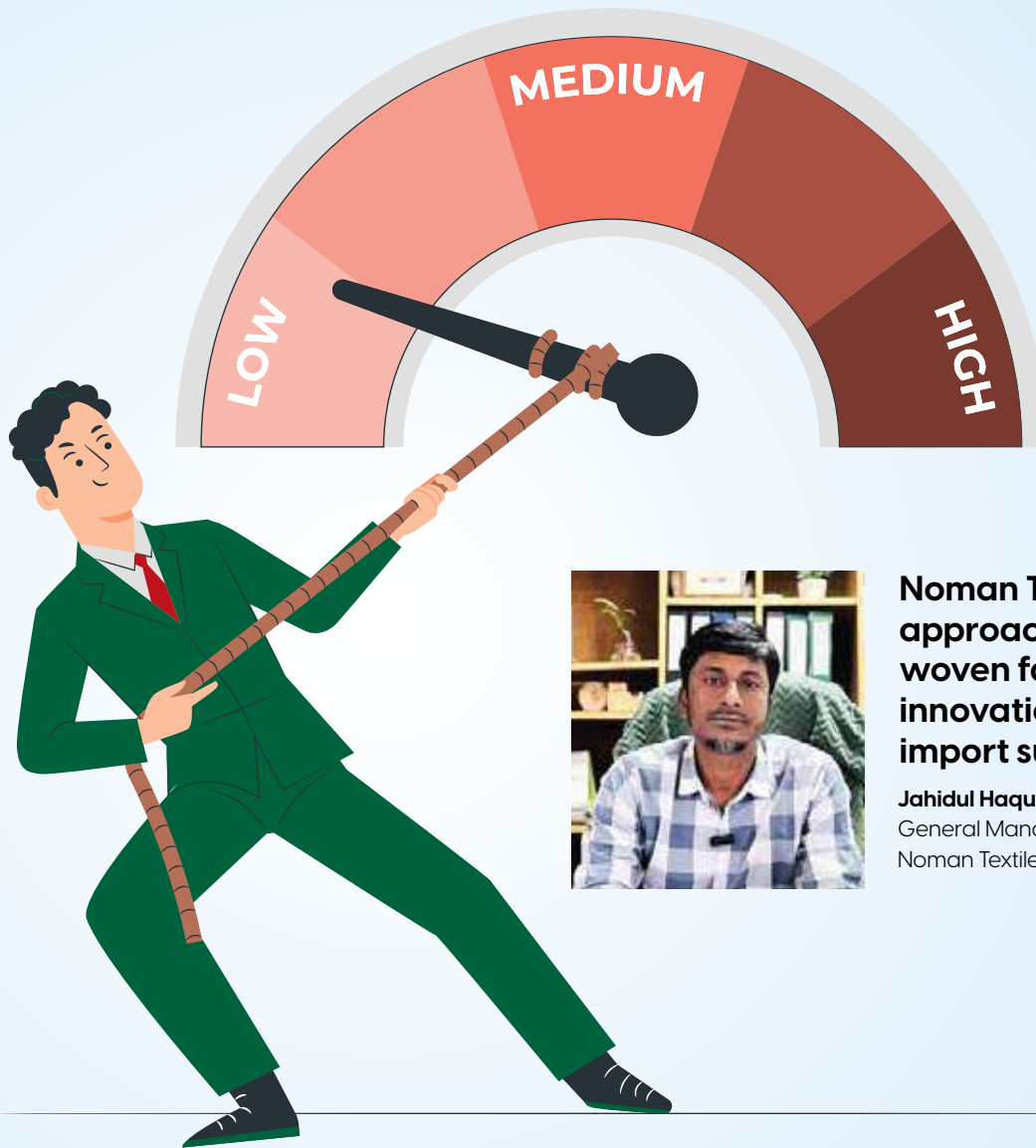


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When you need to be sure



Noman Textiles' approach to woven fabric innovation and import substitution

Jahidul Haque Majumdar
General Manager,
Noman Textiles Mills Ltd.

Can Bangladesh reduce its reliance on imported woven fabric?

Profile/Domain Packages

Basic | Standard | Premium

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Dedicated Domain Under Textile Today Business Hub www.textiletoday.org » Company Logo with Basic Info (name, address, contact information) » Product Gallery | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Social (LinkedIn & Facebook) Post on Textile Today » Company Description » Complimentary Profile in TexMeta » Verified Icon by TTBH |
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Can Bangladesh reduce its reliance on imported woven fabric?

Assaduzzaman Khan

Industrialization is a cornerstone of economic development, and Bangladesh's textile sector—anchored in centuries-old tradition—has grown substantially, particularly in yarn and fabric production. As globalization has shifted textile manufacturing to developing nations, Bangladesh has become the world's second-largest apparel exporter.

In FY 2023–24, the country's RMG exports hit \$38.14 billion, with woven garments contributing \$19.28 billion—nearly half the total. Yet, behind these strong figures lies a structural weakness: Bangladesh meets only 40% of its woven fabric demand locally, relying on imports for the remaining 60%.

Despite having around 800 weaving mills, many RMG manufacturers prefer importing fabrics from China, India, Pakistan, and Indonesia due to lower costs, even after freight and duties. China alone accounts for over 40% of these imports.

Why are these countries ahead?

Stronger Backward Linkage & Integration: China, India, and Pakistan operate vertically integrated textile value chains, reducing costs and lead times. Bangladeshi weaving mills often work in isolation, lacking efficient linkages with spinning, dyeing, and finishing units.

Advanced Technology: Competitor

countries use high-speed looms and automation, ensuring higher productivity and quality. Many local mills in Bangladesh still rely on outdated looms, leading to inefficiencies.

Policy Support & Subsidies:

Governments in these countries offer subsidized loans, export incentives, and technology funds. In contrast, Bangladesh suffers from high interest rates, limited capital access, and insufficient sector-specific support.

Economies of Scale: Large-scale operations in China and India reduce per-unit costs. Bangladesh's fragmented, small to mid-sized mills struggle to compete on price and capacity.

Product Diversification & R&D:

While regional rivals offer a wide range of fabrics aligned with fashion trends, Bangladeshi mills often focus on basic woven items, with limited investment in R&D and innovation.

The Way Forward for Bangladesh

To reduce import dependence and enhance value addition in RMG exports, Bangladesh must:

Modernize Machinery: Support mills to adopt air-jet or rapier looms, automation, and digital quality control through soft loans and subsidies.

Enhance Backward Linkage:

Develop cluster-based industrial zones integrating spinning, weaving, dyeing, and finishing to streamline production.

Encourage Large-Scale Investment:

Offer tax incentives and infrastructure support to promote vertically integrated, cost-efficient mills.

Invest in R&D: Foster innovation through design labs, university collaborations, and public-private partnerships to develop high-value fabrics.

Upskill the Workforce: Launch training programs in fabric engineering, machine operations, and quality control in partnership with vocational institutes.

Policy Reform: Implement targeted incentives, including duty-free machinery imports, export subsidies, energy prioritization, and a dedicated woven fabric development fund.

Promote Local Sourcing: Encourage RMG buyers to procure fabric locally, provided quality, price, and lead time align with buyer expectations.

The Role of Textile Today Business Hub (TTBH)

Reducing import reliance also demands better supply chain connectivity. Textile Today Business Hub (TTBH) serves as a platform for weaving mills and textile input suppliers to showcase capabilities and build trust through verified profiles.

Beyond visibility, TTBH fosters industry collaboration, knowledge sharing, and innovation—linking mills, suppliers, investors, and institutions. By bridging demand and supply, it helps create the ecosystem needed for a competitive and self-reliant woven fabric industry in Bangladesh.

With coordinated strategy, investment, and platforms like TTBH, Bangladesh can move closer to becoming both a leading garment exporter and a strong, independent fabric producer.



Become TTIH Innovation Partner

Implementing Innovation Using Proven MIIP



Transferring 'Innovativeness' as a skill to the factories

Empowering 'Mid Level Management' to implement Innovation Projects

TTIH is the 'Executive Catalyst'

Structure of an Innovation circle

Sl.	Key Stakeholder	No. of Person
A.	Top Management	02
B.	Circle Leader	01
C.	Circle Member	02-04
D.	Coordinator	01
	Total	05-07

The journey of a single INNOVATION starts with the principle
Work on Small, Make on Spot



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Factory Partners



250+
Projects Taken



100+
Projects Published



150+
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100+
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TTBH Editorial

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Spintex Technology's low-cost, high-quality solutions to overcome weaving challenges

Sayed Abdullah

“Since 2005, Spintex Technology Ltd. has built strong partnerships with premier textile machinery manufacturers in Bangladesh, specializing in weaving solutions. We are proud to represent Picanol NV from Belgium for our weaving preparation and technology. For Jacquard weaving and preparatory solutions, we work with the STÄUBLI Group. Understanding the need for quick sampling, we provide CCI Tech Inc. sampling machines. Furthermore, we offer a range of warping and sizing machines.”



Abu Sayeed
Chairman, Spintex Technology Ltd.

Spintex Technology Ltd., a leading supplier of industrial machinery in Bangladesh, showcased the latest innovations from renowned textile machinery manufacturers at DTG 2025.

Representing brands like Picanol,

Staubli, Jacquard, Genkinger, and CCI. Since 2005, Spintex has focused on the weaving, sampling, overhead cleaning & humidification plant technologies to ensure electricity usage reduction and increasing productivity.

Spintex Technology Ltd. also provides a comprehensive supporting machinery. Abu Sayeed said, “In addition, supporting machines like textile overhead travelling cleaners for weaving, some trolleys and in accessories segment, we are giving weaving beam and warp beam machine.”

Regarding the challenges in weaving the technology side, Spintex Technology Chairman said, “The main challenges in weaving the technology side are to produce superior quality fabric at low cost via increasing productivity and less electricity consumption. Spintex Technology’s main focus has remained on that.”



Picanol is a globally recognized leader in the development and manufacturing of high-performance weaving machines, based in Belgium. With a strong legacy of innovation and technological excellence, Picanol offers advanced weaving solutions tailored for various segments of the textile industry. The company produces both airjet and rapier

weaving machines, which are known for their durability, precision, and energy-efficient operation. These machines support a wide range of fabric types and are designed to meet the evolving demands of modern textile production.

Picanol has established a strong presence in key textile markets like Bangladesh, where Spintex Technology serves as its official representative. Through this partnership, local weaving mills gain direct access to advanced technology, sales support, and after-sales service—helping them enhance productivity, ensure quality, and remain globally competitive.

“At the DTG Expo, we showcased Stäubli’s advanced solutions, including the new TIEPRO warp tying yarn separation system. Bangladesh is a vital market for us, and the response during the event has been highly encouraging.”



Jochim Debatin
Area Sales Manager,
Region Asia-Pacific Staubli



Customers here are increasingly seeking high-quality, reliable machinery, and the past few days have been productive in establishing strong connections with key industry players. We are committed to growing together in this market—as one team, with one unified face to the customer. Joachim Debatin also highlighted Stäubli’s commitment to providing dependable products, genuine spare parts, and comprehensive customer support tailored to the needs of Bangladeshi customers.

“From the very beginning, Batliboi has maintained a strong focus on developing energy-efficient machinery, recognizing that power consumption and automation are key drivers for the future of the textile industry. With the continuous rise in energy costs and gas prices, optimizing power usage has become more critical than ever.”



Santanu Bera
Divisional Manager, Batliboi.

Among the major areas of power consumption, air conditioning and humidification systems stand out significantly. Inefficiencies in these areas can lead to substantial operational losses. To address this, Batliboi has integrated the latest generation automation systems into its solutions, specifically designed to reduce energy consumption while maintaining optimal performance. This strategic approach ensures greater efficiency, cost savings, and long-term sustainability for our clients.”

“Genkinger, a Germany-based company, specializes in designing and manufacturing industrial transport equipment for the textile industry. With decades of experience and a focus on innovation, Genkinger offers efficient solutions that support modern textile production processes. Given Bangladesh’s status as one of the world’s leading textile-producing countries, it is a vital market for Genkinger.”



Anna Stieben
Sales Manager Textile Division, Genkinger Material Handling.

In Bangladesh, Spintex acts as the official representative, handling product distribution and ensuring dependable after-sales service. This partnership allows Genkinger to deliver high-quality solutions and support to Bangladeshi textile manufacturers, helping them improve productivity and operational efficiency.”

“I lead Jeanologia’s Global Ozone Process Dynamic Project. At Jeanologia, our mission is to drive innovation in the textile industry through sustainable and eco-efficient technologies”



Jean Pierre Inchauspe
Jeanologia Dynamic Project, Jeanologia.

We focus on reducing the use of critical resources like water and chemicals, aiming to transform traditional processes into cleaner, more responsible alternatives. By advancing these innovative solutions and promoting sustainable practices, we strive to make textile production not only more productive but also significantly more environmentally sustainable for the long-term future of the industry and our planet.

“We supply sampling looms for woven fabric, and consider Bangladesh one of our most important markets, given its position as a global leader in textile and garment production. With the strong interconnection between the garment and textile sectors, the demand for fabric sampling is continuously rising.”



Andy C.R. Yueh
Sales Director, CCI Tech Inc.

We see significant opportunity to further expand our presence in Bangladesh and are confident that this growing demand presents a promising business prospect for our solutions. With rapid industrial development, increasing investments in textile infrastructure, and a focus on modernization, Bangladesh offers an ideal environment for our innovative weaving technologies to thrive and deliver long-term value.



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Noman Textiles' approach to woven fabric innovation and import substitution

Assaduzzaman Khan & Sayed Abdullah



Figure: Jahidul Hoque Majumder, General Manager of Noman Textiles Mills Limited.

Bangladesh's textile and apparel industry faces a significant challenge in its reliance on imported woven fabrics. To explore the details of this vital sector and identify potential pathways towards greater self-sufficiency, Textile Today had the privilege of speaking with Jahidul Hoque Majumder, General Manager of Noman Textiles Mills Limited. Noman Textiles, a vital arm of the Noman Group – often regarded as a comprehensive resource for the nation's textile needs – places a strong emphasis on weaving capabilities across its extensive network of 36 factories. The group employs around 80,000 people, has been honored with the Highest Exporter Award across all sectors for 10 consecutive years, and contributes approximately 2.5% to the country's overall exports.

In this insightful discussion, Majumder sheds light on Noman Textiles' current

product portfolio, the underlying reasons for Bangladesh's dependence on imported woven materials, and the critical strategies required to strengthen the local weaving industry for future growth and reduced reliance on external sources.

Textile Today: *Could you provide a brief overview of Noman Textiles and its current product range?*

Jahidul Hoque Majumder: For Noman Textiles, a key component of Noman Group, weaving is a primary area of focus. Our expansive weaving facility achieves a daily output of 100,000 yards. Driven by a robust R&D team, we specialize in producing a broad spectrum of woven fabrics, including stretchable spandex. Our investment in approximately 50% of dobby looms allows us to create a variety of decorative fabric designs. Moreover, Noman Textiles excels in blended fabrics, offering options

such as cotton-polyester, viscose, linen, and Tencel, in addition to our dedicated 100% polyester weaving capabilities for man-made textiles.

Textile Today: *Given Bangladesh's significant reliance on imported woven fabrics, what strategies can be adopted to reduce this dependency and strengthen our local weaving industry?*

Jahidul Hoque Majumder: The fact that Bangladesh imports 60% to 70% of its woven fabrics represents a missed opportunity. While our woven garment exports are growing (4.85% to \$4.07 billion in FY 2023-2024), our roughly 800 domestic weaving mills are unable to meet the demand, resulting in over \$2 billion in annual imports. To reverse this trend and fully utilize our export potential, a concerted effort to develop our existing weaving mills and establish new ones, equipped with modern technology and a skilled workforce, is essential.

Textile Today: *What are the primary reasons behind the technological drawbacks in Bangladesh's weaving industry, and what key actions are necessary to overcome these limitations?*

Jahidul Hoque Majumder: The initial investment costs for advanced, high-speed, and automated weaving technologies are substantial, and many local mill owners, particularly smaller ones, lack the financial capacity or access to affordable financing for such upgrades. Also, operating and maintaining modern weaving machinery requires a skilled workforce.

A significant portion of existing weaving mills in Bangladesh operate with outdated machinery. To cater to the country's woven fabrics export demand, adopting cutting-edge weaving technologies are paramount.

Especially, a significant portion of Bangladesh's woven fabric imports consists of polyester fabrics. Given the global demand for durable, versatile, and often cost-effective polyester-based textiles in various apparel and industrial applications.



Textile Today: With gas and energy prices on the rise, how can the textile sector optimize resource utilization to remain competitive and sustainable?

Jahidul Hoque Majumder: The woven sector is a power-oriented segment. Whereas the gas and energy prices have skyrocketed. This has become one of the biggest challenges for the woven sector. For instance, at Noman Textiles, previously our per-yard electricity cost was BDT 5 to 5.5, now it has climbed to TK10 to TK10.5.

So, we are actively pursuing operational excellence as a vital policy to minimize costs, especially in resource-intensive areas. Like, saving electricity in various ways, as the weaving floor environment – RH and temperature – needs to be controlled, so we are controlling temperature with RH. Thus, we are not using chillers anymore. Which reduced the energy cost a bit. Side by side, we are utilizing

the exhaust gas emanating from the power generator to run boilers.

Not to mention, we are running our looms at maximum speed to increase productivity and cut costs.

