



BANGLADESH

Government again fails to meet GSP conditions

The country has once again failed to fulfil the required conditions for reinstatement of GSP status to the US markets within the deadline of April 15, mainly due to bureaucratic tangles. The Commerce ministry is now set to submit a report which does not contain any account of substantial progress with respect to the 16-point action plan provided by the US for regaining the generalised system of preferences. This is the second time that the government has failed to make an impression on the Obama administration. The first progress report submitted in November last year disappointed the US so much that the second deadline of April 15 was set, a month ahead of Obama Administration's review of the suspension decision. One of the major conditions was to recruit additional 200 factory inspectors by this deadline, but, so far, the labour and employment ministry has taken only 25 first-class inspectors through the Public Service Commission (PSC).

Jute mills closed in the last several months

Bangladesh has 94 spinning mills in the country, of which around 20 were closed down in the last 7/8 months and many more mills are running below their

capacity and will be forced to close down soon if the situation doesn't improve. According to industry players, the implementation of the mandatory packaging law could rescue the local millers by increasing demand in the domestic market. Though the law was passed in 2010, the government is yet to implement it mainly due to an absence of associated rules and regulations.

Jute mills are also affected due to a depressed international market and currency devaluation in India. But the major reason behind the closure of the factories is the government's failure to implement a packaging law for compulsory use of jute sacks to pack food grains and other items.

Exports of raw jute and jute sacks and bags plunged by a half so far this fiscal year. However, exports of jute yarn and twine that account for half of the country's total exports of jute and jute goods increased by nearly 6% during the first nine months till March this fiscal year.

According to Shabbir Yusuf, President of the Association, the global demand has gone down, while production cost has increased. Moreover, Syria which was a big market for Bangladesh's jute yarn, imported around 70,000 tonnes of yarn a year is totally off now because of the ongoing political unrest there. Also, Iran which used to import around 40,000 tonnes of yarn a year from Bangladesh is also at a halt because of US sanctions against the country.

Kaihan N Rahman, Deputy Managing Director, Pubali Jute Mills said that the current adverse situation has forced us to lay off workers temporarily. Pubali used to make mainly jute sacks and bags and export to countries like India, Thailand, Egypt, Syria, Turkey, Iraq and Sudan. Most of these markets have been facing political turmoil for months, while devaluation of the Indian currency has shrunk Bangladesh's exports of jute and jute goods there.

As per Bangladesh Jute Mills Association (BJMA), 5/6 jute mills, including Pubali, Mohsin Jute Mill and Ajax Jute Mills, were closed in the last several months.

Garment sector yet to reach peak level: Expert

The garment manufacturing industries in Bangladesh have not yet reached the peak level where they would need to shift to another level of industrialization to avoid decline, said Dr. Ludovico Alcorta, Director, Development Policy, Statistics and Research Branch (DPR), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

He drew attention to the fact that as GDP per capita rises; industries grow and reach a peak level before they decline. In view of the global growth prospects of textile industries, Bangladesh's manufacturing industries still have the potential to grow before reaching the aforesaid peak level before shifting to another level of industrialization.

Participants at the dialogue were of the opinion that Bangladesh's garment and textile sectors were in need of human resource development, infrastructural up gradation and significant policy impact in order to take a journey towards raising productivity for structural transformation of the country.

During the discussion, one of the Panel Presenters Dr. Dirk Willem te Velde, Head of Programme, International Economic Development Group, ODI, UK, recommended favourable changes in public policy, and incentives for Bangladesh's readymade garment industry which has an export value greater than the individual GDP of some 90 countries.





BRAZIL

Use of water in textile production reduced by 90%: ABIT

The use of water in textile production has reduced by 90% in the last decade due to use of modern technologies, according to a research by Brazilian Association of Textile and Clothing Industry (ABIT).

Since the 2000s, the use of water in textile production has decreased by 90%, i.e. if 100 litres of water was required to produce 1 kg of fabric earlier, it now needs only 10 litres of water, ABIT said in a statement.

The water discharged from the textile industry now undergoes modern wastewater treatments and then is re-used elsewhere in the factory, and is returned much cleaner to the atmosphere.

In the textile and clothing industry, the costs of water and electricity are very relevant. Hence, the industry has to adapt new production processes, and address economic and environmental issues. Industries which do not adapt these processes eventually break, said Rafael Cervone, President of ABIT.

