Textile Fabrics and Future Prospective

Kadole PV*
DKTE Society’s Textile & Engineering Institute, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, India

Unlike earlier days, the future prospective of the textile industry are just not restricted to apparels but are opening into new avenues like upholstery covering range of home furnishing which includes bed linens, carpets, curtains etc. and technical textiles which include geotextiles, medical textiles, agro textiles etc. Demands from consumer have been increased to great extent. Considering demands of today’s consumer, textile technologist needs to design textile products and to meet these needs, modern methods of production are revolutionizing in the industry.

In India, the Textiles Sector has the second largest share of employment after agriculture. The Indian textiles industry is extremely varied, with the hand-spun and hand-woven sector at one end of the spectrum, and the capital intensive, sophisticated mill sector at the other. The elimination of MFA quotas induced Indian policymakers to relax investment restrictions and to adopt market liberalization measures in the textile sector. With the objective of accelerating growth in exports and investment in the textile sector, Government of India is promoting Indian Textile Industry by offering various funding schemes. Few of them are listed below:

- Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS)
- Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks,
- Development of Mega Cluster
- Integrated Skill Development Scheme,
- Technology Mission of Technical Textiles

With such liberal policies of Government, surly textile industry will have great future.

Textiles and clothing is a unique industry in the global economy mainly for three reasons. First, most developed countries of today and newly industrialized countries used this industry as the springboard for their development journey and even some least developed countries were able to step onto the development ladder on the basis of textile industry. Millions of people, mostly women, are employed in this industry in these economies. Second, this industry has very low entry barriers; entry does not require huge capital outlay and factories can be set up with workers with relatively low skills. Therefore, this industry is characterized by high competition intensity. Third, this industry is the most protected of all manufacturing industries in the global economy, both in developed and developing countries. Protectionist interests have been extremely ingenious in creating new protectionist instruments in the past 50 years [1].

To speak about weaving industry, arrival of new types of yarn like slab yarn, fancy yarn, textured yarn, elastane, multifilament, multifilament etc. have made today’s weaving machines manufacturers essential to modify their machines to be perfectly capable of inserting and processing such type of yarns. Weaving machinery manufacturer are in position to fabricate the machines for industrial fabrics. The new electronic platform which is coming into use on weaving machines permits remote direct intervention by service points via internet connection with each individual machine. With these revolutionary changes on weaving machines weaver is now ready to produce the perfect fabric or the perfect material. Since new product developments are focused on future requirements of customers, weavers should always look for the most versatile and flexible weaving machines.

When it comes to knitted fabrics, they are used to manufacture knit wears, mainly due to its softer feeling, bulkiness, good draping quality etc. Knitting industry is low skill, labour intensive and remunerative, more attractive to workers, less capital investment, easy process, more turn over, and more profits and attractive to entrepreneurs. There is tremendous export potential for this product as the large number of Western garment manufacturers intend to source their requirement of fabric from India. Since, the machinery required to set up this industry are indigenously available, this industry can be easily set up with low investment and can be run by new entrepreneurs.

With the invention of new manufacturing techniques, today, the nonwoven-producing industry has obtained huge scope. This is mainly because of the advantages associated with this technology. To mention few, versatile product range with tailor-made characteristics, comparatively low cost of production, ease of manufacturing, etc. The nonwoven market is growing rapidly because of its proven feasibility in end uses like medical textiles, geotextiles filters etc. Of course, for better prospective of textile fabrics, government should take initiatives for compulsory use of geotextiles in road construction, disposable nonwovens in medical field etc.

The worldwide nonwoven industry has grown steadily at about 7.5% per annum in tonnage in the last decade. While the nonwoven industries growth in North America, Europe and Japan has slowed with maturity, these countries are still growing at 5% per annum. With a large textile manufacturing base and technical manpower, India has the potential to become the leading exporter of various nonwovens and technical textile products. A significant portion of worldwide nonwoven expansion is due to the rising demand for these materials as emerging economies like Asia expands. India and China are the key players contributing to this growth. India has a huge opportunity to capitalize on much larger portion of this growth. As nonwovens and technical textiles have been considered to be the most promising and dynamic segment of the textile industry, the demand and consumption of nonwovens and technical textiles will grow enormously in the near future. The period between 2010 and 2030 will be crucial for the technical textile sector in India as it will provide tremendous opportunities for both international and domestic players to enter into a market segment with a growth rate of 15% per annum. India is shining and is certainly a technical textile playing field to be in for the coming decade [2].

*Corresponding author: Kadole PV, DKTE Society’s Textile & Engineering Institute, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, India, Tel: +91-9422045539; E-mail: pvkadole@hotmail.com

Received December 23, 2013; Accepted December 23, 2013; Published January 02, 2014


Copyright: © 2014 Kadole PV. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.
Electronic textiles currently are attracting the most interest in textile research globally, and their effect on the textile industry will be enormous. The term electro-textiles, known as e-textiles, refer to fabrics that can function electrically as electronics and behave physically as textiles. On one end of the spectrum, there are pragmatic applications such as military research into interactive camouflage or textiles that can heal wounded soldiers. On the other end of the spectrum, work is being done by artists and designers in the area of reactive clothes: “second skins” that can adapt to the environment and to the individual. Fashion, health, and elecommunication industries are also pursuing the vision of clothing that can express aspects of people's personalities, needs, and desires or augment social dynamics through the use and display of aggregate social information. Electronic textiles will definitely upgrade quality of life innovatively. Of course, further strong research is essential in this area.

In all, for better prospective of textile fabric industry, few policies are required to be followed by the supplier. While in export, country suppliers should learn techniques like timeliness, consistency in delivery, quality assurance, increased importance to full package delivery etc. Constant improvement and upgrading in trade facilitation measures is a must. In order to reduce the burden on budgetary resources, both due to support provided and revenue foregone, governments could usefully explore several approaches to sector support. Textile keeps evolving due to changing demand of the buyers, sourcing patterns, availability of and access to technology, shifting levels of economic growth and increased consciousness as well as sensitivity towards corporate social responsibility and ethical procurement [3].

There are definitely further improvement possibilities in terms of improving the quality of processes and improving their productivity. As previously mentioned, the greatest potential lies in improving the total operating cost of the textile manufacturing process. This includes, in addition to quality and productivity, aspects like resource and energy balance sheets etc. To strengthen textile industry investment in R&D, setting up training centers for new technologies, funding facilities for infrastructure and machineries, market explorations etc are required efforts to be taken by the country. Abundant raw material, man power and government policies were the driving forces of Indian textile Industry till last few years. Technical know-how of machineries, new management techniques, changeover to new products, quality assurance, brand name etc. will be the forces which will drive the textile industry now onwards to have great prospective in near future.

References