Textile Today: Noman Textiles is recognized as a leading player in the industry. What best practices have contributed to its success and operational excellence?

Jahidul Hoque Majumder: For us, our best practices include saving resources, wastage reduction and increasing productivity. To put, we do lean management, we have an IE (Industrial Engineering) team to look after the matter. We implement 5S, and all the departments and sectors have their own SOPs. Most crucially, we provide continuous training to all our people to build awareness.

Recycling and reusing are key elements at Noman Textiles Mills

Limited to reduce wastage. Pre- and post-production waste materials are recycled and reused to boost sustainable fabrics.

What is your vision for Noman Textiles over the next five years?

Jahidul Hoque Majumder: We are strongly focused on making Noman Group a one-stop solution for buyers. We are actively exploring ways to expand our product range and bring in more diversified products. There is no alternative to increasing our product range if we want to reduce dependency on importers. To achieve this, our future target is to minimize import dependence by making the necessary technological modifications and adopting automation where required. Specifically, we aim to reduce the current import dependency from 65% to 30% and strengthen our capacity to supply local RMG factories with the necessary fabrics they require.



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Intertextile Shanghai Spring 2025 leads textiles future with innovation and sustainability

Amzad Hossain

As one of the world's most influential sourcing platforms, Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics - Spring Edition 2025, held from March 11-13 at the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai), concluded with remarkable success, solidifying its position as the premier global sourcing platform for the textile and apparel industry.

This year's edition saw participation from 3,124 exhibitors across 190,000 sqm and welcomed nearly 90,000 visitors from 116 countries. New exhibitor nations such as Bangladesh, Belgium, Egypt, Sweden, and Thailand underscored the event's expanding global reach.



Figure 1: This year's edition saw participation from 3,124 exhibitors across 190,000 sqm and welcomed nearly 90,000 visitors from 116 countries.

Spotlight on innovation and sustainability

Beyond numbers, Sustainability and innovation were key themes at this year's event, with dedicated zones such as the Economy Hub showcasing cutting-edge sustainable solutions, circularity initiatives, and traceability technologies. The Material X: NextGen Sustainable Solutions Forum explored product carbon footprints and innovations in eco-friendly fabrics, while the Circularity in the Global Textile Industry panel discussed the challenges and opportunities in implementing circular business models.

Engaging forums and knowledge-sharing

A total of 29 events, including 21 seminars and 8 themed forums, were held, covering market intelligence, business strategies, digital transformation, and sustainability. The 2025 Textile Industry Digital Application Forum delved into the impact of AI and automation in textiles, while the Shaping the Future of Sustainability through Innovation panel brought industry leaders together to discuss collaborative solutions.

Buyer delegations & business matching

The event featured a strong buyer delegation program, with 165 delegates from seven countries including Bangladesh, Armenia, Russia, and Singapore. The VIP Buyer Business Matching Program facilitated over 200 scheduled meetings, fostering high-value connections between global buyers and exhibitors. 'Textile Today' led a distinguished trade delegation from Bangladesh, comprising key decision-



Figure 2: The VIP Buyer Business Matching Program facilitated over 200 scheduled meetings, fostering high-value connections between global buyers and exhibitors.

makers from brands, buying offices, and factories. The delegation actively engaged in the expo, unlocking high-value opportunities for cross-border collaborations.

A global showcase of textile excellence

Intertextile Shanghai 2025 featured seven international pavilions from Europe and Asia, along with dedicated zones such as SalonEurope, the Premium Wool Zone, Beyond Denim, and the Functional Lab. The Lenzing Pavilion, ECOCERT Pavilion, and Korea Textile Center highlighted sustainable fiber innovations, while exhibitors from France, Italy, Japan, Korea, and Turkey showcased premium fabrics, high-performance textiles, and advanced manufacturing techniques.



Figure 3: The delegation actively engaged in the expo, unlocking high-value opportunities for cross-border collaborations.

Building on success for the next editions

With sustainability, digitalization, and global partnerships at its core, Intertextile Shanghai continues to be the driving force behind the future of textiles. The upcoming June and September 2025 editions are set to

build on this momentum, offering even greater opportunities for industry stakeholders worldwide. 'Textile Today' will continue to lead VIP Trade Delegation programs for these events, facilitating strategic industry connections and collaborations. Stay tuned for more details."



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Figure: Textile Today once again took the lead by organizing a high-profile delegation to the Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics – Spring Edition 2025 (March 11–13)

Bangladesh delegates uncover future-forward textile innovations at Intertextile Shanghai 2025

Amzad Hossain, Assaaduzzaman

Textile Today delegation engages global industry leaders, explores sustainable solutions, and maps the future of fashion sourcing

In its continued efforts to connect Bangladesh’s textile and apparel industry with global innovation, Textile Today once again took the lead by organizing a high-profile delegation to the Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics – Spring Edition 2025 (March 11–13), one of the world’s largest and most influential textile exhibitions.

Intertextile Shanghai 2025

The delegation included a dynamic mix of leading garment manufacturers, sourcing heads, fabric technologists, and R&D professionals from some of Bangladesh’s most progressive companies. These industry leaders shared critical insights below:

Innovation-Driven Sourcing: Preparing for a Smarter Future

Fakir Rafsanuzzaman, Director of Fakir Apparels Ltd., highlighted how their integrated design and R&D team leverages international fairs to accelerate innovation across their value chain:

Fakir Apparels has consistently led the way in apparel innovation—offering a diverse product range from knitwear to outerwear through long-standing collaborations with some of the world’s most renowned brands. While a significant share of its fabrics are produced in-house, Fakir Apparels also strategically sources materials from key global textile hubs including China, Taiwan, Japan, and Korea, covering knit, woven, and non-woven fabrics across natural, synthetic, and blended fibers.

“Participation in international trade expos like Intertextile enables our R&D and Design teams to stay updated on the latest materials, sustainable design practices, and technology trends. In the short term, access to such diverse material libraries supports product development using outsourced fabrics, while in the long term, it lays the groundwork for advancing local innovation and technical expertise.”



Fakir Rafsanuzzaman
Director of Fakir Apparels Ltd.

Staying Ahead of the Curve: Cross-Functional R&D Participation

Md. Nazmul Alam Apel, DGM (Knitting and R&D) of Epyllion Fabrics Ltd. shared how the company’s forward-thinking R&D strategy sets them apart:



Md. Nazmul Alam Apel
DGM, Epyllion Fabrics Ltd.

“We don’t just look at upcoming seasons — we try to forecast trends two seasons ahead. Our cross-functional teams from merchandising, sourcing, and design attend these fairs to

identify transformative trends and materials. Intertextile Shanghai, in particular, is an unparalleled resource for this kind of foresight.”

He noted the growing influence of AI-driven design and sustainability-focused sourcing solutions, underscoring how continuous engagement in global exhibitions directly influences product development pipelines and long-term competitiveness.

Empowering Small-Scale Sourcing for Emerging Players

For emerging companies like Power Fashion Bangladesh Ltd, sourcing challenges are different. Managing Partner & CEO - Mehedi Hasan Mamun stressed the practical benefits of flexible sourcing options available at Intertextile.

“Being a relatively new company, small order volumes are a major challenge in Bangladesh. In China, I found mills more open to low-MOQ deals, even if at a slightly higher price. This unlocks potential for startups and smaller buyers to diversify their sourcing base.”



Mehedi Hasan Mamun
CEO, Power Fashion Bangladesh

He called on the Bangladeshi industry to adopt a more inclusive sourcing mindset, advocating for greater supplier flexibility to foster a diversified, resilient sector.

Trend Mapping for Strategic Fabric Decisions

Ajoy Chowdhury, Assistant Manager (Fabric Technology) at Hirdaramani Bangladesh, emphasized the critical value of fabric innovation insights gained from the fair:

“From synthetic knits to technical fabrics, the diversity on display helps us make smarter sourcing decisions. We now have a clearer roadmap to integrate advanced materials into our product lines.”



Ajoy Chowdhury

Asst. Manager, Hirdaramani Bangladesh

His remarks reflect the growing urgency among sourcing professionals to align procurement strategies with global design, functionality, and sustainability expectations.

One-Stop Destination for Global Sourcing

Md. Hasan Kajmir Mahmud, Chairman of Superior Apparel Ltd., described Intertextile as a “global convergence point”:

Bangladesh delegates uncover future-forward textile innovations at Intertextile Shanghai 2025



Md. Hasan Kajmir Mahmud
 Chairman, Superior Apparel Ltd.

“This is the most efficient platform to connect with hundreds of fabric mills and solution providers in one place. We explored a range of solutions – from AI in sampling to new yarn developments. The

rising demand for wool fabrics was especially noticeable.”

He pointed out that several global buyers were actively engaging in wool-based product discussions, signaling a shift in seasonal preferences and market directions.

Access to Global Fashion Intelligence

For Chandra Shekhar, MD of Source Creation BD, exhibitions like Intertextile are essential to overcoming the geographical and informational disconnect:

“It’s hard to keep pace with fast-changing global fashion trends while sitting in Dhaka. Events like this allow us to connect with suppliers, spot trends early, and align our product development accordingly.”



Chandra Shekhar
 MD, Source Creation BD.

This sentiment echoes the collective need for Bangladeshi firms to integrate global exposure into their strategic planning cycles.

China’s Sustainability Leadership Leaves Lasting Impact

Rizvan Hasan, Head of Merchandising at Brannerson Apparel Ltd., was particularly struck by China’s focus on sustainability:



Rizvan Hasan
 Head of Merch., Brannerson Apparel

“The sheer scale and innovation in biodegradable and eco-friendly fabrics were

eye-opening. China is not just keeping up – it’s leading in sustainable innovation. For companies like ours, such exposure reshapes how we think about the future of fashion.”

His experience reinforces the urgent call for Bangladeshi manufacturers to deepen their sustainability initiatives, both in material sourcing and production processes.

Call for Stronger Industry Engagement

Wrapping up the delegation’s insights, Sharif Asaduzzaman, Managing Director of ICARUS Fashion Ltd., emphasized the strategic imperative for broader industry participation:

“Intertextile is more than a trade fair – it’s a mirror reflecting where we stand and where we need to go. Bangladesh must increase its presence in such forums. This is how we push our industry toward innovation-led growth.”



Sharif Asaduzzaman
 Managing Director, ICARUS Fashion

Looking Forward: Following the tremendous success of the March 2025 VIP Delegation, Textile Today is set to lead prestigious Trade Delegation Programs to the following programs Intertextile Shenzhen (June 11 – 13, 2025) and Intertextile Shanghai Autumn Edition (September 2 – 4, 2025). This is your opportunity to connect with global suppliers, explore the latest textile innovations, and expand your business network under a premium delegation experience.

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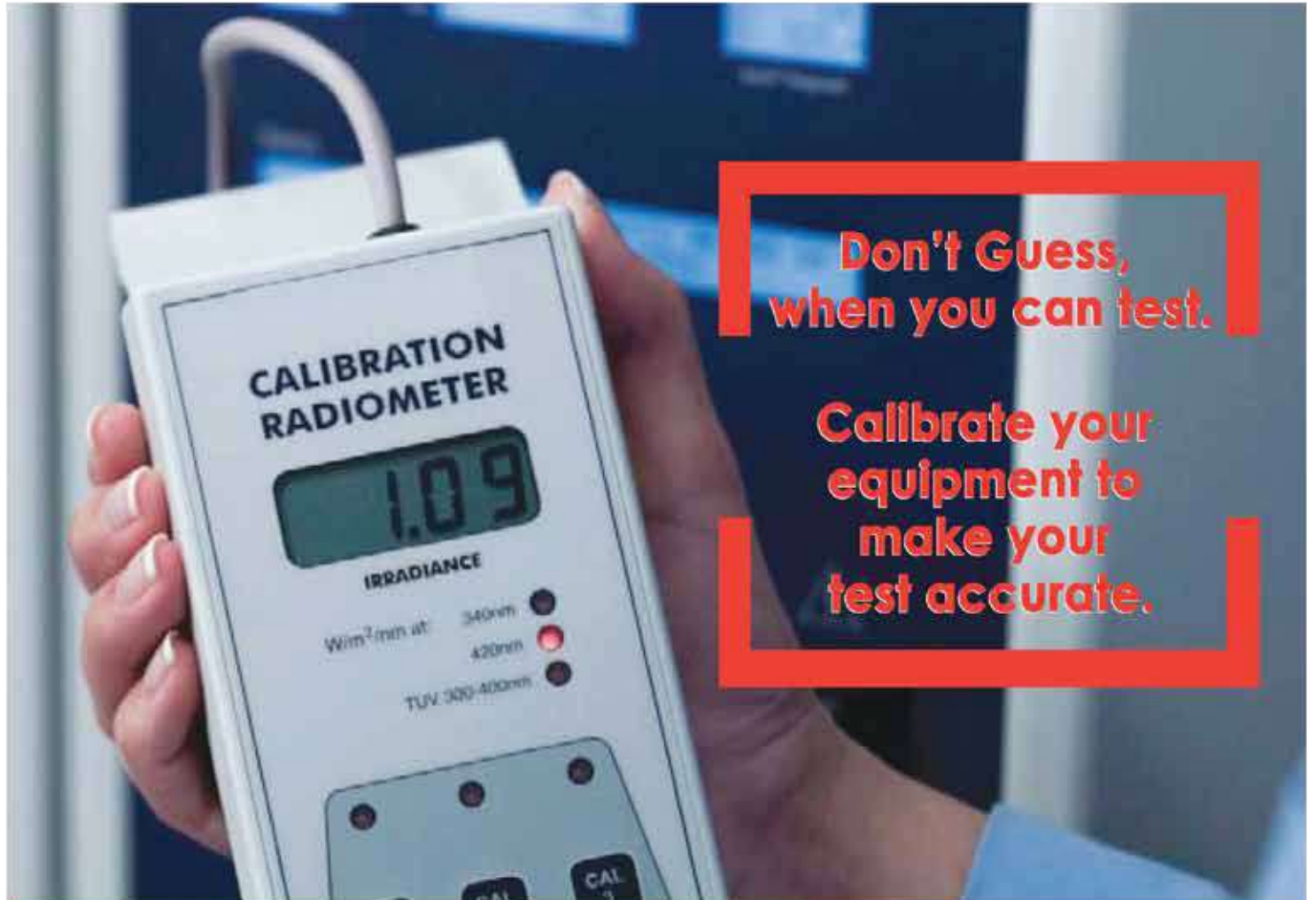
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Sweaters can be the next big success story in Bangladesh's apparel industry

Rahbar Hossain

The Bangladesh apparel industry needs a sharp turn in business diversification. With the growing global demand for sweaters, particularly in European markets, the country has a golden opportunity to excel in this high-value segment. Sweaters, once considered purely seasonal wear, have evolved into a year-round fashion item, further strengthening their market potential.

According to recent market insights, the global sweater market is projected to grow at a CAGR of approximately 6% over the next five years. The EU remains the largest importer, with countries like Germany, France, and the Netherlands accounting for a significant share of the demand. In 2023, the EU imported over \$8 billion worth of sweaters, with China and Vietnam dominating the supply. Bangladesh, despite being a global apparel powerhouse, has yet to capture a substantial share of this lucrative segment.

The shift in consumer preferences towards sustainable, comfortable, and stylish sweaters has further expanded the scope for Bangladesh. The rise of lightweight sweaters made from blended and innovative yarns has turned sweaters into year-round fashion staples rather than just winter essentials.



DTG 2025 showcased innovation in knitting

The Dhaka International Textile & Garment Machinery Exhibition (DTG) 2025, held in February, highlighted significant advancements in sweater manufacturing technology. Leading European (Stoll, Steiger), Chinese (Cixing, Wenming, Kauo Heng, Jiayi Knitting Machinery) and others (Pailung, Shima Seiki) sweater knitting machine manufacturers showcased cutting-edge innovations, offering Bangladeshi manufacturers an opportunity to upgrade their capabilities.

Advanced computerized knitting machines with seamless technology, automation, and AI-driven quality control were among the highlights, demonstrating how Bangladesh can improve efficiency and product variety.

Challenges

Despite the potential, several challenges must be addressed for Bangladesh to emerge as a sweater manufacturing hub:

1. Technical expertise

deficiency: The lack of trained professionals in sweater knitting, design, and innovation remains a significant bottleneck. Unlike woven and knitwear, sweater production requires specialized technical know-how.

2. High initial investment:

Investing in modern sweater knitting machinery and infrastructure requires substantial capital. Small and medium manufacturers may struggle to make this transition without financial incentives or government support.

3. Raw material dependency:

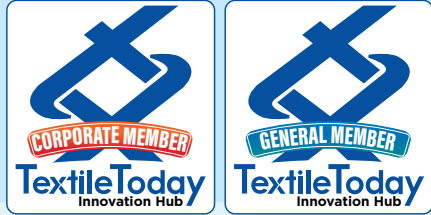
Bangladesh imports a significant portion of its yarn and fabric. A robust local supply chain for sweater yarns—such as acrylic, wool blends, and recycled fibers—needs development to reduce production costs and improve lead times.

4. Market penetration &

branding: Competing against established players like China, Vietnam, and Turkey requires strategic branding, aggressive marketing, and supplier confidence-building initiatives.

The time to act is now. With the right investments and strategic policies, Bangladesh can make sweaters the next big success story in its apparel industry. The insights from DTG 2025 can serve as a foundation for this transformation, enabling stakeholders to capitalize on cutting-edge technologies and chart a roadmap for sustainable growth in the sector.