In order to make sustainability a business strategy for textile firms, ABIT has developed a certification, which demonstrates the compliance of the product to ethically, socially and environmentally sustainable way of production.

At present, the main available technologies for reducing use of water in the textile industry are dry clean, wastewater treatment, and treatment system of tributaries.

Dry cleaning process has become a benchmark in the global textile chemical industry. The process consists of dyeing cellulosic fibres with reactive dyes, which recycles the water baths and decreases the amount of salt and chemical feedstock's in the process without interfering with the quality of the final textile product.

In wastewater treatment, use of ultra-filtration membranes allow increased capacity for water reuse and efficiency in treating wastewater, along with a significant reduction in turbidity.



CHINA

Anti-dumping duties imposed on cellulose pulp imported into China

China has imposed anti-dumping duties on cellulose pulp, made from plant fibre which is used as raw material in the production of viscose and acetate fibre. Anti-dumping duties are imposed on cellulose pulp imported from the United States, Canada and Brazil. It has started levying anti-dumping duty on cellulose pulp import from April, 2014 and the duties will last for five years, the announcement came from the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOC).

The decision to impose anti-dumping duties on imported cellulose pulp came in only after investigating into the matter and studies the impact of imports on its domestic market. The anti-dumping survey was launched in February last year.

Anti-dumping duty rates for U.S. imports levied ranges from 16.9% to 33.5%, those for Canadian imports from zero to 23.7%, and Brazilian companies are subject to rates from 6.8% to 11.5%.

However, Bahia Speciality Cellulose is the only producer in Latin America, based in the State of Bahia, Brazil. A company of Sateri International Group, headquartered in Shanghai, China, focused in viscose production for the textile industry has been exempted from the anti-dumping duties. This was announced by the Ministry.

The reason for imposing anti-dumping duties on cellulose pulp is that

companies from the United States, Canada and Brazil have been dumping cellulose pulp into the Chinese market which is causing considerable damage to the Chinese domestic industry due to such imports.



INDIA

Mulberry silk contribute 80% of total production

Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, the three states together produce 80% of India's Mulberry silk. Of which Karnataka has been the biggest producer of mulberry silk. As silkworms feed solely on mulberry leaves, mulberry acreage is widely used to assess growth in sericulture. The state's overall share in India's mulberry acreage has declined to 39 % last year from 49% five years ago.

In fact, Karnataka as a silk producer is seeing a constant decline in mulberry acreage. In 2012-13, it fell 18.9% to 74,128 hectares, compared with 91,434 hectares in 2007-08. In Karnataka, the



ONLINE AUKTION

On behalf of the entitled parties we are auctioning online against highest bid the well-maintained textile dyeing, printing and finishing machines of the company

SATI FABRICS, S.L.
Carretera de Ribes s/n km 3,5, 08530 La Garriga (Barcelona), Spain

Thursday, 26th June 2014, Start: 10.00 am

Approximately 400 items are put up for auction. These include:
Dye shop: continuous bleaching and dyeing plant, KÜSTERS, width 340 cm (1998); **15 ribbon dyeing machines**, NOSEDA + ILMATEC, width 340 cm, 140 °C (up to 2006); **2 jet dyeing plants**, ILMATEC, Univerflow; **jet dyeing plant (ISAKA)**, NOSEDA, Cut SR 1 L, 100 kg, 143 °C (2006); **HT jet dyeing plant**, MCS, Multiflow XJ HT (2001); **3 jiggers**, ASISA + VH, 800 kg; **HT jigger**, ASISA, UCL-UCP, 500 kg, 135 °C; **3 yarn dyeing units**, LORIS BELLINI, RBNO 1800/2000, capacity 7,080 l, 160 °C, hot with drawal f. polyester dyeing (2001); **yarn dyeing unit**, LORIS BELLINI, RBNI 550/132 (2007); **2 yarn dyeing units**, NOSEDA, TFAS 1020/2000, 700 -1,200 l, 170 °C (2002 +07); **yarn centrifuges**, **2 padding machines**, KÜSTERS, width 180/420 cm; **embossing calender**, KÜSTERS; **winding machines**
Textile printing: rotary screen printing machine, REGGIANI, Renoir Futura, 12 printing units, width of web 320 cm; **rotary screen printing machine**, STORCK, RD 4; **blotch printing machine**, BUSER, 1680/18000
Textile finishing: 3 stenter frame units, BABCOCK + FAMATEX, width 340 cm (up to 1999); **sanforizing unit**, TEPA, 31000, width 330 cm; **coating unit**, STORCK, width 340 cm; **tumbler**, JAUME ANGLADA VINAS, TBR-3,2 D-F, width 320 cm (1999); **4 calendars**, KÜSTERS + ASISA, width 160 - 330 cm; **10 cloth inspecting machines**, TESTA, 111, max. cloth width 340 cm; **doubler winder unit**, TECNOTEAM, D 02 U, width 340 cm; **raising machine**, LAMPERTI, SMB/A, width 300 cm (2001), a.m.o.
Viewing: Thursday, 19th June 2014, 9.00 am - 5.00 pm. Please schedule your visit.

