

Textile Briefs International

- ❖ European clothing imports from Turkey, Tunisia and Morocco more strongly declined over the second quarter than from other Asian countries, reflecting the search for lower prices in economic recession and surging competitiveness from China on a post-quota market.
- ❖ With the recession in the US and the EU showing signs of recovery, Nepali garment manufacturers have started to receive fresh inquiries and orders from their overseas buyers. The new inquiries from the US mean a lot to Nepal's garment industry since it is the largest market for Nepali readymade garments.
- ❖ Japan's apparel imports further fell in the second part of the year in yen terms, while again rising in US\$ terms thanks to a new jump in the yen. Japanese buyers favored imports from cheapest origins, predominantly Vietnam, while China remained the largest supplier.
- ❖ Tanzania, East Africa's biggest cotton producer, cut its forecast for production of the fibre by 38% as drought and poor distribution of pesticides reduced yields. The estimate for the 12 months through June 2010 was lowered to 250,000 tonnes of seed cotton, compared with an earlier projection of 400,000 tonnes.
- ❖ US apparel imports under duty-free access are more sharply falling this year, reflecting the stronger competition from China after quotas were eliminated. After resisting for years, duty-free imports from Central America are retreating while shipments from QIZs in the Middle East or from sub-Saharan Africa are also negatively affected.
- ❖ In 2008-09, apparel exports from India had levelled off at \$10.17 billion, 14% short of the target of \$11.62 billion and about 4% above the exports of \$9.68 billion achieved in 2007-08.
- ❖ Taiwan is planning to open 192 investment projects for enterprises from Mainland China in Taiwan, formally starting the times of two-way cross-strait investment. According to statistics, as at the end of 2008, Taiwan businessmen invested 2044 projects in textile and garment industry in Mainland China; contractual investment recorded US \$1.96 billion.
- ❖ EU imports of cotton terry towels were slightly down over the second quarter this year, reflecting a sharp fall in more expensive shipments from China while imports from Pakistan were surging due to much lower prices. Indian towels benefited from the strongest rise in value terms.
- ❖ The Indian embroidery industry has now close to nearly 50,000 machines installed in the textile cluster city of Surat. Most of these machines are high tech embroidery machines imported mainly from China and other countries.
- ❖ Polyester prices sharply dropped in the last week of September in the Asian polyester chain, as a result of a crash in paraxylene prices. Asian PX production is rapidly rising, while Chinese imports did not yet decline. PTA prices are also falling, being similarly depressed by new Chinese capacities.
- ❖ EU imports of polyester staple fibers heavily fell in euro terms over the second quarter this year, partly reflecting a significant drop in prices from the same period in 2008. Spanish and French imports dramatically declined, as a clear sign that spun yarn industry is strongly suffering in both countries.
- ❖ Large textile firms from India are gearing to increase production after almost a year-long lull, on the back of a revival in international orders, but the pressure on pricing continues. About one-third of India's textile and garment exports are shipped to the US, however, it constitutes less than 5% of the US' imports.
- ❖ Exporters from Bangladesh will have to wait another year, even though signs of recovery from recession appeared in western countries. Readymade garment (RMG), Bangladesh's prime foreign exchange earner, will not benefit from this positive signs in the near future.
- ❖ China's textile machinery industry saw a continued decline in total profit and a hefty slump in imports and exports in the second quarter of 2009. Analysts anticipated a continued weakening of momentum for China's textile machinery markets, owing to weaker consumer spending and easing export growth.
- ❖ The spinning industry in many countries including India has improved from the end of 2008 and beginning of 2009, however, the business outlook is still to be viewed with caution according to an assessment by Cotlook.com
- ❖ The Indonesian government may spend about 85% of the Rp 240 billion (US\$23.75 million) allocated in the 2009 state budget for its textile machinery revitalization program, exceeding targets set in previous years. According to the Industry Ministry, nearly 200 textile manufacturers have registered for the program, which will allocate nearly Rp 1.75 trillion for new machines.
- ❖ EU imports of polyester filament fabrics sharply fell in volume terms over the second quarter of this year while prices jumped at the same time. Anti-dumping duties set on Chinese shipments resulted in a dramatic fall in imports from China and a strong rise in Chinese prices from a very low level. The German market heavily fell after better resisting in previous years. ◆