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Kihak Sung awarded honorary citizenship for remarkable contribution in Bangladesh's RMG sector

Desk Report

Kihak Sung, Chairman of Youngone Corporation and a pioneering force in Bangladesh's readymade garments (RMG) and textile sectors, was awarded honorary citizenship on Wednesday in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the industry and the country's economy.

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus formally handed over the honorary citizenship certificate to Sung at the inaugural ceremony of the Bangladesh Investment Summit-2025, held at a city hotel.

The prestigious recognition marks a milestone in Bangladesh's appreciation of foreign investors who have played a transformative role in shaping key economic sectors.

Sung, who first came to Bangladesh in the mid-1990s, expressed heartfelt gratitude upon receiving the honour. "I am truly honoured to receive the honorary citizenship," he said at the summit.

He was one of five individuals and organisations celebrated during the event for their significant contributions to the country's economic development. Others awarded included Fabric Lagbe Ltd (Innovation Category), Walton, bKash (Foreign Investment), and Square Pharmaceutical (Local Company), who received the Excellence in Investment Award 2025. The awards were also presented by Chief Adviser Yunus.

The event featured prominent figures including Baroness Rosie Winterton, UK's Trade Envoy to Bangladesh, Óscar García Maceiras, CEO of Inditex, and Syed Nasim Manzur, Managing Director of Apex Footwear Limited, who shared their insights



Figure: Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus formally handed over the honorary citizenship certificate to Sung at the inaugural ceremony of the Bangladesh Investment Summit-2025.

on the current investment climate in Bangladesh.

Advisers of the interim government present at the summit included Finance Adviser Dr Salahuddin Ahmed, Foreign Affairs Adviser Md Touhid Hossain, Commerce Adviser Sk Bashir Uddin, Law Adviser Dr Asif Nazrul, and Executive Chairman of BIDA Chowdhury Ashik Mahmud Bin Harun. Also in attendance were SDGs Affairs Principal Coordinator Lamiya Morshed, Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam, and Special Envoy Lutfey Siddiqi, who officially welcomed the guests.

Kihak Sung's legacy in Bangladesh began with the establishment of Youngone Corporation as the first investor in the country's textile and apparel export sector in May 1980. The company has since played a pivotal role in promoting foreign direct investment (FDI) in both the Chattogram and Dhaka EPZs, and more recently in the Korean Export Processing Zone (KEPZ). Notably, Youngone has been a trailblazer in promoting female employment in the RMG sector.

His influence extended well beyond Bangladesh. Sung served as President of the International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF) for the 2018–2020 term.

In 2008, he was awarded the "Order of Industrial Merit Gold Tower", the highest class of industrial recognition from the President of South Korea, for his substantial contributions to Korea's national economy through the apparel and textile industry.

Under Sung's dynamic leadership, Youngone Corporation has grown into a globally recognised multinational company with successful operations in Korea, the USA, Switzerland, Vietnam, China, India, Uzbekistan, San Salvador, and Ethiopia.

The company's manufacturing of globally renowned brands has significantly boosted Bangladesh's reputation in the global textile and garment markets.

Almost all subsequent South Korean investors in the RMG sector have followed in Youngone's footsteps, further cementing Sung's legacy as a pioneer and a visionary.

“Factories should become adapted to small MOQ and short lead time orders to sustain”

Rahbar Hossain

Pakiza Group, a prominent textile and garments manufacturing company based in Bangladesh. The company is well-known for its vertically integrated supply chain, which includes spinning, knitting, dyeing, printing, garment manufacturing and IT. Pakiza Group has established itself as a key player in the global textile industry, catering to international brands and markets. Rakibul Islam, Managing Director of Pakiza Group is recognized for his leadership in driving innovation, sustainability, and operational excellence in the business.

Recently, Rakibul Islam, Managing Director of Pakiza Group shared his thoughts and business philosophy with Textile Today.



Figure: Rakibul Islam, Managing Director of Pakiza Group.

Textile Today: As the Managing Director of Pakiza Group, you've led the company through significant growth and transformation. What is your leadership philosophy, and how has it evolved over the years to adapt to the challenges of the textile industry?

Rakibul Islam: Textile Industry is always changing and it brings new challenges everyday. In Pakiza we always try to predict the new trends and developments and adapt our production and services accordingly.

Our philosophy is to maintain our standard of quality and service in both favorable and unfavorable situation so that our customers feel that their orders are safe with us in Pakiza. We believe that our ability to keep our customers' trust has helped us evolve.

Textile Today: What inspired you to join the textile and garments industry, and how did your early experiences shape your approach to managing a large, diversified company like Pakiza Group?

Rakibul Islam: I have grown up watching my father, Mr Rafiqul Islam Khan, establish the brand “Pakiza”. His passion towards this industry is my main motivation and I have learned everything from him.

Textile Today: Pakiza Group has been recognized for its efforts in sustainable manufacturing. Can you share some of the key initiatives the company has taken to reduce its environmental footprint, and how do you balance sustainability with profitability?

Rakibul Islam: In Pakiza we push to become energy efficient. With the rising cost of energy, we are reducing our consumption and wastage of energy in every department.

To reduce use of paper, we have implemented Cripton ERP. So, all reports are digital and this significantly reduced our paper consumption. We have partnered with DHL in their

“I have grown up watching my father, Mr Rafiqul Islam Khan, establish the brand “Pakiza”. His passion towards this industry is my main motivation and I have learned everything from him.”

GoGreen plus Initiative to reduce 30% greenhouse emissions from cross-border shipments.

Energy saving initiative reduces the cost in the long run. The initial investment and effort is high but it will return in profits in the long run.

Because of our small such initiatives Pakiza have been awarded Green Factory Award by Government of Bangladesh.

Textile Today: Pakiza Group operates a vertically integrated supply chain. What are the advantages of this model, and how does it help the company maintain its competitive edge in the global textile market?

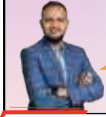
Rakibul Islam: Having all facilities in-house enables us to maintain quality throughout production. Also, as all processes are in-house, we can manage reduce the lead time and ensure on time delivery. This enables us to gain and maintain our customer's trust.

Textile Today: What should be the business model for Bangladesh textile & apparel industry right now? Where do you see the industry heading in the next 5–10 years?

Rakibul Islam: The business model I believe should be to diversify the garment range in factory. As now it is all about fast fashion, factories should become adapted to small MOQ and short lead time orders to sustain.



DONGYI SOURCING LIMITED



CEO & Managing Director Message

Customer's & Business partner's satisfaction is one of the central aspects of our organizational culture. Total Customer's & Business partner's satisfaction is the only success formula that drives us to be in this competitive fashion clothing industry. I would like to sincerely thank our valued clients & business partners for your continued support in ensuring that we remain our long-term relationship to have good business in future.

MOHAMMAD MOFAZZAL HOSEN PABEL



DSL's Target of Achieving \$250 million in RMG Exports By 2030



ABOUT US

Dongyi Sourcing Limited is a Multinational apparel buying hub and exporter with a vision to deliver world-class service, quality solutions and value addition services to end products for the textile industries on a global level, beginning from fabrics to fashion through market knowledge, experienced sourcing professionals. Global headquarter of Dongyi sourcing located at North Point, Hong Kong and Global corporate office located at Dhaka, Bangladesh. Our design, sales and sourcing offices in UK, China, Hong Kong & INDIA. Dongyi Sourcing offers product sourcing, amazing design collection, best production execution with on-time shipment, best quality assurance, supply chain solutions towards building a stakeholding approach to business.



DSL PRESENCE

Business Start: December, 2019

Total Country: 06

Present Employee: 225+ Employee in (BD/UK/China/Europe)

Business Partner (Manufacturer): 32



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Director
Bangladesh



Sophy Sollar
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Suman Ahmad
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Senior Executive Director
ED - Management



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Chief Operating Officer
COO - Operation



Sankar Logathan
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GM - Operation



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POLAND
Customer Support



Accessories & trims suppliers struggle for unequal payment terms

Engr. Mohammad Mezbah Uddin, Head of Marketing & Merchandising, Kimberley Design

The Financial Toll on Suppliers

This deferred payment practice imposes an **unjust financial burden** on local suppliers, who already face high banking costs. Let's break down the numbers:

Bank Charges on LCs

- A 90-day LC incurs **1.5% to 2.5%** in bank fees, while a 120-day LC can go up to 3%.
- For a **\$100,000 order**, a **90-day LC** could cost suppliers **\$2,000–\$2,500**, and a **120-day LC** could rise to **\$3,000** or more in bank charges alone.

Interest on Working Capital Loans

- To meet cash flow needs, suppliers take loans at **9% to 15%** annual interest.
- For a **\$75,000 loan over 90 days**, interest costs can range from **\$1,687.50 to \$2,812.50**. Over **120 days**, this increases to **\$2,250 to \$3,750**.

These costs erode suppliers' profit margins, push them into debt, and even force some out of business. Meanwhile, manufacturers, who should ideally share this financial responsibility, continue operating comfortably.

In Bangladesh's garment industry, accessories and trims suppliers play a crucial role by providing essential components like buttons, zippers, labels, and threads. Despite their importance, these suppliers face an ongoing challenge: while garment manufacturers benefit from extended credit periods of 90 to 120 days from international buyers, suppliers are often required to accept immediate or near-immediate payment terms. This imbalance in financial arrangements places a heavy burden on suppliers, creating significant financial strain and threatening the stability of the supply chain.



Figure: Fair and equitable payment terms are essential for the long-term stability of the industry. Courtesy: Collected.

Payment disparity: A systemic challenge

Garment manufacturers in Bangladesh's Ready-Made Garment (RMG) sector typically receive deferred payments from international buyers, sometimes as long as 120 days after shipment. In contrast, these same manufacturers often

expect their local suppliers—who provide essential raw materials such as fabrics, trims, and packaging—to accept much shorter payment cycles or even immediate payments. As a result, suppliers find themselves in a precarious financial situation, struggling to maintain cash flow while waiting for payments that may take months to arrive.

To navigate this cash flow issue, manufacturers have several options. Larger manufacturers with sufficient working capital may be able to pay suppliers early while awaiting payments from buyers. Others may resort to bank loans, such as LC discounting, which allows them to access funds in advance but at high costs due to interest rates and bank charges. However, a more prevalent and problematic approach is delaying supplier payments—an unethical yet common practice. This forces suppliers to take costly loans to keep their businesses afloat, compounding their financial difficulties.

Financial implications and the role of buyers

The burden on suppliers is exacerbated by high bank charges and interest rates. For a 90-day deferred LC, banks in Bangladesh may charge commissions of 1.5% to 2.5% of the invoice value, increasing to 3% for a 120-day LC. Moreover, suppliers relying on working capital loans often face interest rates ranging from 9% to 15% annually. These costs erode already thin profit margins, pushing many small suppliers towards debt or even bankruptcy.

While manufacturers struggle with cash flow, the responsibility also lies with international buyers who impose extended payment terms. Buyers gain financial benefits from deferred payments, while the financial strain cascades down the supply chain, disproportionately affecting suppliers.

If buyers are committed to fair trade and sustainability, they should consider implementing shorter payment cycles or supporting supplier financing programs. Aligning payment terms across the supply chain would reduce suppliers' dependency on high-interest loans, promote financial stability, and create a more equitable industry.

Industry leaders speak out

Prominent industry experts have long criticized this unfair system:

- Fazlul Hoque, former President of BKMEA (Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association), stated, "The current system places an undue burden on local suppliers. It is not only unjust but also counterproductive for the industry as a whole. Suppliers are the lifeline of the garment sector, and their financial health is crucial for sustainability."
- Dr. Rubana Huq, Managing Director of Mohammadi Group and former President of BGMEA (Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association), echoed similar concerns: "The imbalance in payment terms is a systemic

issue that needs urgent reform. Suppliers should not be forced to bear the financial burden of deferred payments. Fair and equitable payment terms are essential for the long-term stability of the industry."

A simple solution: Payment terms alignment

The solution to this injustice is straightforward- payment terms must align. If garment manufacturers receive deferred payments from buyers, they should extend the same terms to their suppliers. If they receive at-sight LC or TT (Telegraphic Transfer) payments, they should pay their suppliers accordingly. This would not only level the playing field but also save suppliers from the crippling burden of bank charges and interest payments.

For instance, if a garment manufacturer receives payment from a buyer via a 90-day deferred LC, they should pay their suppliers on the same 90-day deferred basis. This would eliminate the need for suppliers to take out high-interest loans and reduce their reliance on costly banking instruments.

Towards a fair and sustainable industry

The RMG industry is a pillar of Bangladesh's economy, accounting for over 80% of the country's export earnings. However, its sustainability is jeopardized when suppliers bear the brunt of financial inefficiencies. Ensuring fairer payment practices is not just an ethical imperative but a necessity for maintaining a competitive and resilient supply chain.

Garment manufacturers must take responsibility for aligning supplier payment terms with the deferred payments they receive from buyers. Likewise, buyers must acknowledge their role in maintaining a stable supply chain and implement fairer financial policies. By prioritizing financial equity, the industry can foster a more just, sustainable, and competitive future.



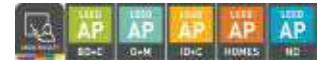
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H&M, Pran Group, and IFC partner to promote sustainable power in Bangladesh's RMG sector

Desk Report



Figure: The collaboration aims to jointly support the development of a Corporate Power Purchase Agreement (CPPA) for sustainable energy in Bangladesh.

On April 9, at the Bangladesh Investment Summit 2025, the H&M Group, in partnership with the Pran Group and the IFC, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to boost sustainability and enhance energy access in Bangladesh's garment industry.

The collaboration aims to jointly support the development of a Corporate Power Purchase Agreement (CPPA) for sustainable energy in Bangladesh. The signing took place in the presence of the Hon'ble Adviser, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan. CPPAs can equip the RMG sector to decarbonize at the scale and pace required and to help H&M Group achieve its goal of sourcing 100% renewable electricity in its supply chain by 2030. It will also increase the options available today for suppliers. Legal developments towards enabling CPPA will ensure the next steps of

electrification, allowing industries to diversify their energy sources.

The MoU initiated Bangladesh's first CPPA pilot, establishing a framework to reduce the carbon footprint of the garment industry. Led by Pran Group with IFC financing, the project aims to connect H&M Group's suppliers to sustainable energy and encourage private investments in energy infrastructure.

This initiative has the potential to create jobs and shape future CPPA developments in Bangladesh by introducing competition on the supply side, reducing the cost of renewable energy for industries.

"One of the major obstacles in our decarbonization journey is access to renewable alternatives in our supply chain. That is where most of the greenhouse gas emissions take place, and where we need to find partnerships and industry-wide solutions. This MoU lays the groundwork in the context of

Bangladesh to advance policy reforms and open for future opportunities to connect the RMG industry with renewable energy generation" says Ziaur Rahman, H&M Group Country Manager for Bangladesh.

"Today marks the beginning of a transformative journey. This initiative is grounded in rigorous analysis and long-term commitment, uniting the vision and expertise of Pran, H&M Group, and IFC, along with the Interim Government of Bangladesh. Together, we are pioneering CPPA-based renewable energy projects to pave the way for a sustainable and prosperous future for Bangladesh and its people," says Vikram Kumar, IFC's Regional Industry Director for Infrastructure and Natural Resources, Asia Pacific.

The shift towards renewable energy will be key in the journey of Bangladesh's RMG industry, especially with evolving regulations in the EU and other markets that emphasize sustainability.

BEPZA welcomes \$12.25mn high-end garment investment from China

Desk Report

The Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) signed a lease agreement with Chinese Safety Garments Bangladesh Co. Ltd. to establish a high-end garments manufacturing facility in Mongla Export Processing Zone (EPZ).

The substantial investment, totaling US\$12.25 million, is projected to generate 1616 employment opportunities for Bangladeshi citizens, boosting the local economy and contributing to the nation's export-oriented growth.

The official signing ceremony was graced by the presence of BEPZA Executive Chairman Major General Abul Kalam Mohammad Ziaur Rahman, BSP, ndc, psc, who witnessed the agreement.

Md. Intiaz Hossain, Member

(Engineering & Investment Promotion-Additional Charge) of BEPZA, and Shi Yan, Managing Director of Safety Garments Bangladesh Co. Ltd., formally executed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations. Senior BEPZA officials were also present at the event.

Major General Abul Kalam Mohammad Ziaur Rahman expressed his appreciation for the investment and reiterated BEPZA's commitment to providing comprehensive support to ensure the smooth and efficient operation of the new factory.

He emphasized the importance of such investments in driving economic development and creating valuable employment opportunities for the people of Bangladesh.

Safety Garments Bangladesh Co.



Figure: The official signing ceremony was graced by the presence of BEPZA Executive Chairman Major General Abul Kalam Mohammad Ziaur Rahman, BSP, ndc, psc, who witnessed the agreement.

Ltd. plans to establish a high-end garments manufacturing industry, further diversifying the product portfolio within the Mongla EPZ and enhancing its contribution to the country's export sector.

This investment marks a significant step in strengthening the economic ties between Bangladesh and China, while simultaneously fostering industrial growth and job creation within the region.

Ananta Companies, AGAM, and Prime Bank sign tripartite MoU for earned wages service

Desk Report

A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Ananta Companies, AGAM, and Prime Bank, paving the way for AGAM to provide Earned Wages Service to Ananta's employees.

Under this agreement, Prime Bank will sponsor AGAM to deliver financial solutions to support Ananta's workforce.