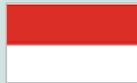
Vereid. u. öffentl. best. Versteigerer u. Schätzer von Maschinen und Industrieanlagen:
 NetBid Industrie Auktionen AG / Angermann & Lüders GmbH & Co. KG
 ABC-Strasse 35, D-20354 Hamburg, info@netbid.com, www.netbid.com
 Tel.: 00(49) 040 3550 59-190, Tel.: 00(34)0661 411 469, Fax: 00(49) 040 3550 59169

fall in mulberry acreage according to a report by the Comptroller and Auditor General was due to fact that between 2007-08 and 2012-13, plants were deracinated across 55,694 hectares, more than the area added during this period. Also, the area added was only 38,388 hectares, against the target of 122,000 hectares.

The decline in mulberry acreage has hit raw silk production in the state. In 2012-13, production stood at 7,063 tonnes, 2.4% lower than 7,238 tonnes in 2008-09. Compared to the production of 7,796 tonnes in 2011-12, the decline was 9.4%.

Between 2007-08 and 2012-13, production of raw silk ranged between 89.65 and 117.04 kg a hectare, a year. The lowest productivity was reported during 2009-10, despite the mulberry acreage being the highest at that time. The state sericulture department attributed the low productivity in 2009-10 to drought conditions. The low productivity in 2011-12 and 2012-13 was attributed to shortage of technical staff.

On the other hand, Andhra Pradesh has increased its production from 19% to 22%. According to the Central Silk Board (CSB), this was attributed to scrupulous implementation of improved packages for mulberry cultivation. In 2012-13, India's overall mulberry silk production rose 2.42% to 18,715 tonnes from 18,272 tonnes in 2011-12.



INDONESIA

Skill development in textile industry

The government of Indonesia is laying emphasis on human resource development in the textile industry, as the industry is one of the mainstays of commodity manufacturing industries and an important component of national economic development, said Ansari Bukhari, Secretary General of the Ministry of Industry. He said Indonesian textile industry continues to deliver a surplus trade balance and it plays a major role in the process of industrialization, as the products produced from raw materials like fibres to consumer goods like apparel have good inter-industry linkages.

He said that the growth prospects of the Indonesian textile industry would be better in future due to high demand in the domestic market and the rising world consumption.

At present, the share of the Indonesian textile industry in the world market is only 2%, so there is still a very large opportunity for the textile industry to expand in the world market.

The Ministry of Industry has made strategic efforts for the development of the national textile industry, and one such effort is the Program for Restructuring of Machinery in textile and clothing industry, since 2007. Under the program, rebates and interest subsidy is given to

textile companies for up gradation of machinery and equipment.

Under the program, Rp. 9.9 trillion investment was injected into the textile industry from 2007 to 2012, while the production has increased by 15%-34%, energy consumption reduced by 5%-9%, and productivity increased by 6%-10%.

Along with the improved performance, there is also a need for increased human resources in the textile industry. In order to cater to the manpower needs, the Ministry, in collaboration with the Textile Industry Association (API), has conducted skill development programs since 2011.

Accordingly, in 2013, 600 people were trained in garment making and were absorbed and placed in several garment units that have signed a memorandum of understanding with the BDI Jakarta.

The Ministry representative said certification of competence becomes critical in view of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) that will take effect at the end of 2015. The AEC will open opportunities for workers from other ASEAN countries to compete with Indonesian labour in order to get a job in the country.



JAPAN

Textile machine exports swell 33.5% in 2013

The exports of textile machines from Japan surged up by 33.5% year-on-year to 253.354 billion yen in 2013, according to the trade statistics released by the Ministry of Finance.

Textile machine exports to the US increased by a sharp 37.3% year-on-years to 7.269 million yen during the 12-month period, while those to the EU rose by a substantial 59% year-on-years to 11.103 million yen.

Accounting for the bulk of the exports, Asian countries imported 207.357 million yen worth of textile machines from Japan in January-December 2013 period, registering a growth of 33.5% year-on-year. Of this, exports to China climbed 27.1% year-on-year to 115.386 million yen, whereas those to the Asean countries inched up by 18.3 %year-on-year to 27.556 million yen.



In 2013, Japan exported 657.313 million yen of textile yarn and fabrics, showing a rise of 6.9% compared to the exports made in the previous year, as per the data.

While Japan's textile yarn and fabric exports to the US increased by 9.3% year-on-year to 43.669 million yen during the year, its exports to the EU rose 17.3% year-on-year to 58.652 million yen.

Japan supplied 498.674 million yen worth of textile yarn and fabric to Asian countries, recording a growth of 4.9% year-on-year. Of this, exports to China decreased by 0.6% year-on-year to 242.583 million yen, but exports to Asean nations increased by 11.1% year-on-year to 145.564 million yen.



KYRGYZSTAN

Textile and apparel output records 7.6 billion soms in 2013

In 2013, Kyrgyzstan produced textiles and garments valued at 7.6 billion soms, according to the Ministry of Energy and Industry. Segment-wise, the textile production was 1.206 billion soms, while clothing accounted for 6.394 billion soms. Apparel accounted for 84.1% of all textile and clothing production in Kyrgyzstan in 2013. About 80% of all garments were produced by individual entrepreneurs operating on a patent basis.



Compared to 2012, there was a decrease in Kyrgyz apparel production, which the Ministry attributed to growth of import of 'Made in Kyrgyzstan' products from China, and also to the government's decision to increase the rate of customs duties on raw

materials like fabrics, accessories and other support materials for the production of apparel to US\$ 0.35 per kg.

Meanwhile, the Ministry has developed two medium-term programs for the development of the textile and apparel industry of the country, under the Development of Textile and Garment Production of the Kyrgyz Republic Program for 2013-2015.

Moreover, the Kyrgyz government is currently finalizing a draft aimed at banning import of textiles and clothing products with 'Made in Kyrgyzstan' label.

The Development of Textile and Garment Production of the Kyrgyz Republic Program for 2013-2015, was introduced by the government of Kyrgyzstan in March 2013, with the aim of developing the domestic textile and garment industries.

The program emphasizes creating favourable conditions for development of textile and garment industries, in terms of exports, development of new markets, and training workers for the industry, with the aim of increasing the share of domestic goods in the domestic market.

Quantima®

OilFREE

TURBO COMPRESSORS

ISO CLASS:0
zero
PLUS SILICONE FREE



- Low Energy Use
- Lower CO₂ Emission
- Lowest Physical Resources
- Lower Noise Level - 69dB(A)
- No Gearbox and No Oil
- Variable Speed Technology
- Energy Saving up to 25%
- Predictive Maintenance
- Repair Warranty at Low Cost



Green Technology Carbon Credits

RASTGAR
AIR COMPRESSORS

CompAir

111 - 727 - 777

Darul Uloom Plot # 9, Shahrah-e-Darul Uloom, Sector 28, Korangi Industrial Area, Karachi-75180, Pakistan

Fax: +92 21 35123112

Email: ko@rastgar.com

Web: www.rastgar.com

KARACHI

LAHORE

ISLAMABAD

• SALES • SERVICES • SPARES • SOLUTIONS



PARAGUAY

Paraguay & Brazil sign cotton cooperation agreement

The Central South American country of Paraguay has signed an international cooperation agreement with Brazil and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), with the aim of combating the pest weevil that has been damaging the cotton fields in the country, and increasing cotton production.