Key officials, including Team HR and the Executive Director of Ananta Companies, Badius Salam, attended the signing ceremony.

Following the MoU signing, representatives from AGAM and Prime Bank held a meeting with Ananta's top management to discuss future

collaborations and implementation strategies.

UK fintech Agam International is pioneering an early salary access pilot with leading Bangladesh bank, Prime Bank. The pilot will allow instant access to earned wages for thousands of Prime Bank employees, reads a press release.

It is the first bank-powered Earned Wage Access in Bangladesh and this development will allow thousands of Prime Bank employees to access their wages prior to payday, improving their financial stability and limiting the need to borrow loans through informal lenders.

It is the latest development of next-generation fintech to come out of



Figure: A tripartite MoU has been signed between Ananta Companies, AGAM, and Prime Bank, paving the way for AGAM to provide Earned Wages Services to Ananta's employees.

Agam International's partnership with Prime Bank.

This initiative aims to enhance financial flexibility for employees, allowing them to access earned wages before their scheduled payday, thereby improving their financial well-being.



Apex Group Chairman Syed Manzur Elahi passes away at 83

Nurnahar Akter Tania



Figure: Syed Manzur Elahi, Chairman of Apex Group

Syed Manzur Elahi, a titan of Bangladeshi industry and Chairman of Apex Group, passed away at the age of 83 in Singapore this morning. He was undergoing treatment for age-related complications.

Manzur Elahi, the founding chairman of Mutual Trust Bank PLC (MTB), breathed his last around 7:30 am while surrounded by his children. Syed Manzur Elahi played a pivotal role in shaping Bangladesh's industrial landscape.

Born with a keen business insight, he established Apex

Tannery after the nation's independence, marking the beginning of his remarkable journey.

His foresight led to the founding of Apex Footwear, a pioneering company that introduced Bangladesh to the global shoe export market.

By adopting rigorous Japanese quality control standards, he paved the way for the country's successful entry into the international footwear industry.

His contributions extended beyond Asia, as he spearheaded shoe exports to Europe, forging a partnership with Italian footwear magnate Adelchi.

His dedication to quality and innovation earned him numerous accolades, including the "Business Executive of the Year 2000" by the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM), Bangladesh, and the "Business Person of the Year 2002" award.

Beyond his business achievements, Elahi served as an advisor to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh twice, in 1996 and 2001, demonstrating his commitment to national service.

He left behind a profound impact on Bangladesh's business community and the nation as a whole.

Exports reach \$26.8bn in Jul-Feb

Arif-uz-Zaman

The country's apparel export earnings increased by 10.64% in the first 8 months (July-February) of the 2024-25 fiscal year compared to last year. This information is revealed in the updated report of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) on Tuesday (March 4).

It said that between July and February of the 2024-25 fiscal year, the apparel export earnings increased by 10.64 percent to \$26.7964 billion which was \$24.2193 billion in the same period of the 2023-24 fiscal year.

Of the export earnings of the apparel sector, \$14.344 billion came from knitwear exports, which increased by 11.01 percent year-on-year. And in July-February of the 2023-24 fiscal year, this income was \$12.9179 billion.

In addition, \$12.456 billion came from woven garment exports, which increased by 10.22 percent compared to last year's \$11.3014 billion.

The latest statistics show that in the first eight months of the current fiscal year 2024-25, goods worth \$32.94 billion in total were exported. Which was \$29.8 billion in the same period last year. Accordingly, total exports in the first eight months of the current fiscal year increased by 10.53 percent compared to the same period of the previous fiscal year. Of this, apparel exports account for 81 percent.

Meanwhile, in the just-departed month of February, apparel export earnings increased by 1.66 percent to \$3.244 billion compared to the

same period last year's \$3.1914 billion. Of the export earnings of the apparel sector, \$1.6527 billion came from knitwear exports, which increased by 3.77 percent year-on-year. However, woven garments exports decreased by 0.44 percent to \$1.5916 billion.

An analysis of EPB data shows that while exports of apparel and leather products increased in February, exports of home textiles and jute and jute products decreased.

Leather and leather products grew by 34.37 percent. During this period, the income was \$88.4 million. During this period, the export income of jute and jute products decreased by 11.39 percent to \$63.5 million.

Transfar to launch 5th generation silicone softener for textiles

Desk Report



Figure: The 5th generation silicone softener is engineered to enhance fabric performance with multifunctional benefits. Courtesy: Transfar

Transfar Chemicals is launching its 5th generation of silicone softener, building upon decades of advancements in textile finishing. The 5th generation silicone softener is an innovative structure and different from a blended emulsion of silicone with PU emulsion. Instead, it is synthesized by introducing a PU block into the silicone backbone by chemical bonding. Since the 1950s, the industry has progressed from basic silicone lubricants to amino-silicones in the 1970s, prized for their superior hand feel despite drawbacks like oil spots and yellowing. The 4th generation, based on linear block copolymers, effectively addressed oil spots and offered improved hand feel and hydrophilicity. Recognizing the potential for further enhancement, Transfar's experts aimed to create a multi-functional silicone softener that would not only provide exceptional quality and functionalities but also contribute to the growth of textile businesses.

Elastomeric and stretch recovery with self-crosslinking

PU silicone molecules on fabrics could conduct self-crosslinking or react on substrates of fibers at more than 130°C, which does not require a catalyst. It can form an elastomeric film on the surface of the fiber, which can greatly improve the elongation and resilience of the fiber or fabric. As a result, it would enhance wrinkle recovery angle significantly and improve the durable press (DP) rating from 1.5 to 3.0.

Natural & bulky feel

Furthermore, PU silicone can deeply modify the fibers to enhance unique smoothness, softness and bulkiness of the fabrics, to achieve a natural cotton feel. It is special important and highly demanding on chemical fibers or fabrics.

Increased tearing strength

PU silicone has been shown to significantly improve the tearing strength of fabrics, increasing it by up to 100%. This makes fabrics more resistant to damage, enhancing their

longevity and performance.

Anti-static property

PU silicone could reach an 'excellent' anti-static grade. For example, polyester fabric treated with PU silicone, a half-life time is much less than 10 seconds, while water-treated polyester fabric, a half-life time is more than 120 seconds.

Versatility to various fabrics

Due to the strong adhesive property of PU segments, it allows the 5th generation silicone softener to bond effectively with a wide variety of substrates, including cotton, polyester, nylon, and blended fabrics. This versatility makes it ideal for use in various textile applications.

Overall, addressing the evolving needs of the textile industry, Transfar's 5th generation silicone softener, a game-changing innovation engineered to enhance fabric performance with multifunctional benefits, ultimately empowers businesses to achieve sustainability and maintain a leading position in an increasingly competitive market.

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Fabric to denim laundry

April 2025

A Textile Today Initiative | Published with Volume 18, Issue 04 | Pages 71 to 84



**Intertextile's
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integrated textile
future**

Wendy Wen
Managing Director
Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd.

Revolutionized
Denim washing
Technology Solution for
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Revolutionized Denim washing technology Solution for greenwashing

Shafiun Nahar Elma

The denim industry sees a positive turn towards sustainability; advancements in washing technology have facilitated this growth as previously, it has caused massive environmental pollution. Developments in the denim industry serve two key purposes: lowering environmental destruction and stopping companies from deceiving people about their green success or greenwashing.

The revolution is based on laser-distressing ozone washing, bio stoning or enzyme washing, xerox washing, and many more related to nanotechnology. Laser technology produces fading and pattern effects with less water usage than stone-washing technologies. Enzyme washing is a more environmentally friendly method of indigo dye degradation with lower water and energy consumption. Levi's WaterLess and UNIQLO's Jeans Innovation Center (JIC) program innovations show the capacity of technology to save water resources in a smart way.

Jeanologia is a sustainable denim finishing brand that specializes in minimizing waste and pollution in textile production. It uses laser, ozone, and 95% water savings combined with at least 85% hazardous chemical consumption technologies to create eco-efficient and cost-saving solutions for denim manufacturers.

The biggest problem with sustainable washing of denim is its greenwashing potential. The high-end denim companies must conduct Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) and other quantifiable metrics in a bid to support the validity of the claims that they make to their consumers to be



Figure: The revolution is based on laser-distressing ozone washing, bio stoning or enzyme washing, xerox washing, and many more related to nanotechnology. Courtesy: Warpnext

sustainable. Conventions to guarantee consumers are accomplished by recognition by reputable brands that hold GOTS and OEKO-TEX memberships.

Eco-friendliness claims necessitate that when applying the term, brands avoid using it without evidence since that eliminates credibility. Then, a solution is needed. Brands must define sustainable denim instead of generic terms like eco-friendly or green. Brands must quantify the amount of water saved if technology saves 70% instead of giving general statements.

For example, Jeanologia's Environmental Impact Measuring (EIM) System allows brands to monitor water, chemical, and energy usage to support sustainability claims. Though SHEIN is a fast fashion brand, they created an example: SHEIN's Cool Transfer Denim Printing should publish lifecycle data rather than claim lower water usage.

Green producers benefit from a clean reputation, gaining ethical consumers and competitive market share benefits because of the dynamic market.

Strong EU and US sustainability regulations force denim producers

to adopt traceable technology like blockchain for transparent supply chains. Laser and ozone equipment users save 19% less time to make and 25% less in operating costs. Almost 72% of consumers prefer third-party certified brands (e.g., GOTS, OEKO-TEX) to avoid greenwashing.

AI-powered laundry solutions operational in 2025 will dynamically measure chemical dosing and energy consumption, while biodegradable finishes will achieve a 30% market share of high-value denim products. BioFade is a startup company producing algae-based indigo dye that has shown the potential to gain 15% of the dye market by 2026.

Future denim washing technology relies on greater methods with total transparency. Future sustainable denim washing will surely be driven by AI-driven systems, biodegradable coatings, and new dyes to reduce environmental impact.

Sustainable businesses use verified metrics to track betterment while providing transparent reporting, creating environmental benefits, and long-term loyalty for eco-friendly denim craftsmanship.

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April 2025

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Role of Enzymes in denim washing

Syed Maruf Ahmed, Technical Officer, Ha-Meem Group



Before Wash



After Wash

Figure 1: Different types of shade before enzyme and after enzyme wash.

An enzyme is a type of protein produced by living cells that helps accelerate chemical reactions. The enzyme used in denim washing is called Cellulase Enzyme. It specifically breaks down the cellulose fibers of denim fabric, resulting in a faded and naturally aged (vintage look).

Role of enzymes in denim washing

- » **Brushing effect:** Enzyme washing creates a natural faded effect along with a brushing look.
- » **Increased softness:** Makes the fabric softer, enhancing comfort.
- » **Durability:** Compared to stone washing, enzyme washing causes less damage and increases longevity.
- » **Eco-friendly:** Reduces the use of harmful chemicals, making the washing process more environmentally friendly.

Types of enzymes used in denim washing

Different types of enzymes are used in denim washing to achieve fabric texture, softness, and faded effects. The most commonly used enzymes are:

1. Cellulase Enzyme

- » This is the most commonly used enzyme in denim washing.
- » It breaks down cellulose fibers, creating the desired fading and stone wash effect.

It is classified into two types:

- » **Neutral Cellulase:** Causes minimal damage and produces a mild wash effect.
- » **Acid Cellulase:** Works faster, provides stronger fading, but may slightly weaken the fabric.

2. Amylase Enzyme

- » Used for breaking down starch.
- » Removes starch or sizing agents present in denim fabric, making it ready for washing.
- » Helps remove starch without damaging the fabric's strength.

3. Laccase Enzyme

- » Removes indigo dye through oxidation, creating a natural fading effect.
- » Used as an eco-friendly alternative, as it reduces the need for chemical bleaching.

4. Catalase Enzyme

- » Used to break down hydrogen peroxide, which is applied during bleaching.
- » Ensures complete removal of residual chemicals from the fabric without causing damage.

The use of these enzymes depends on the desired washing effect and fabric durability.

How enzymes work in denim washing

1. Fiber breakdown and micro-abrasion effect

- » Cellulase enzymes break the glycosidic bonds in cellulose fibers, causing micro-scale abrasion on the fabric surface.
- » This leads to the gradual removal of indigo dye, creating the washed-out or faded look.

2. Alternative to stone Washing

- » Enzyme washing is often used as a substitute for pumice stone washing.
- » Stone washing physically abrades fabric, while cellulase enzymes achieve the same effect chemically,



more gently, and in a controlled manner.

- » This results in less fabric damage while achieving the soft and vintage look.

3. Controlled abrasion in specific areas

- » Different types of Cellulase enzymes (Acidic or Neutral) can be used to achieve varied levels of abrasion.
- » Using spray, brushing, PP spray, or hand scraping techniques, higher abrasion can be applied to specific areas such as knees, thighs, and pockets.

4. Creating a fluffy and soft texture

- » Enzyme washing removes excess surface fibers, making the fabric softer and more comfortable.
- » It enhances the visual appeal and rich texture of denim, which is essential for high-quality denim production.

5. Eco-Friendly and controlled abrasion

- » Compared to stone washing, enzyme washing uses less water, energy, and chemicals, making it more sustainable.
- » It reduces fabric damage, ensuring the longevity of denim garments.

Best practices for achieving optimal abrasion and fading effects

To achieve better abrasion and fading effects, certain methods and recommendations should be followed.

Proper enzyme selection, process control, and suitable techniques help improve fading, abrasion, and texture in denim washing.

Tips for enhancing enzyme abrasion in denim washing:

- » **Water-free enzyme and stone-free enzyme:** Applying enzyme without water and stone can enhance the abrasion effect.
- » **Neutral enzyme + Acid enzyme combination:** Using both together

accelerates abrasion and improves the faded look.

- » **Stone + Acid enzyme (Bio-Polish) combination:** Provides faster effects and better abrasion.
- » **Desizing before enzyme washing:** Applying Amylase enzyme for desizing before enzyme washing improves results and helps solve washing-related problems.

Key factors for effective enzyme washing

1. Selecting the right enzyme

- » Choose Cellulase Enzyme, which helps achieve proper abrasion by breaking down cellulose fibers, leading to fading and stone wash effects.
- » Acidic Cellulase provides faster fading and higher abrasion, while Neutral Cellulase offers a milder and softer wash effect.

2. Controlling enzyme concentration

- » Proper enzyme concentration is crucial.
- » Excess enzyme can cause excessive abrasion, reducing fabric durability.
- » Use enzyme within a standard range (e.g., 0.5-1% of total washing solution) for controlled abrasion and effect.

3. Controlling time and temperature

- » Time and temperature regulation is critical in enzyme washing.
- » Recommended washing time: 30-45 minutes.
- » Ideal temperature: 30-50°C.
- » Higher temperatures increase enzyme activity, but excessive heat can adversely affect fabric integrity.

4. Customized washing techniques

- » Using customized Cellulase enzyme processing, specific areas such as knees, pockets, and thighs can be given more abrasion.

» Scraping or brushing techniques can enhance fading in specific areas.

- » If additional abrasion is needed, the process can be extended accordingly.

5. Ph level and pH control

- » Maintaining pH is essential, as an incorrect pH level can affect enzyme efficiency.
- » Optimal pH range: 4.5-5.5, which enhances enzyme activity and abrasion.
- » Ph above 6 reduces enzyme effectiveness, leading to weaker abrasion effects.

6. Supporting chemicals

- » Use Cellulase Activators and Peroxide Deactivators.
- » Cellulase activators enhance enzyme efficiency, enabling faster abrasion and effects.
- » Peroxide deactivators help neutralize bleaching chemicals, preventing excessive damage to fabric.

7. Monitoring & testing

- » Continuously observe and test enzyme processing.
- » Testing at different time and temperature levels ensures optimal abrasion and finishing effects.
- » Conduct lab trials or pilot runs to determine the best washing parameters.

8. Post-enzyme washing process

- » After enzyme washing, thorough rinsing is necessary to remove residual chemical films from the fabric.
- » Three water changes and thorough rinsing are essential to eliminate any remaining enzymes or chemicals.
- » Once washing is complete, additional stone washing or tumbling processes can be applied to enhance abrasion and fading effects further.

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Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics, organized by Messe Frankfurt, stands as one of the most prestigious textile exhibitions globally. As part of its continued commitment to global engagement, Textile Today regularly participates in such prominent international trade events.

During the most recent edition held in March, Amzad Hossain Monir represented Textile Today and had the privilege of conducting an exclusive interview with Wendy Wen, Managing Director of Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd.

A summary of the key insights from this exclusive conversation is presented below for our valued readers.



Intertextile's commitment to a greener and more integrated textile future

Amzad Hossain Monir

Textile Today: How would you assess the overall success of Intertextile Shanghai Spring 2025? What key trends and highlights stood out this year?

Wendy Wen: The show was very successful, highlighting the industry's resilience and versatility despite global issues affecting every sector. We maintained focus on showcasing Intertextile Apparel's key pillars, namely fashion, function, innovation, and sustainability – which themselves are reflections of factors important to the wider industry.

In terms of fashion, there was a wide range of fabrics, designs and accessories on display from global industry players, across categories such as functional, premium wool, prints, lace and embroidery, and much more. A major highlight for buyers was the Intertextile Directions Trend Forum, which showcased samples from a wide range of exhibitors under the Spring / Summer 2026 I-dentities theme.

As the functional fashion trend continues apace, our product zone Functional Lab saw a high visitor

flow. In the same category, we also introduced two display areas, namely The CUBE and the Functional Suiting Display Area.

There were innovations on show across the fairground, in line with the growing focus on digitalisation and sustainability. Our Technology and Solutions fringe events included two digital-focused forums and an important panel discussion on shaping the future of sustainability through innovation, while we also featured our new Digital Solutions Zone in the International Hall.

Perhaps the most significant addition was the spring debut of Economy Hub and related sustainability elements, including Economy Talks, the Economy Finder, and our expert-led Economy Tour. These elements were designed to increase exposure for sustainable exhibitors and thought leaders, and encourage eco-friendly sourcing.

Textile Today: How has exhibitor and visitor participation evolved compared to previous years? Any notable shifts in regional or global engagement?

Wendy Wen: In the past, shows in China were only focusing on low-end products. Today, China has a comprehensive supply chain covering everything from mass market to luxury, high-end products, and Intertextile Apparel has evolved accordingly since its inception over 30 years ago.

There have not been noticeable shifts in participation in recent years, although this edition did perform very well in terms of internationality. Our spring show hosted its largest-ever Japan Pavilion, Hong Kong Pavilion and France Zone. Compared to the previous Spring Edition, there was an overseas exhibitor increase of nearly 15%, with a more than 50% return rate, while over 100 suppliers made their debuts in the International Hall.

And on the visitor side the numbers were just as impressive. Exhibitors welcomed nearly 95,000 visitors from 131 countries and regions, with a 17% increase in international visitors. Domestic visitor numbers also increased, with many hailing from textile hubs such as Shanghai, Zhejiang, and Jiangsu. Besides mainland China, the other top visitor countries and regions included Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, India, Taiwan, Türkiye, the US, Indonesia, Italy, and Vietnam.

For this show, in line with other recent editions, the majority of our visitors were made up of garment manufacturers; trading companies; import and export corporations; wholesalers and distributors; fibre producers, spinners, and weavers; and designers.

Textile Today: How is Messe Frankfurt ensuring that textile innovation remains at the core of Intertextile's evolution? And, have you seen an increased interest in smart or functional and performance textiles?

Wendy Wen: Functional fabrics have greatly increased in demand due to the popularity of the athleisure, sportswear and functional fashion trend, with the trend also influenced by the change in lifestyles in the post-pandemic period. Now, the rise of next-generation materials is becoming the main buying force for athleisure products, and we saw this reflected on the show floor.

Within the movement there has been a growing trend towards more durable, eco-friendly materials and manufacturing methods, and although the market share is still quite low,



overall production of recycled fibres has increased.

I have already mentioned that functionality is one of Intertextile Apparel's key pillars. We have international and domestic zones and display areas that cater to this, in the midst of strong interest from buyers. It is also part of our role as trade fair organisers to provide platforms for knowledge-sharing and cutting-edge product promotion, and functional-focused fringe events were well received by fairgoers.

Textile Today: How has Intertextile evolved to support sustainable sourcing & eco-friendly solutions and how do you see consumer demand shaping sustainability trends?

Wendy Wen: For 11 years, Intertextile Apparel's All about Sustainability zone championed sustainable products and solutions. To align with Messe Frankfurt's global Texpertise Economy initiative, we recently rebranded the zone to Economy Hub, which was introduced at the show's 30th anniversary edition last autumn and made its spring debut this year.

Economy Hub, with an integrated seminar area and display area, is a centralised zone for sustainable fabrics suppliers, certifiers and testing institutes to attract eco-focused visitors. Meanwhile, the new Economy Finder allowed exhibitors across the fairground who passed the independent Economy Check to communicate green credentials to buyers.

As part of our goal to educate fairgoers on the importance of sustainability, traceability and circularity, Economy Talks was the themed seminar area for our 13 related fringe events, while our expert-led Economy Tour guided visitors towards a curated selection of certified companies.

For the industry as a whole, we expect to see the sustainability movement go from strength to strength as consumers vote with their wallets, and regulators in Europe, China and beyond enforce stricter requirements to minimise the industry's impact. More technology and materials will emerge and scale that make a sustainable future more likely, and Intertextile Apparel will continue to strive to connect eco-focused exhibitors with like-minded buyers.

Textile Today: What key enhancements can we expect in the Autumn 2025 and future editions of Intertextile?

Wendy Wen: By leveraging our strong international Texpertise Network, and the comprehensive domestic resources of our co-organisers the Sub-Council of Textile Industry, CCPIT-TEX, and the China Textile Information Centre (CTIC), we will continue to provide a platform to connect the Chinese and international markets.

We hope this fair can serve as an all-in-one sourcing and collaboration hub, the ultimate gateway for global suppliers to capitalise on new opportunities. In order to do so, we will continue to offer a well-rounded platform to integrate resources and gather key players from the entire industry chain, and actively facilitate business exchange across multiple categories.

We recently added Economy Hub and Economy Talks for sustainable textile suppliers and certifiers, as well as the Digital Solutions Zone and our related seminar series for those showcasing 'what's next' in the industry. While we cannot be more specific on plans for our upcoming Autumn Edition, we will continue to make use of strategic expansion, wherever we see new, viable market opportunities.



Exploring the fashion future at fashion instyle 2025

Next@fashion instyle – showcasing transformative change of new materials in fashion

Desk Report



Figure 1: NEXT@Fashion InStyle, will feature Self-Portrait's Founder and Designer, Han Chong, as the bringing together some 60 pioneering material suppliers and five local designers to showcase the versatility of new materials in the fashion industry.

Over 400 global exhibitors from the fashion and textile industries will come together to present the latest innovations, spanning textiles, apparel, fashion technology, and sustainable solutions.

The brand-new exhibition zone, NEXT@Fashion InStyle, will feature Self-Portrait's Founder and Designer, Han Chong, bringing together some 60 pioneering material suppliers and five local designers to showcase the versatility of new materials in the fashion industry.

Fashion is more than aesthetics—it is a fusion of cultural heritage, environmental responsibility, and functional innovation. Organized by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), Fashion InStyle 2025 will be held from 27 to 30 April at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC).

The event will unveil NEXT@Fashion

InStyle, a dedicated exhibition zone showcasing how innovative materials are revolutionizing the fashion industry.

As one of Asia's leading fashion events, Fashion InStyle will bring together nearly 400 exhibitors from the apparel and fashion sectors, featuring textiles, fashion technology, sustainable solutions, seasonal apparel, accessories, and industry partners, providing a comprehensive sourcing platform for the fashion supply chain.

Throughout the event, fashion parades will showcase the latest designs and material applications, while seminars and networking sessions will explore key topics such as sustainability, innovative technologies, and fashion trends, helping buyers stay informed about market developments and industry opportunities.

NEXT@Fashion InStyle: Pioneering the Future of Fashion with Innovative Materials

The "NEXT @ Fashion InStyle" exhibition area is funded by the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency (CCIDA) of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. It is further honored to have Thailand as a strategic partner, with strong support from the Thailand Creative Culture Agency (THACCA) and the National Soft Power Development Committee. The event brings together over 60 global suppliers of new materials from regions including mainland China, Europe, North America, Australia, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Singapore, collectively exploring new directions for the future of fashion. "NEXT" signifies "future" and "foresight." The event is founded on materials, focusing on three key areas: culture



Figure 2: The exhibition will showcase the synergy of creative design, advanced material properties, smart technology, biodegradability, and upcycling techniques, highlighting the transformative potential of innovative materials in the fashion industry.

and heritage, innovative technology, and sustainable development. It will collaborate with five local designers who will uniquely integrate tradition and modernity, functionality and aesthetics, showcasing the versatility and vitality of materials.

We are honoured to have Self-Portrait's Founder and Creative Director, Han Chong, as an ambassador, who will join forces with over 60 leading material suppliers from around the world.

The "NEXT@Fashion InStyle" exhibition has invited Han Chong, the founder of the renowned brand Self-Portrait, as a consultant. With his valuable experience and unique perspective, he aims to broaden the horizons of local fashion designers. Regarding this collaboration, Han stated, "NEXT@Fashion InStyle is all about pushing innovation in textiles, so when they asked me to be part of the project, it was something I wanted to support. It's about giving designers new tools to experiment with and inspiring the next generation to rethink what's possible." When guiding young designers in Hong Kong, Han emphasizes listening and inspiration. "I want to encourage them to explore, to be fearless in their choices, and to think about how fabric plays a role in their design process." He stresses

the importance of having a unique perspective in design and advises designers to deeply study materials: "The more you understand about how a fabric behaves, the better you can design with it. And don't be afraid to push boundaries—innovation happens when you take risks."

In collaboration with five visionary local designers, the exhibition will showcase the synergy of creative design, advanced material properties, smart technology, biodegradability, and upcycling techniques, highlighting the transformative potential of innovative materials in the fashion industry.

A series of seminars will further explore emerging trends in sustainable fashion and material applications, fostering an engaging platform for industry knowledge exchange. This initiative will connect designers with leading brands, making the event not only a showcase but also a hub for communication, serving as a starting point for the convergence of inspiration and business opportunities.

From the warm elegance of fragrant cloud gauze to the natural freshness of seaweed and lotus fibers, and the eco-friendliness of sustainable denim combined with the intelligence of functional materials—each type

of material transforms in the hands of designers into stunning garments that captivate the eye. This fusion of creativity and technology, along with tradition and modernity, collaboratively constructs a brighter new world of fashion.

New material suppliers from the world each bring unique characteristics, combining cutting-edge technology with sustainable development elements to showcase new trends in fashion textiles. Among them is Sapro-Tech from New Zealand (booth: 3F-J11), which produces innovative, durable, and visually striking sustainable leather using fungi combined with unique technology and design. Taiwanese clothing brand RAPA (booth: 3F-F11) presents distinctive marble and metallic fabrics made from advanced technology and leather. The Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI) (booth: 3F-H22) contributes the country's most cutting-edge textile research and development techniques to the exhibition. Mainland China's exhibitor Vegatex (booth: 3F-H13) utilizes organic waste such as fruit peels and grain husks as raw materials, creating various sustainable bio-leathers through patented technology as alternatives. Vietnamese exhibitor Faslink (booth: 3F-E08) showcases coffee fibers made from coffee



grounds and recycled plastic bottles, which help reduce waste and minimize negative environmental impacts.

Experience Thailand's Cutting-Edge Fashion Materials

NEXT@Fashion InStyle is privileged to have the strong support of THACCA as a strategic partner. Through this collaboration, THACCA has assembled nearly 30 exhibitors from Thailand, showcasing the country's fashion materials and their unique strengths in cultural heritage, sustainability, and innovative technologies.

Local Designers x Innovative Materials: Exploring Infinite Possibilities

NEXT@Fashion InStyle is collaborating with five local fashion designers to demonstrate how innovative materials are redefining fashion, creating a visionary stage that merges creativity and innovation:

» **Kinyan Lam x Gambier Canton Silk** – Integrating traditional craftsmanship with minimalist, contemporary design to modernize and preserve a national intangible

cultural heritage.

» **Arto Wong x AlgaFila & Lotuxilk** – Experimenting with algae and lotus fibers through intricate knitting techniques, creating a visually dynamic, layered, and energetic textile experience.

» **Jason Ying x Sustainable Denim by Advance Denim** – Reinterpreting sustainable denim through military-inspired designs, highlighting its breathability, elasticity, and durability beyond conventional denim.

» **Johnson Chong x Functional Fabric by Llyord** – Utilizing high-performance functional fabrics to create designs that seamlessly combine aesthetics with outdoor functionality.

» **Toki Wong x AlgaFila** – Showcasing the lightweight and breathable qualities of algae fibers through innovative spinning and weaving techniques, crafting stylish, summer-ready coastal textiles.

Seven Lifestyle Exhibitions to Take Place Simultaneously, Expanding Buyer Support Online and Offline

Fashion InStyle will take place

alongside Home InStyle, the Hong Kong Gifts & Premium Fair, the Hong Kong International Printing & Packaging Fair, DeLuxe PrintPack Hong Kong, the HKTDC Hong Kong International Licensing Show, and the Asian Licensing Conference, maximizing cross-industry synergy.

HKTDC-2025

During the exhibition, the HKTDC Marketplace App's "Scan2Match" function enables buyers to scan exhibitors' unique QR codes, save their preferred suppliers, access product details, and continue online discussions both during and after the event—ensuring seamless and efficient follow-ups anytime, anywhere.

Join Fashion InStyle 2025 to explore the latest trends in fashion innovation and discover how new materials are shaping the future of design.



Register for free admission

Noize Jeans appoints Najeeb Sayed Akbar as new Director

Desk Report



Figure: Noize Jeans appoints Najeeb Sayed Akbar as new Director. Courtesy: Collected

Noize Jeans Ltd., a denim apparel company, has announced the appointment of Najeeb Sayed Akbar as its new Director. The company expressed its excitement in welcoming Akbar to their team.

Najeeb Sayed Akbar brings a wealth of leadership experience to Noize Jeans, having previously held leadership roles at prominent international retailers PVH and Marks & Spencer in Bangladesh. His professional experience also extends across various regions, including the UAE, India, and Sri Lanka.

Described as a seasoned expert in both production and sourcing within the apparel industry, Mr. Akbar is also noted for his passion as a soft skills trainer and mentor. He has a track record of successfully developing buying offices into prosperous ventures.

Beyond his professional achievements, Akbar is reportedly an avid sportsman, enjoying both cricket and tennis. Noize Jeans conveyed their enthusiasm for having him join the company and contribute his expertise to their operations.



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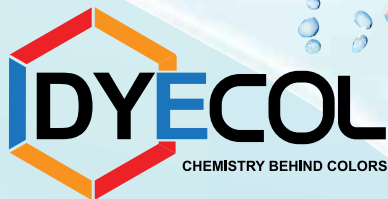
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- **Engagement Events:** Hosting forums to collaborate, share insights, and inspire innovation.
- **Cost-Reduction Strategies:** Supporting you in optimizing processes to lower expenses while maintaining sustainability.

Discover the future of sustainable chemistry. Partner with us to bring ethical, eco-friendly, and certified solutions to your industry. Together, we can redefine innovation while caring for the planet.

Contact us today to explore how our products can elevate your brand while championing sustainability!





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Presents

Innovation & Sustainability

Unveiling industry best practices

April 2025

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West Global Company expands presence in Bangladesh with advanced dyeing and finishing solutions

Zafer Demirel
International Sales Manager
West Global Company



**Growing potential of
textile waste recycling
in Bangladesh**



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Growing potential of textile waste recycling in Bangladesh

Arif-uz-Zaman, Managing Editor

Bangladesh's ready-made garment (RMG) industry is a key player in the global apparel market. However, its rapid expansion has resulted in a significant rise in textile waste, posing serious environmental and sustainability challenges. In response, the textile recycling sector is emerging as a promising industry, offering both economic benefits and ecological solutions.

Scale of textile waste and its economic potential

Bangladesh's RMG sector generates between 500,000 and 700,000 tones of textile waste annually, known locally as 'jhut.' A significant portion of this waste is cotton-based, which can be recycled. Experts estimate that efficient recycling could reduce Bangladesh's reliance on cotton imports by at least 15%, saving the country approximately \$500 million per year. However, despite this potential, only 5% to 25% of the textile waste is currently being recycled, leaving a massive untapped opportunity.

A study by the Global Fashion Agenda (GFA) and McKinsey & Company suggests that Bangladesh could generate \$1.2 billion in revenue from recycled textile and apparel products. Furthermore, along with other major garment-producing nations like Vietnam, Turkey, India, Malaysia, and Indonesia, Bangladesh could tap into a \$4.5 billion global market for recycled textiles. Strengthening recycling efforts would not only help reduce waste but also enhance the global competitiveness of Bangladesh's garment sector.

Rise of textile recycling industry

Despite the presence of over 3,500 garment factories and 1,200 yarn and fabric manufacturing units in Bangladesh, the number of dedicated textile recycling plants remains low, with only about 50 currently in operation. However, the industry is steadily growing. Around 20 recycling-based yarn factories have been established, with a combined recycling capacity of 2.4 million tonnes (Source: BGMEA, 2023).

Companies such as "Recover," "Recycle Raw," and "Cyclo Recycled Fibers" are leading the way in producing eco-friendly recycled textiles to meet global sustainability demands.

Locally reusing textile waste has far-reaching economic benefits. Currently, Bangladesh exports nearly \$400 million worth of cotton waste annually. The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has called for restrictions on these exports to ensure the availability of raw materials for domestic recycling. Keeping cotton waste within the country for reuse could significantly enhance the local textile industry, reduce reliance on imports, and generate additional economic benefits.

Environmental benefits

Textile recycling plays a crucial role in reducing environmental damage. Studies show that recycling just one ton of textile waste can lower carbon dioxide emissions by approximately 3.376 tones. Additionally, recycling reduces water consumption—producing a single kilogram of cotton requires up to 10,000 liters of water, making waste recycling an essential part of sustainable resource management.

Future prospects

The growing global demand for sustainable fashion is encouraging major brands to prioritize recycling. Leading fashion retailers like H&M have instructed their suppliers to use more recycled cotton in their production processes. Moreover, a proposed European Union regulation mandates that by 2030, factories supplying the EU must use recycled cotton waste. These developments underscore the urgency for Bangladesh to enhance its recycling infrastructure and processes to stay competitive in the international market.

To fully capitalize on the opportunities in textile recycling, Bangladesh must invest in advanced recycling infrastructure, embrace technological innovation, and establish effective policies through public-private partnerships. With the right strategies, the textile waste recycling sector has the potential to not only strengthen the country's RMG industry but also contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally responsible future.