According to a statement issued by the Paraguayan Ministry of Foreign Relations (MRE), the agreement 'Strengthening Cooperation Program of the Cotton Sector through South-South Cooperation' was signed between Paraguayan Minister of Foreign Affairs Eladio Loizaga, United Nations (UN) resident coordinator in Paraguay Dona Cecilia Ugaz and Fernando Jose Marroni de Abreu, Director General of the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) at the MRE office in the Paraguayan capital city of Asuncion.

The program forms part of the Paraguayan government's efforts to revive the cotton sector of the country in order to make it as an income generating crop for farm families in Paraguay, through establishing various policies that could improve the production capacity and provide technical assistance to cotton growers in the nation.

Under the agreement, the program would be funded by the Brazilian Cotton Institute (IBA) through the ABC and the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA), with a total budget of US\$ 2.03 million.

Minister Eladio Loizaga expressed gratitude on behalf of Paraguayan Minister of Agriculture Jorge Gattini and said that the cooperation agreement signed between the two countries is the most important, since it is a project that would be beneficial to the rural families.

The signing of the agreement demonstrates the commitments of the governments of Brazil and Paraguay towards developing the cotton industry that could lead to further development of the textile industry in the country.



PERU

Textile & apparel exports rise 7% in first 2 months

Textile and clothing exports from Peru amounted to US\$ 272 million during the months of January and February 2014, registering a rise of 7% compared to the same months in 2013, as per the data released by the Integrating System for Information of Foreign Trade (SIICEX) of Peru.

According to the Monthly Exports Data for February 2014 by SIICEX, textile and clothing exports from the country got a boost during the first two months of the current year owing to the good performance of exports, especially in the garments sector, in major markets such as the US, Venezuela, Brazil and Colombia.

Majority of the exports were destined to the US with Peru exporting textiles and clothing worth US\$ 114 million during the months of January and February, registering a rise of 12.2% compared to the same months in 2013.

Venezuela ranked second with Peruvian textiles and clothing exports

amounting to \$44 million, followed by Ecuador with \$12 million, and Colombia and Brazil with \$11 million each.

The highest exports of textiles and clothing were made from the Peruvian capital city of Lima, accounting for 77% of the overall textile and apparel exports made from the country during the first two months of 2014. Arequipa ranked second accounting for 9%, followed by Ica with 8% and Callao with 4%.

In January 2014, textiles and clothing exports from Peru totalled US\$ 130 million, registering a rise of 2.8%, compared to the same month in 2013, as per the Peruvian Ministry of Trade and Tourism (MINCETUR).

Last year, Peru exported textiles and clothing worth \$2 billion, of which clothing shipments totalled \$1.6 billion, accounting for 80% of the total textile and apparel exports from the country.

The US was the main destination for exports of Peruvian textiles and garments, accounting for 34% of the overall exports of textiles and apparel during 2013.



SPAIN

Textile & clothing exports reach 12 billion in 2013

Textile and apparel exports from Spain during last year amounted to 12 billion, indicating a rise of 12.4% year-on-year, as per the data released by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness.

According to the data on exports released by the Ministry, the exports from the apparel sub-sector totalled 8.6 billion during 2013, registering a surge of 15.4% compared to 2012. The textile and clothing exports accounted for 5.1% of the total exports from the country during last year.

Meanwhile, in terms of imports, the country imported textiles and clothing worth 14.8 billion during last year, showing an increase of 5.1% year-on-year, of which apparel imports amounted to 11.2 billion, recording a rise of 4.4% compared to 2012.

In 2012, Spain exported textiles and apparel worth 10.733 billion, indicating a surge of 9.1% year-on-year.





Cotton yarn exports rise 66.4% in 2013: USDA

Cotton yarn exports from Thailand amounted to US\$ 217,495 during last year, registering a rise of 66.4%, compared to 2012, as per the data released by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

According to the USDA report on Thailand Cotton 2014, Thailand exported 63,821 tonnes of cotton during last year, totalling \$217,495, whereas during 2012, the country exported around 33,908 tonnes of cotton amounting to \$130,693.

China was the main destination for exports of Thai cotton yarn during 2013, with Thailand exporting 42,115 tonnes of cotton worth \$121,546, followed by Japan with 4,850 tonnes totalling \$27,322, South Korea with 3,735 tonnes amounting \$14,217, Sri Lanka with 1,979 tonnes worth \$8,546 and Malaysia with 1,822 MT with \$7,784.