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Regenerative fibers paving the way for greener future

Shafiun Nahar Elma



Figure: Regenerative fibers are textiles from regenerative agriculture or closed-loop systems that restore ecosystems while producing raw materials.

Based on the Ellen MacArthur Foundation reporting findings, the fashion industry emitted 2.1 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide in 2020. Traditional cotton farming uses 2,700 liters to make only one cotton t-shirt, yet synthetic textile components derived from petroleum sources generate air pollutants and pollute the environment. Using regenerative fibers provides an effective solution for dealing with environmental problems while reducing carbon emissions.

Regenerative fibers! What is this?

Regenerative fibers are textiles from regenerative agriculture or closed-loop systems that restore ecosystems while producing raw materials. These fibers, such as organic cotton, hemp, and Tencel, improve soil health, sequester carbon, and promote biodiversity. They are important in minimizing the fashion industry's carbon footprint, enhancing water efficiency, and supporting ethical business practices. By prioritizing sustainability, regenerative fibers are shaping the future of eco-friendly fashion.

Market transformation with common regenerative fibers

- Tencel fiber is produced from sustainably sourced wood pulp using a closed-loop system that recycles 99% of water and solvents.
- Requiring 75% less water than conventional cotton, hemp is experiencing a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 15%, reflecting its rising popularity as a sustainable textile.
- Utilizing recycled wool can reduce water usage by 95% and energy consumption by 70%, offering a more sustainable alternative to virgin wool.
- According to the Global Organic Textile Standard GOTS, Valued at \$12 billion in 2022, the organic cotton market is growing at an annual rate of 8-10%.
- Alpaca farming demonstrates superior sustainability because it produces three times less carbon dioxide than sheep farming, driving market growth at a 7.5% CAGR until 2030.

The Fashion Industry's Environmental Impact

Global Fashion Industry Size: **\$2.5 trillion**

Contribution to CO2 Emissions: **10% of** global emissions

Water for Cotton: **2,700 liters** for one t-shirt

2020 Global Fashion Emissions: **2.1 billion** metric tons of CO2

Why Regenerative Fibers Matter

60% of consumers prioritize sustainability in purchases.

Technological advancements in regenerative fibers

Renewcell's Circulose uses advanced Swedish technology to turn recycled cotton and other cellulose materials into high-quality raw pulp. Similarly, NuCycl Technology transforms textile waste into premium fibers while reducing water consumption by 98% and lowering environmental pollutants by 80%. These innovations are driving a more sustainable future for the fashion industry.

SeaCell

SeaCell fabric is made from seaweed (*Ascophyllum nodosum*), producing a biodegradable fiber rich in vitamins and anti-inflammatory properties that support good skin health.

Intelligent insulation

Ralph Lauren's Intelligent Insulation adapts its thermal properties to temperature changes without using any electronic components in its innovation. Reducing the need for multiple layers of clothing promotes sustainability through fewer clothing purchases.

Spider silk

Popular brands like Bolt Threads, Spiber, AMSilk, and Kraig Biocraft Laboratories are leading the development of synthetic materials that replicate spider silk's strength and elasticity. Notable innovations include Bolt Threads' Microsilk, Spiber's Brewed Protein, and AMSilk's Biosteel, which are high-performance, mass-producible fabrics designed to maintain the exceptional properties of natural spider silk.

Upcycling regenerative fiber

The fashion industry puts its resources into making 100% degradable fabrics using bamboo and hemp as original components. Current upcycling practices show growing popularity through which textile waste is transformed into better quality products.

Market outlook

Fortune Business Insights reports that the global eco fiber market doubled its value because consumers increasingly choose sustainable products.

Industrial experts project that the market value will compound from \$56.81 billion in 2023 to \$120.99 billion in 2032 before establishing an 8.8% CAGR beginning in 2024.

The Global Fiber Report projects that the Asia Pacific region, Europe, and North America will control 85% of the regenerated fibers market operations through 2024 while the Asia Pacific continues to dominate at 40%. The market shows increasing growth

because emerging economies require sustainable products along with their rising industrial development.

However, Fashion companies must adopt regenerative fibers because the practice combines environmental benefits with business requirements. The process of sustainability has entered the core consumer choice decisions, and those who use regenerative fibers will access market growth potential while reducing environmental damage, making them front runners in a market shift toward sustainability. Getting on board with regenerative fibers will let companies increase their brand value, capture dedicated consumer loyalty, and claim leadership status in sustainable fashion, which will position them to succeed permanently in an upcoming market segment that demands ecology.

Elite Garments joins Bangladesh's growing list of green factories

Desk Report

The country's dominance in LEED-certified factories reflects its commitment to reducing carbon emissions in line with international sustainability standards.

Elite Garments Industries Limited, located in Bade Kalmeswar, Board Bazar, National University in Gazipur, recently achieved LEED Platinum. It scored 85 out of 110 in the LEED certification developed by the US Green Building Council (USGBC).

USGBC evaluates factors such as energy efficiency, water conservation, indoor air quality, and the use of sustainable materials.

As international buyers prioritize sustainability in sourcing products,



Figure: Elite Group has been playing a leading role in the development of the country's largest local business sectors for six and a half decades. Courtesy: Elit Garments.

Bangladesh's leadership in green apparel production is expected to further strengthen its position as a key player in the global apparel market.

Elite Group has been playing a leading role in the development of the country's largest local business sectors for six and a half decades. Founded in 1952 by the late Mr. Siraj Uddin Ahmed, Elite Group today is not

just an organization but also settles an annual turnover of \$90 million.

Established in 1981, Elite Garments Industries Limited is well known for its quality production, style precision, timely delivery and competitive pricing. It is 100% export-oriented knitted garment manufacturing unit with an annual turnover of \$65 million and 24 production lines.

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ColorService showcases advanced textile automation at DTG 2025

Amzad Hossain, Assaduzzaman Khan



“ColorService is committed to revolutionizing textile automation. We develop and assemble all our products in Italy, ensuring the highest quality and precision. Currently, we have more than 15 customers in Bangladesh and over 1,000 worldwide. Here, we work closely with Sun Trading, our local partner, to bring our cutting-edge solutions to the market.”

Settimo Barausse
Sales Manager, ColorService

ColorService is a leading Italian company specializing in automation solutions for the textile industry. With over 35 years of experience, the company provides advanced weighing, dosing, and dispensing systems for chemicals, powder dyestuff, and other textile applications. Operating in more than 1,000 locations worldwide, ColorService is dedicated to improving efficiency and precision in dyeing and printing processes.

At DTG 2025, Textile Today had the opportunity to interview Settimo Barausse, Sales Manager of ColorService, to learn more about their innovations and presence in Bangladesh.

Settimo Barausse said, “ColorService

is committed to revolutionizing textile automation. We develop and assemble all our products in Italy, ensuring the highest quality and precision. Currently, we have more than 15 customers in Bangladesh and over 1,000 worldwide. Here, we work closely with Sun Trading, our local partner, to bring our cutting-edge solutions to the market.”

He also said, “At DTG, we are showcasing our SMP machine, an automatic pipetting and dosing system for dyestuff and chemicals, designed specifically for laboratories. This machine starts with powder chemicals, automatically prepares the solution, and doses the recipe through our advanced software for dyeing machines. In bulk production, we also

provide dispensing systems for liquid chemicals, weighing machines for powder dyestuff, and dissolving units. For instance, we can dissolve 80 kg of dyestuff in just eight minutes.”

Furthermore, he mentioned, “In addition to our dosing and dispensing solutions, we also produce systems for preparing barrels for rotary printing. Our goal is to offer a full automation solution for chemical handling in dyeing and printing, making textile production more efficient and sustainable.”

With its strong global presence and advanced automation technology, ColorService continues to push the boundaries of innovation in the textile industry.

BTE's commitment to eco-friendly textile equipment

Sayed Abdullah



“Moving forward, I think to beat the rising utility costs, I think to keep our textile sector alive there is no alternative but to adopt sustainable state-of-the-art technologies. European techs always prioritize consuming less utility and maximizing productivity. BTE works on such technologies”

Muhammad Farhad Hossain

Managing Director & CEO of Bengal Technology and Engineering Associates (BTE).

At the 19th DTG Expo, Muhammad Farhad Hossain, Managing Director & CEO of Bengal Technology and Engineering Associates (BTE), emphasized that BTE's principal companies prioritize sustainability. Their offerings, including Thies GmbH's dyeing machines, Monforts continuous dyeing ranges, and Stententer and denim finishing machines, are all designed to minimize carbon footprints and maximize resource efficiency. Bengal Technology and Engineering Associates (BTE) is a prominent supplier of machinery and equipment

across various industrial sectors in Bangladesh. BTE partners with renowned textile machinery and equipment manufacturers worldwide, mostly from Europe, offering access to advanced technologies. Their commitment to customer satisfaction is proved through a strong team of experienced service engineers who deliver superior after-sales support. “Moving forward, I think to beat the rising utility costs, I think to keep our textile sector alive there is no alternative but to adopt sustainable state-of-the-art technologies. European techs always prioritize consuming less utility and

maximizing productivity. BTE works on such technologies” Muhammad Farhad Hossain also shared that his company provides wastewater treatment technologies – which are zero discharge. “Despite the current transitional phase, Bangladesh is experiencing rapid improvement, and we anticipate a surge in orders leading to a stronger 2025. This optimism was evident among clients and visitors at DTG.” In terms of after-sales service, BTE Managing Director & CEO said that his company has a versatile team to ensure service at any given moment



West Global Company, a growing force in the textile machinery sector, is strengthening its presence in Bangladesh with advanced dyeing and finishing solutions. To learn more about their latest developments and commitment to the Bangladesh market, Textile Today interviewed Zafer Demirel, International Sales Manager of West Global Company, Turkey.

West Global Company expands presence in Bangladesh with advanced dyeing and finishing solutions

BTT Interview



Figure: Zafer Demirel, International Sales Manager of West Global Company, Turkey.



“We are not just a machinery supplier in Bangladesh; we are a trusted business partner supporting manufacturers at every stage of their journey.”

Zafer Demirel
International Sales Manager
West Global Company

With over 20 years of experience and more than 700 machines sold in Bangladesh, West Global continues to deliver tailor-made solutions to meet the evolving demands of the local textile industry.

Zafer Demirel shared, “West Global Company was established in 2022, emerging from our previous group of companies. In 2023, we became an independent entity together with our partners, Murat and Fethi, who were also key members of the former group. For the past 10 years, I have been working as the

Bangladesh Market Manager for our previous group company. Since July 2023, I have continued my role as International Sales Manager under the West Global brand, focusing on increasing our brand value in Bangladesh.”

He continued, “Over the past 10 years, I have been directly involved in both sales and after-sales services for the machines delivered to Bangladesh under our previous group. In total, over the last 20 years, we have supplied more than 700 machines to this market. Now, with West Global, we are moving forward by building on this experience and further strengthening our presence in Bangladesh. We fully understand the challenges faced by local manufacturers, such as rising production costs, increasing

wages, and energy expenses. To help them optimize efficiency and stay competitive, we have equipped our machinery with the latest technologies.”

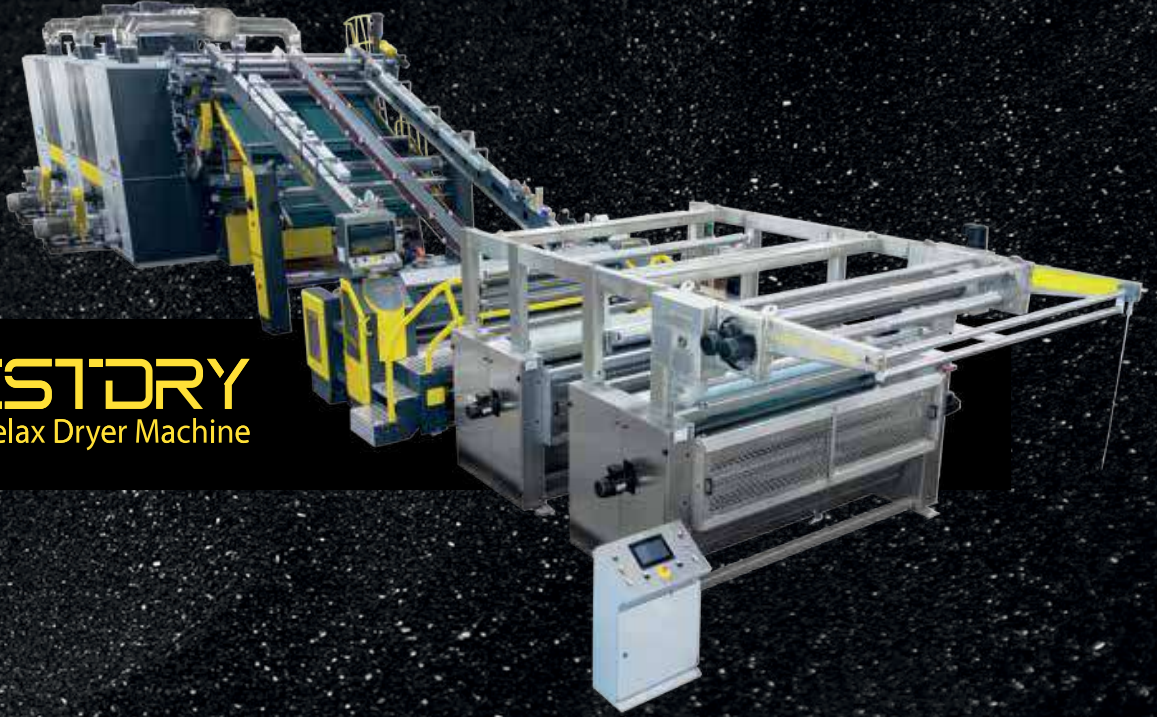
Zafer Demirel added, “With 20 years of accumulated experience in this market, we deeply understand the demands of local manufacturers. Our newly developed machines are designed based on feedback directly from the field. To support our customers in optimizing production efficiency and reducing operational costs, we have integrated innovations such as semi-automatic filtering systems, automatic lubrication systems, and salt conductivity measurement systems. These technologies enable our machines to lower both energy and chemical consumption while significantly



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cutting down on operating expenses. At West Global, we provide solutions that meet Bangladesh's textile industry's expectations for productivity, quality, and sustainability."

Speaking about the competitive landscape, Zafer Demirel commented, "Bangladesh is a highly competitive and dynamic market, competing globally and positioning itself strongly against China. While Chinese manufacturers are competitive on pricing, Bangladesh is advancing rapidly in high-efficiency fabric and garment production. At West Global, we see ourselves not just as a machinery supplier, but as a long-term business partner to Bangladeshi textile producers. With our on-the-ground experience and strong local relationships, we stand beside our

customers, providing solutions at every stage, both before and after sales."

Zafer also highlighted a new strategic partnership, saying, "We have partnered with Texlink Engineering, a company with 25 years of experience and a strong reputation in the Bangladeshi market. They have been the first representatives of several leading international brands and are known as pioneers in providing high-standard machinery and systems. From now on, Texlink Engineering will act as the exclusive representative for West Global's fabric dyeing and finishing machines in Bangladesh."

West Global's product range includes jet dyeing machines, air jet dyeing machines, long tube dyeing machines, yarn dyeing machines, dryers, and other finishing equipment.

Concluding the discussion, Zafer Demirel expressed his gratitude, stating, "We sincerely appreciate the trust of the Bangladesh textile industry. The future is bright, and we are ready to grow together with our partners and clients. Textile Today has been an essential partner in our marketing and advertising efforts for the past ten years, helping us reach businesses in Chittagong, Gazipur, Narayanganj, Dhaka, and beyond. Their support has contributed to our brand's continuous growth, and we look forward to further collaboration."

With its focus on innovation and customer-centric solutions, West Global Company is set to make a significant impact in Bangladesh's textile sector, reinforcing its position as a trusted partner for manufacturers.

Echotex achieves LEED Platinum Certification

Desk Report

Bangladesh's garment industry is increasingly focusing on environmentally friendly production to enhance sustainability and maintain its competitive position in the global market.

In line with this, Echotex Limited has secured the highest level, LEED Platinum certification, under the US Green Building Council (USGBC), is a globally recognized benchmark for environmentally sustainable construction.

Echotex is a leading vertical setup in Bangladesh with facilities for weaving, dyeing, digital and screen printing, laundry and garment manufacturing. Located at Palli Vidyut, Chandra, Kaliakair, Gazipur Echotex Limited scored 92 out of 110.

Echotex Limited started garment



Figure: Echotex Limited has secured the highest level, LEED Platinum certification, under the USGBC.

manufacturing in 2008, and textile production in 2009 also awarded 'The National Environment Award' in 2010 for its effluent treatment. It works for Tesco, Debenhams, Peacocks, Primark, H&M, Sainsburys and Inditex.

The USGBC evaluates factors such as energy efficiency, water conservation,

indoor air quality, and the use of sustainable materials.

The country's dominance in LEED-certified factories reflects its commitment to reducing carbon emissions in line with international sustainability standards.

Chroma Textile partners with Solaric Group for 560 kWp solar project

Rahbar Hossain



Figure: The agreement was formalized by Eng. Naznin Akther, Director, Solaric Group, and Rokon Uddin Ahmed, Managing Director of Chroma Textile Ltd., in the presence of senior officials from both organizations.

"We are excited to embark on this journey towards sustainability with Solaric Group," said Rokon Uddin Ahmed. "This project represents our dedication to environmental responsibility and our commitment to a sustainable future"

Chroma Textile Ltd. has announced a significant step towards sustainable energy with the signing of an Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) agreement with Solaric Group for a 560 kWp solar power project. The initiative will power Chroma Textile's facility in Pachdona, Narshindhi, Bangladesh, promoting a greener and more energy-efficient future.

The agreement was formalized by Eng. Naznin Akther, Director, Solaric Group, and Rokon Uddin Ahmed, Managing Director of Chroma Textile Ltd., in the presence of senior officials from both organizations.

This partnership underscores Chroma Textile's commitment to integrating renewable energy into its operations,

aiming to significantly reduce its carbon footprint. The company expressed gratitude to Solaric Group for their expertise and support in realizing the project.

"We are excited to embark on this journey towards sustainability with Solaric Group," said Rokon Uddin Ahmed. "This project represents our dedication to environmental responsibility and our commitment to a sustainable future," he added.

Chroma Textile also acknowledged the contributions of Engr. Naznin Akther and the Solaric Group Business Development team, including Ishtiaq Malik, Antar Anwar, and Jubayer Nadim, for their efforts in bringing the project to fruition.

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Strengthening
Bangladesh's
spinning industry
by prudent import
policies



Azizur R Chowdhury
Director, Knit Asia Ltd.





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Strengthening Bangladesh's spinning industry by prudent import policies



Azizur R Chowdhury, Director, Knit Asia Ltd.

In order to safeguard the nation's spinning industry and ensure its long-term survival, as well as to lessen our excessive reliance on imported raw materials, the proposal to impose a 15% import duty on yarn is not merely a quick-fix.



Figure: A 15% duty on imported yarn is not just about protection, it is about giving the local spinning industry a fighting chance.

What's impeding the spinning sector?

Cheap imports undercutting local mills – A lot of the yarn coming in is from countries like Pakistan, where strong government subsidies and access to their own cotton let them sell at rock-bottom prices, especially when their currency is weak. This makes it tough for local mills to compete.

High operating costs – From gas shortages and expensive imported materials to high interest rates and endless red tape, running a spinning mill is becoming more costly and complicated.

Jobs on the line – If local mills keep losing ground to cheaper imports and struggle with unreliable gas supplies, thousands of jobs could disappear, leaving many families in a tough spot.

Why a 15% import duty makes sense

A 15% duty on imported yarn is not

just about protection, it is about giving the local spinning industry a fighting chance. Here's how it helps:

Leveling the playing field – The duty would balance things out, letting local mills compete fairly with subsidized foreign yarn and keeping the domestic market stable.

Boosting investment and innovation – With some protection from cheap imports, local spinners would feel more confident investing in better technology, automation, and efficiency upgrades.

Strengthening the supply chain – A strong local spinning industry means a more reliable supply of yarn for the RMG sector, reducing our dependence on imports and shielding us from global disruptions.

Supporting the economy – Keeping the spinning industry alive means saving jobs, generating local income, and cutting down on the amount of money flowing out of the country.

What's next?

Bangladesh's spinners can deliver quality – Many local mills already produce high-quality, sustainable yarn that meets international standards. We just need a fair shot to compete.

Short-term protection for long-term gains – Countries like India and China used protective measures early on to build their textile industries before opening up to global competition. Bangladesh can follow a similar path to become a global player.

Balancing prices with smart policies – With the right moves like fair gas pricing, stable interest rates, and better law and order, yarn prices can stay steady without hurting the RMG sector.

In short, a 15% import duty is not just about protecting an industry, rather it is about building a stronger, more self-reliant economy for the future.

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To reduce trade deficit with US Govt. to provide bonded warehouse facilities to cotton traders

Desk Report

The government plans to provide bonded warehouse facilities to cotton traders to reduce the trade deficit with the United States. It will ease importing duty-free fiber. According to the National Board of Revenue (NBR), initiatives have already been taken to amend the bonded warehouse licensing rules.



Figure: In 2023-24, US exports to Bangladesh were \$2.53 billion, while exports to the US were \$6.80 billion.

The initiative was taken after a letter sent by the Bangladeshi ambassador in Washington, requesting this facility on behalf of a US company.

A senior NBR official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the media, "It will take at least two weeks to complete this amendment process. Because the work involves some formalities, including legal vetting by the Law Ministry."

He added, "We are trying to complete this process as soon as possible. Officials are also working on the issue on Saturday." If this facility is introduced, cotton traders and ginneries will be able to import cotton quickly. This will reduce the lead time as well as the price of cotton, the NBR official said.

On January 22, Bangladesh's Ambassador to Washington, Asad Alam Siam, wrote to NBR Chairman Abdur Rahman Khan that US-based company Cargill India had sought bonded warehouse facilities for duty-free cotton imports to Bangladesh. The letter requested the revenue authorities to take necessary action. It further mentioned, "Permission has

also been sought to export excess cotton to other countries after meeting domestic demand."

The NBR Chairman's office received the letter on March 11 and sent it to the policy-making branch. At a function on Monday (March 17), Foreign Affairs Adviser Md. Touhid Hossain said,

"We have a large trade deficit with the United States in import-export. In this situation, we will import cotton from the United States and export ready-made garments, so that they will hesitate to impose additional duties."

He added, "There is already no duty on cotton imports. Therefore, providing bonded warehouse facilities will not have a negative impact on revenue, unless there is any misuse."

Touhid Hossain added, "If we can buy cotton at 10 cents less, our competitiveness will increase." The government is going to introduce

bonded warehouse facilities for cotton ginneries so that they get fair prices and adequate and timely supply of cotton can be ensured.

Cargill, a 160-year-old family-owned company based in Minneapolis, operates in 70 countries and serves 125 markets. The company has been doing business in Bangladesh since 1974.

In the letter, Dhritiman Biswas, Cargill's director of government relations for the South Asia region, wrote, "We are one of the leading exporters of high-quality US cotton to Bangladesh. However, it takes more than 100 days for the cotton to reach Bangladesh after an order is placed.

In the context of the current volatile global situation, the letter humbly requests that ports be allowed to build bonded warehouses to store cotton before customs clearance.

The letter further states that local importers and textile industry-related institutions will be able to receive high-quality US cotton within hours or days of the request after opening a letter of credit (LC).

COTTON USA™ workshop addresses supply chain needs as US cotton demand surges

Sayed Abdullah

COTTON USA™ and Textile Genesis™ recently hosted a landmark supply chain workshop in Dhaka, drawing prominent brands and supply chain participants, including LEVIS, NEXT, KIABI, TESCO, and TARGET. The event focused on promoting the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol and Textile Genesis™ traceability platform, highlighting the growing demand for sustainable U.S. cotton within Bangladesh's thriving textile industry

happy today to host the first-ever U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol and Textile Genesis™ workshop. Where we had around 70 supply chain participants – prominent brands. We are hearing from we are hearing from supply chain participants, especially top brands like LEVIS, NEXT, KIABI, TESCO, and TARGET. They are continuously increasing their market share in Bangladesh. And they are demanding more usage of US cotton from the supply chain. Thus we are thrilled to support the supply chain mills through this workshop. And we look forward to doing this type of workshop with the supply chain mills in the future.”

Ali Arsalan highlighted the benefits of using high-quality, sustainable U.S. cotton in the country's textile industry and promised to strengthen collaborations with spinning factories. And highlighted to strengthen the collaborations with spinning factories.

Shahana Kiron, Regional Lead & Advisor, Textile Genesis™, a Lectra Company – a pioneering traceability platform custom-built for the apparel ecosystem – said, “It was amazing to be a part of the event and be a speaker there to talk about traceability. It inspires us when we see tremendous interest throughout the

industry in Textile Genesis and how the supply chain actors are seeking solutions by placing their specific cases and having a design to work on our platform! We are hopeful that with the increasing number of tracked US cotton volumes in the Textile Genesis™ platform, we will create a huge impact on the Bangladesh market within a very short time! Thanks a lot to Cotton USA for inviting us to the workshop.”

On a separate note, Adviser of Foreign Affairs Md. Touhid Hossain's recent announcement of initiatives to import cotton from the USA was strategically timed to deter the imposition of additional tariffs on Bangladesh, Ali Arsalan said, “Our primary objective is to support Bangladesh's textile spinning sector. While the Cotton Council International (CCI) is a non-profit trade association and does not participate in commercial negotiations, we are committed to providing comprehensive support. This includes knowledge sharing, training programs, and technical assistance to spinning mills, all aimed at strengthening the local textile spinning industry.”

Around 70 stakeholders from different brands, spinning factories, and cotton specialists were present at the event.



Figure : Ali Arsalan, Country Representative at COTTON USA™ expressed support for the supply chain mills through this workshop.

Ali Arsalan, Country Representative at COTTON USA™ said, “I am very

“Our primary objective is to support Bangladesh's textile spinning sector. While the Cotton Council International (CCI) is a non-profit trade association and does not participate in commercial negotiations, we are committed to providing comprehensive support. This includes knowledge sharing, training programs, and technical assistance to spinning mills, all aimed at strengthening the local textile spinning industry.”

Ali Arsalan
Country Representative, COTTON USA™

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TRÜTZSCHLER
SPINNING

Muratec showcases advanced winding and spinning technology at DTG 2025

Assaduzzaman Khan

Muratec, a leading capital machinery manufacturer from Japan, is well known for its high-efficiency textile machinery. The company specializes in winding and spinning technologies, offering eco-friendly and energy-efficient solutions to textile manufacturers worldwide.

At DTG 2025, Textile Today had the opportunity to interview Shunya Okumura, Sales Manager of Muratec, to learn more about their latest innovations and their presence in the Bangladesh market.



Figure: Shunya Okumura, Sales Manager of Muratec.



Shunya Okumura said, "In Bangladesh, we have introduced two key machines—the Auto Winder and Vortex Spinning Machine. The Auto Winder, named Alcone, is designed for high efficiency and eco-friendliness. It reduces power consumption while maintaining superior winding performance. Given the current challenges in Bangladesh, such as rising gas and electricity prices, this machine can significantly help manufacturers optimize production costs."

Shunya Okumura
Sales Manager, Muratec

He also said, "Vortex Spinning is a unique technology that we developed and introduced to the market in 2011. Our latest model, Vortex 870 EX, offers an advanced spinning process that enhances yarn quality and durability. Compared to previous spinning technologies, Vortex is more eco-friendly due to its innovative yarn structure, which extends fabric lifespan and improves sustainability."

Furthermore, he mentioned, "Since 2017, our local branch, Murata Machinery Bangladesh Ltd., has been operating in Bangladesh. We focus on providing genuine spare parts and after-sales services to ensure the best support for our customers."

With its cutting-edge winding and spinning technology, Muratec is committed to driving innovation and efficiency in Bangladesh's textile sector, offering solutions that align with sustainability and energy conservation goals.

Pakiza Knit, Wagely partnership to workers on-demand salary access

Desk Report

Pakiza Knit Composite Ltd. has partnered with Wagely, offering its employees unparalleled financial flexibility.

Workers can now access up to 50% of their earned salary anytime within the last 10 days of the month, breaking the traditional pay cycle and providing crucial financial independence.

This innovative program addresses the common challenge faced by many workers who often struggle to manage unexpected expenses or short-term financial needs between paychecks.

By allowing employees to access their

According to Pakiza Knit Composite, "This partnership with Wagely allows us to provide a valuable resource that empowers our employees to manage their finances with greater ease and confidence."

earned wages on demand, Pakiza Knit Composite aims to ease financial stress and improve overall employee well-being.

Wagely's platform seamlessly integrates with Pakiza Knit Composite's existing payroll system, enabling employees to request and receive their earned wages instantly through a user-friendly mobile application.

This eliminates the need for payday loans or other high-interest financial solutions, which often trap individuals in cycles of debt.



To avoid additional tariffs impose Bangladesh to import more cotton from US

Staff Correspondent

Adviser of Foreign Affairs Md. Touhid Hossain said that the initiative to import cotton from the United States has been taken to make the country hesitate to impose additional tariffs on Bangladesh.

He made this statement while speaking as the chief guest at a workshop titled 'Potential and Importance of Cotton Cultivation in Bangladesh to Save Foreign Exchange' jointly organized by the Economic Reporters Forum (ERF) and the Bangladesh Cotton Ginners Association on Monday (March 17).

The adviser said, "After the Trump administration took office, the United States has been imposing tariffs on various countries. Although they have not imposed additional tariffs on Bangladesh yet, there is still a doubt. In this situation, we will import cotton from the United States and export ready-made garments, so that they will hesitate to impose additional tariffs."

However, it is worth noting that Bangladesh is already exporting to US through tariffs.

The Foreign Affairs Adviser said that a decision will be taken soon on recognizing cotton as an agricultural product and providing subsidies for cotton cultivation to increase cotton production in the country. He said that the government will take a decision within the next three months to increase cotton cultivation.

In addition, he instructed NBR



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Md. Touhid Hossain
Adviser, Foreign Affairs

member Md. Moazzem Hossain, who was present at the workshop, to quickly withdraw the existing 4 percent advance income tax on domestically produced cotton.

In this regard, Md. Moazzem Hossain said, 'Discussions are underway to provide bonded warehouse facilities to traders in various sectors. We think we can start this by introducing bonded warehouse facilities for cotton imports.'

He also said that he will present a proposal to the concerned officials of the NBR to withdraw AIT on locally produced cotton.

Regarding LDC graduation in 2026, the adviser said, 'The decision was made long ago. Even then, our businessmen are still demanding to postpone the graduation without making any preparations. But I am not in favor of postponing it either.'

Stating that everything necessary will be done to obtain GSP Plus benefits in the European Union, the adviser said, "The EU has given some conditions for obtaining GSP Plus. We will comply with them."

"After LDC graduation, there will be three years of duty-free benefits in various countries, including the European Union. I think our businessmen are waiting to make the necessary preparations in those three years. I believe they will be able to make the necessary preparations within that time," he commented.

Rieter draw frame mini kit – Reduce imperfections by 14%

Rieter Story



Figure 1: N Velusamy, General Manager, Shri Rohit Spinners Pvt. Ltd., India.

After many years of successful operation, Shri Rohit Spinners Pvt. Ltd.'s autoleveler draw frames began to show signs of wear and tear. Seeking to improve efficiency, the company implemented the Rieter draw frame mini kit, which resulted in a notable 8% reduction in sliver unevenness, a 52% decrease in deviation rate and a 14% improvement in yarn imperfections.

"After installing the draw frame mini kit, we saw substantial improvements in both sliver and yarn quality. The reduction in sliver deviation rate and yarn imperfections were remarkable," says N Velusamy, General Manager, Shri Rohit Spinners Pvt. Ltd., India (Figure: 1).

Maintenance is key to success

Shri Rohit Spinners Pvt. Ltd. is a renowned producer of premium-quality polyester yarn. The ageing RSB-D 22 autoleveller draw frames combined with increasingly tough market requirements for good and, above all, consistent yarn quality became a challenge. After many years of successful operation, the machines began to show signs of wear and tear. Shri Rohit struggled to balance quality control with an optimal maintenance budget. Additionally, the customer encountered difficulties in sustaining machine efficiency, largely due to a reliance on corrective maintenance practices. This situation is common among many mills. A strategic investment in the right parts, however, can provide a sustainable and efficient solution, ensuring long-term cost savings while enhancing operational efficiency.

Rieter's structured and simple maintenance approach

The after-sales team of Rieter provided a modular



Figure 2: RSB-D 22 operating at a higher speed after the implementation of draw frame mini kit.

maintenance concept designed to offer a structured and simple maintenance approach. This concept consists of three kits: the mini kit, the performance kit and the overhaul kit. Shri Rohit Spinners implemented the draw frame mini kit to its RSB-D 22 (Figure: 2).

The kit consists of key consumable components from the scanning and drafting zone, which have a lifetime ranging from one to three years depending on the raw material and process parameters. The aim of the draw frame mini kit is to enhance sliver quality and increase machine efficiency by minimizing machine downtime. Key components like belts, top roller cots, clearer lips, grease and clearer plates are crucial in achieving optimal sliver quality and uninterrupted production.

Significant improvement in sliver and yarn quality

Sliver quality improvements with the installation of draw frame mini kit
RSB-D 22, 100% polyester, Ne 30, 600 m/min, draft 6.22

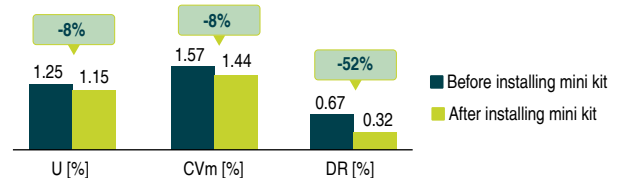


Figure 3: Sliver quality improvements after the installation of draw frame mini kit.

Yarn quality improvements with the installation of draw frame mini kit
RSB-D 22, 100% polyester, Ne 30, 600 m/min, draft 6.22

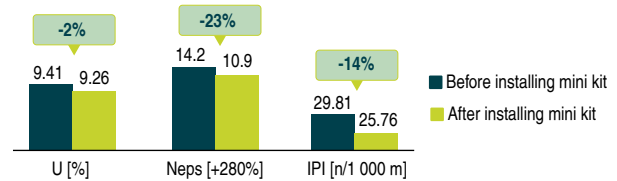


Figure 4: Yarn quality improvements with the installation of draw frame mini kit.

Following the installation of the draw frame mini kit on the RSB-D 22 machine, Shri Rohit Spinners experienced a significant improvement in both sliver (Fig.3) and yarn quality (Fig.4).