Meanwhile, Thailand imported 11,166 tonnes of cotton yarn totalling \$60,195, recording a fall of 9.4%, compared to cotton imports of 14,375 tonnes worth \$66,469 during 2012.

As per the USDA report, China was the main supplier of cotton yarn to Thailand during last year, supplying 3,657 tonnes worth \$27,805. India ranked second with Thailand importing 3,848 tonnes of cotton worth \$15,749 during last year, followed by Japan with 867 tonnes totalling \$3,646, Indonesia with 611 tonnes amounting to \$3,257 and Egypt with 412 tonnes worth \$2,455.

In 2011, Thailand exported 28,992 tonnes of cotton yarn totalling \$153,435, whereas the country imported 14,227 tonnes of cotton yarn amounting to \$76,008.



Textile sector most important for economy: TOBB

Turkish textile sector is the most important for the country's economy contributing towards employment, production and exports, said Abdulkadir Konukoglu, Chairman of the Union of

Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) as well as the Textile Industry Council, at the recently held 13th International Izmir Textile and Apparel Symposium (IITAS) in the Turkish city of Antalya.

At the symposium, the TOBB Chairman said the Turkish textile sector managed to create around 125,000 new jobs in the country within the last few years and has contributed immensely towards the growth of the economy.

Turkey has made enormous progress in the clothing as well as fashion industry, because within the last few years, the country has emerged as one of the nations advanced in fashion, amongst the likes of Italy and France, which are the most evolved fashion centres in the world.

Mr. Konukoglu explained the importance of the sector and need to invest in research and development (R&D) for creating innovative products that can create an image for Turkey globally, making it a top contender against China which is currently leading in the textile sector.

Organized by the Textile Engineering Department of the Ege University in Izmir, the IITAS symposium is an event where leading textile industry experts and professors come together and present papers on the progress as well as the future of the Turkish textile industry.

During the four-day event, a special session dedicated to technical textiles and functional textiles, titled '2BFUNTEX' was also held where entrepreneurs in the textile industry of Turkey got the opportunity to exchange information regarding the latest developments and technologies in technical and functional textiles.

MG ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES
AN ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS COMPANY

We are one of the most recognized engineering consultants of Pakistan, registered with Pakistan Engineering Council. The main focus of our company is to provide Engineering Consultancy Services & Engineering Solutions.

Our Consultancy Services Mix Are:

- ✓ Utilities Planning
- ✓ Power plants, Feasibility & Planning (Gas Engine/Gas Turbines)
- ✓ Co-Generation and Tri-Generation (Jacket & Exhaust Heat)
- ✓ Energy Conservation Management (Saving in millions , Successful track)
- ✓ Alternative Energy Solutions (Coal , Biomass , Solar etc.)
- ✓ Boiler House & Auxiliary Equipments
- ✓ Steam Distribution & Condensate Recovery
- ✓ Compressed Air Distribution System
- ✓ Chiller & Auxiliary Equipment
- ✓ Heating, Ventilation & Air-conditioning
- ✓ Water Desalination and R.O Plants
- ✓ Waste Water Treatment Plants
- ✓ Power Distribution System (Medium & Low Voltage)
- ✓ Cable Engineering
- ✓ Illumination Engineering (Internal & External)
- ✓ Earthing system
- ✓ Lightening Protection system

GROUND FLOOR, 342/3, B.M.C.H. SOCIETY, SHARFABAD, KARACHI 74800, PAKISTAN
• T +9221-3413-4119 & 3413-4121 • F +9221-3491-7104 • E info@mgengg.com • WWW.MGENG.COM



Japanese textile firms want more Vietnamese guest workers

Textile companies in Japan are seeking to recruit more workers from Vietnam to make up for a lower number of guest workers from other nations this year.

Owing to an increase in domestic demand, several countries, including China, have decreased the number of their guest workers sent to other countries, including Japan, according to the Board.

As a result, Japan needs labour force from other countries, and it has shortlisted Vietnam as a source for supply of guest workers, which opens up job opportunities for Vietnamese textile workers.

However, it would not be easy for Vietnamese workers to get selected as guest workers, as Japanese firms need high professional skills.

The criteria for foreign textile workers for recruitment in Japan includes a two years of work experience, but many candidates having experience of more than 2 years have failed to clear the professional examination. ♦