Sliver unevenness (U%) and the coefficient of variation (CV%) were reduced by 8%. The 52% reduction in deviation rate (DR%) in the sliver helps to achieve better yarn evenness, which improves yarn strength and therefore results in a more uniform fabric appearance.

In addition, yarn imperfections (IPI) dropped by 14% and classimat faults were reduced. In closing, N Velusamy says: "We thank the Rieter After-Sales team for providing this effective maintenance solution." The draw frame mini kit is compatible with various models, including RSB-D 50, RSB-D 45, RSB-D 40, RSB-D 26, RSB-D 24 and RSB-D 22.

Make the Difference



Draw frame mini kit – maintaining high productivity and superb sliver evenness

Rieter's modular maintenance approach makes it easier than ever to keep draw frames in peak condition. The draw frame mini kit leads to better sliver quality and improved machine efficiency while minimizing machine downtime. Invest strategically in the right parts. Scan the QR code and learn how.



[Lead.me/bfk620](https://lead.me/bfk620)

Bangladesh, India & Pakistan need efficient modern spinning machinery at affordable price

Rahbar Hossain

Super Machine Works Pvt. Ltd., a key player in the Super Group of Companies, is renowned for its advanced textile machinery solutions. At DTG 2025 in Dhaka, the company showcased its latest innovations in spinning machinery. Their affordable machines aim to enhance productivity maintaining European standards while reducing operational challenges for manufacturers. Sundaram TS, Jt. Managing Director, Super Machine Works Pvt. Ltd. shared details with Textile Today at the expo.

Textile Today: *Could you please tell us about your technologies and why you think your technologies are unique compared to others?*

Sundaram TS: We are showcasing here the auto leveler draw frame machine, the semi-automatic open-end spinning machine, and also the carding machine. Currently, in India, more than 1000 auto leveler draw frame machines are installed and you can compare this machine with the Rieter D50 model in terms of quality, efficiency, and user-friendliness.



Figure: From (Left to Right) Alok Vatsraj, Head of Sales in India and Southeast Asia of Kinex, Sundaram TS, Jt. Managing Director, Super Machine Works Pvt. Ltd. and Engr. Arimpam Kumar Mondal Arup, CEO, Rotation World Ltd.

You can compare it with other contemporary technologies as well.

Actually, our main motto is to offer the same technology and performance at an affordable price. Countries like Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan need efficient modern machinery at the lowest price.

This is the demand of this region.

Textile Today: *Do you have a service team in Bangladesh currently?*

Sundaram, Super Group of Companies: We have our agent Arup working in Bangladesh. He has been in marketing for many years. He understands market demand well. So, we are confident that we can offer the best service to our customers. Very soon we will establish our own service center along with a sales network in Bangladesh.

KINEX showcases full range of industrial bearings at DTG 2025

Desk Report

Kinex Bearings, a Slovakian company, showcased its special bearings for textile rotor applications at DTG 2025 in Dhaka. The company manufactures and supplies rolling bearings for a range of industrial uses. Its automotive sector delivers both standard and specialty bearings for use in engines, gearboxes, drive trains, and water pumping systems, among other motor vehicle parts. Alok Vatsraj, Head of Sales in India and Southeast Asia of Kinex said to Textile Today, "We are here in Bangladesh for the

promotion of our products which is special bearings for textile rotor application and we have a complete range of industrial bearings. So, we are supplying industrial bearing for complete all the applications including food industry, textile industry, construction industry, steel industry. And for textile, we are having special bearings for rotor application and the specialty is that our bearings can go up to a speed of more than 125,000 rpm."

KINEX has more than 100 years of experience in mechanical

engineering and bearing production. The company's history began in 1906, when the company Považský železopriemysel was registered. The company went through a complex development process and was registered under the current company name KINEX in 1960.

Currently, production at the Bytča plant is focused on the production of bearings for the textile industry, for water pumps of internal combustion engines and the production of bearings for the aviation industry.

RMG sector faces challenges as knit yarn prices continue upward trend

Kh. Abdul Satter, Founder (BD Yarn)

As of March 2025, knit yarn prices in Bangladesh have been on the rise, driven by growing demand from the ready-made garment (RMG) sector. Despite the apparel industry facing a challenging period, the need for raw materials like knit yarn is expected to increase further due to Eid-ul-Fitr and the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha, key seasons for apparel production and sales.

This seasonal surge, coupled with sustained export pressures, is likely to push prices higher in the coming months. Industry insiders anticipate continued volatility, urging manufacturers to plan strategically as cost pressures and market uncertainties remain prominent in the textile supply chain.



Knit yarn price are below on 01.03.2025

100% Cotton Carded Yarn Price						
Yarn Count	100% Cotton	100% Cotton	100% Cotton	100% Cotton	100% Cotton	100% Cotton (80% Cotton+ 20% Recycled)
	Carded	Carded BCI	Carded CmiA	Carded IC2 (GOTS)	Carded OCS/ GOTS	Carded Recycled Yarn (GRS)
24/1 & 26/1	\$2.90	\$2.95	\$2.95	\$3.30	\$3.60	\$3.10
28/1 & 30/1	\$2.95	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.35	\$3.65	\$3.15
32/1	\$3.05	\$3.10	\$3.10	\$3.45	\$3.75	\$3.25
34/1	\$3.15	\$3.20	\$3.20	\$3.55	\$3.85	\$3.35
36/1	\$3.30	\$3.35	\$3.35	\$3.70	\$4.00	
40/1	\$3.55	\$3.60	\$3.60	\$3.95	\$4.25	

100% Cotton Combed Yarn Price					
Yarn Count	100% Cotton	100% Cotton	100% Cotton	100% Cotton	100% Cotton
	Combed	Combed BCI	Combed CmiA	Combed IC2 (GOTS)	Carded OCS/GOTS
24/1 & 26/1	\$3.20	\$3.25	\$3.25	\$3.60	\$3.90
28/1 & 30/1	\$3.25	\$3.30	\$3.30	\$3.65	\$3.95
32/1	\$3.35	\$3.40	\$3.40	\$3.75	\$4.05
34/1	\$3.45	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.85	\$4.15
36/1	\$3.60	\$3.65	\$3.65	\$4.00	\$4.30
40/1	\$3.85	\$3.90	\$3.90	\$4.25	\$4.55

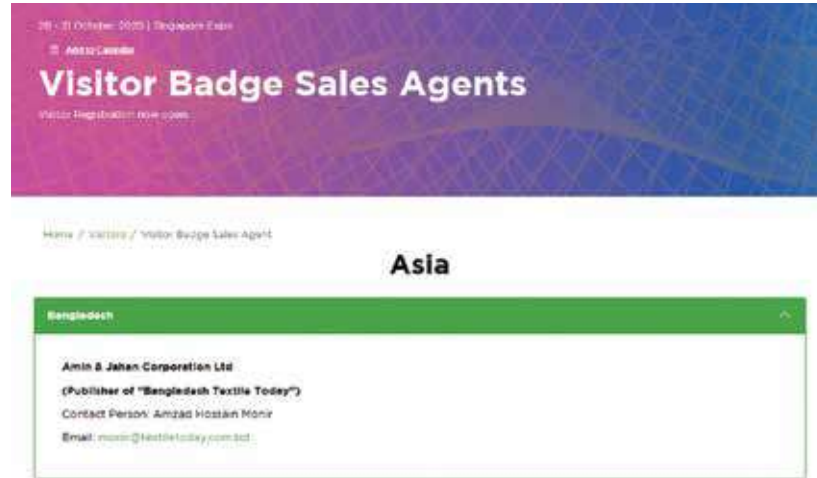
Visitor registration now open for ITMA ASIA + CITME, Singapore 2025

Amin & Jahan Corporation Ltd. (Publisher of Bangladesh Textile Today) named official visitor badge sales agent for Bangladesh

Amzad Hossain Monir

The textile and garment industry in Bangladesh can now gear up for one of the world’s most anticipated technology showcases—ITMA ASIA + CITME, Singapore 2025, taking place from 28 to 31 October 2025 at Singapore EXPO. Online visitor registration is now open, with attractive early bird discounts available until 28 September 2025.

In a major development for the Bangladesh textile sector, Amin & Jahan Corporation Ltd., publisher of Bangladesh Textile Today, has been appointed as the Official Visitor Badge Sales Agent for Bangladesh. Interested Bangladeshi visitors can connect with Amin & Jahan for seamless registration support and group coordination. Their official listing can be found at: <https://www.itmaasiasingapore.com/visitors/visitor-badge-sales-agent>



As the Leading Textile Technology Exhibition Driving Regional Growth, ITMA ASIA + CITME, Singapore 2025 promises to be a landmark event, especially for industry professionals from South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East. The exhibition serves as a strategic sourcing platform for textile and garment manufacturers to explore next-generation machinery, boost production efficiency, and adopt sustainable production methods.

Early Bird Registration Now Live

Take advantage of early bird pricing by registering online before 28 September 2025:		
• Four-day badge: S\$50 (early bird)	S\$60 (standard)	S\$100 (onsite)
• One-day badge: S\$25 (early bird)	S\$30 (standard)	S\$50 (onsite)

Visitors registering online by 28 September can enjoy significant savings, with early bird rates set at just S\$50 for a four-day badge and S\$25 for a one-day badge. Standard online rates after this period will be S\$60 and S\$30, respectively. Onsite rates during the exhibition will

be S\$100 for four days and S\$50 for a single day. All rates include GST and registration can be completed at www.itmaasiasingapore.com.

Speaking on the importance of the exhibition, Alex Zucchi, President of CEMATEX, emphasized that textile manufacturers are seeking advanced solutions to meet growing market demands through optimized productivity and enhanced quality.

Gu Ping, President of the China Textile Machinery Association (CTMA), noted the exhibition’s role in promoting regional collaboration and technology-driven growth, while Jemmy Kartiwa Sastraatmadja, Chairman of the ASEAN Textile Industry Federation (AFTEX), lauded it as a vital platform for enhancing the competitiveness of the ASEAN textile industry.

With over 770 exhibitors from 33 countries and regions already confirmed, the event is set to deliver an unparalleled display of cutting-edge textile machinery and solutions. The full exhibitor list will be made available in June 2025 on the event website and mobile app.

Originally launched in Singapore in 2001, ITMA ASIA was combined with CITME in 2008 in Shanghai. The 2025 edition marks a return to Singapore, expanding the event’s reach to serve the fast-growing markets of South and Southeast Asia.

For Bangladeshi visitors, Amin & Jahan Corporation Ltd. is ready to support badge sales and group coordination. Interested parties can contact them directly to register for joining at ITMA ASIA + CITME, Singapore 2025.



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Textile Today Innovation Hub Activities



An innovation project executor at Alliance Knit Composite Ltd. is observing the pre-treatment process.

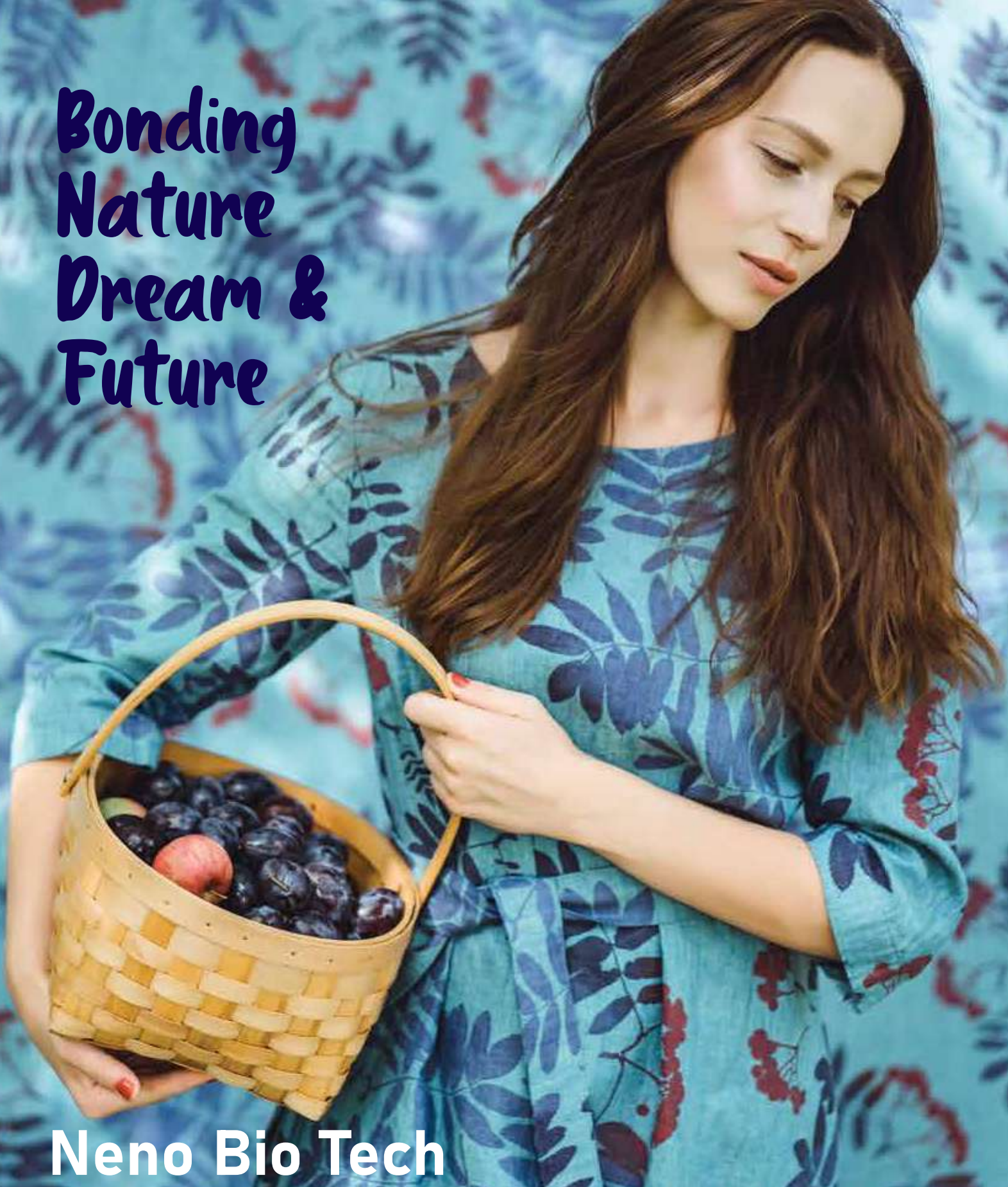


Reviewing process parameters as part of the ongoing innovation project at Southwest Composite Ltd.

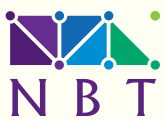


Innovation project work is in progress at Southwest Composite Ltd.

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ULTRAFAB 3356

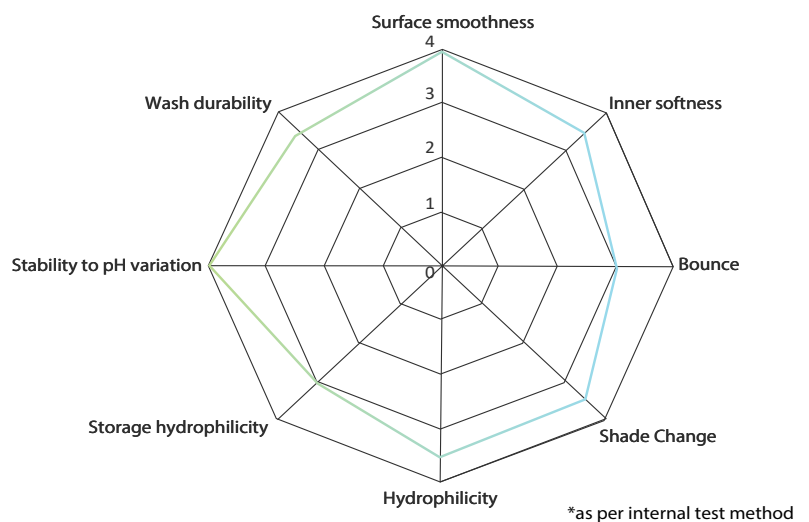
Hydrophilic micro silicone emulsion with modified backbone(pendant) for soft, smooth and bouncy hand feel, with good wash durability.



Conventional System

Classical Approach	Application quantity	Finish performance
Old silicone fluid technology along with classical emulsifiers	Higher dosage required to get satisfactory level of softness	Classical fluid emulsions may affect different fastness properties
Bath stability	Environment aspect	Application restriction
High susceptible to OBA, dye leaching, pH variation and water hardness	Classical approach always results in higher BOD and COD values.	Not suitable for exhaust application where higher shear force is in play
What's new?		
Backbone modification	Min/no yellowing for white substrate	Finish performance
Hydrophilic polar end blocked amino silicone with better anchoring to deliver durable hydrophilic rich finish.	Hindered chemistry resulting in min/no shade change or drop in whiteness.	Bounce with super soft finish No/little effect on the fastness of the substrate- Wash / water fastness for reactives Rubbing fastness pigment printed fabric
Stability	Exhaustion on the fabric	Phenolic yellowing
Good stability to moderate quantity of OBA, leached dye in finishing bath. Excellent stability during padding application.	High polar nature attracts water molecules full and fast with block quaternary amino polymer having good anchoring to substrate	Substrate finished with ULTRAFAB 3356 doesn't hamper the phenolic yellowing.

■ ULTRAFAB 3356



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