

21 New Textile Parks approved by CCEA

NEW DELHI, NOV. 11—

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved to start implementation and issuing financial sanction to the 21 parks sanctioned in the 11th Plan and to carry over the committed liability beyond Rs.200 crore amounting to Rs.819 crore into the 12th Plan, in amendment of the approval granted by the CCEA in October, 2010.

The CCEA further approved the adoption of amendments in guidelines of the scheme to improve implementation.

Background:

The scheme of Integrated Textile Parks has been successful in terms of leveraging private sector investment, employment generation and creation of need-based and product based world class state of the art infrastructure for the industry. With the increasing costs of production in the established clusters and highlighted emphasis on environmental compliances, there is a growing need for establishment of such green field textile parks.

In October 2010, the CCEA approved a proposal for "Sanction of additional Parks under SITP to utilize the balance Rs.200 crore in the 11th Plan and number of projects to be limited in such a way that committed liability of the new Parks does not exceed Rs.200 crore in the 12th Plan". In accordance with this decision, 21 parks were sanctioned.

The process of releases took longer than anticipated and therefore funds available in the 11th Plan could not be utilized.

Handloom and handicraft sector should be given enabling policy support: President

From Our Correspondent

NEW DELHI, NOV. 11—

The President of India, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee has conferred 20 Shilp Guru Awards, 18 Sant Kabir Awards along with 74 National Awards to master craftspersons and master weavers at a function in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Speaking on the occasion, President Mr. Pranab Mukherjee congratulated all the awardees for their "contribution in preserving, promoting and enriching the traditional and cultural heritage of our country." The President was also confident that the recognition to the awardees will "inspire and encourage others to work hard and emulate your efforts to bring prosperity to

artisans and weavers across the country."

Mr. Mukherjee said that the government should provide enabling policy support which can lead to sustainable growth of the handloom and handicraft sectors.

"There is a need to be aware of the emerging challenges and also the opportunities presented by the changing global environment...we have to adapt to the changes that are taking place not only within the country but also globally," said Mr. Mukherjee.

He further added that "modernisation in the weaving technique, improvement of designs and pattern, access to

modern tools, technology and implements, upgradation of skills to ensure quality, supply of good quality basic inputs like yarn, dyes, and chemicals in time and to create a sound marketing infrastructure would not only give the required impetus but also make the products of the weavers and craftspersons more competitive."

Mr. Sharma also congratulated the awardees, weavers and artisans for their outstanding contribution in preserving and enriching the unique and artistic cultural traditions of different parts of the country. Speaking during the occasion, Mr. Sharma recognised the fact that supporting the rural



artisans is not only integral to the duties of a welfare state, but is essential for preserving those traditions which for centuries have embodied the nationhood.

"We have supported the establishment of Urban Haats across the country and also

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Pantaloon posts net profit of Rs 258 cr in Jul-Sept

MUMBAI, NOV. 11—

Future Group firm Pantaloon Retail has reported consolidated net profit of Rs 257.90 crore for the September quarter.

The company had posted a consolidated net profit of Rs 15.05 crore in the corresponding period last year, but the company said the numbers cannot be compared as it has extended its accounting year till December 30.

Pantaloon's net sales for the quarter stood at Rs 3,542.84 crore as against Rs 3,180.26 crore a year ago.

In a separate exchange filing, Pantaloon and Future Ventures India said their boards approved a proposal to consolidate their fashion businesses into a new, to-be-listed entity Future Fashion.

Future Fashion will own and operate retail chains Central, Brand Factory, aLL and Planet Sports. It will operate around

3.5 million square feet of retail space across 140 departmental and speciality retail stores.

"This consolidation will help create the base for the next phase of growth of the Future Group in modern retail. We grew multiple formats in the early stages of our growth, and now as each one of them has become sizable, we are giving them independence to propel their growth." Future Group chief executive Kishore Biyani said.

Lenzing reports successful start of the fifth line at Indonesian subsidiary SPV

By Our Staff Reporter

MUMBAI, NOV. 11—

PT. South Pacific Viscose (SPV) has now the world's largest viscose fiber plant. In late October, trial operations of the fifth production line started successfully at Lenzing's Indonesian subsidiary PT. South Pacific Viscose. With an additional nominal capacity of 80,000 tons of viscose fibers p.a., the annual total capacity of SPV will increase to 320,000 tons once Line 5 has been launched. SPV will thus exceed the capacity of

the parent plant in Lenzing/Upper Austria (250,000 tons p.a.) for the first time and become the world's largest viscose fiber plant.

"Asia is the most important market for the Lenzing Group. It's where we generate more than half of our fiber revenues. Therefore it is only logical that our largest plant is located in Indonesia", Peter Unterspenger, Chief Executive Officer of Lenzing, explains the general thrust of the expansion. "More than half of our fiber production capacity is now

located in Asia."

Indonesia has a significant textile industry, which represents one of the largest industrial sectors of the Southeast Asian island state. SPV has been an important supplier and reliable partner of the local industry for nearly 30 years. Moreover, customers are supplied with high-quality fibers for textile and nonwovens use from the Purwakarta plant not only in the Asian region, but in nearly all continents.

Glen Raven upbeat on Indian market

MUMBAI, NOV. 11—

The history of US-based Glen Raven, Inc. is a long and fruitful one. Founded in 1880 by Mr. John Q. Gant with its headquarters in Glen Raven, North Carolina, the company has grown from a small cotton mill into a global leader in performance fabrics. The company is still owned and managed by Mr. Gant's descendants with Mr. Allen E. Gant, Jr. as the President and CEO of Glen Raven, Inc.

Glen Raven's ability to identify and lead niche market segments throughout history has contributed greatly to its success. Within the first few years of operation, Glen Raven became one of the first mills in the US to dye fabrics. After being one of the first companies to adopt synthetic fibers and build knitting operations, the growth in women's hosiery led to the invention of panty hose in 1959.

Having an expertise in rayon provided Glen Raven with an opportunity to manufacture parachute fabrics throughout World War II, specializing in parachute fabrics for air drops of heavy military equipment, which is a product focus that continues today. Following the war years, a weaving operation was opened in Burnsville, N.C., USA, in 1948 focusing on nylon and polyester used in a wide array of products, from luggage to sail cloth, another operation that is still used today.

Continuing to build on this knowledge of technical fabrics, Glen Raven introduced its Sunbrella brand of performance fabrics in the 1960s, which essentially made its own awning product at the time- cotton duck- obsolete. Today, Sunbrella is the premier performance fabric used globally for awnings, furniture, marine applications, and convertible car tops particularly Rolls Royce.

To expand Glen Raven's global presence, Dickson, SA of France was added in 1998, and by 2000 a global performance fabrics strategy was implemented. To support its activities throughout Asia

and the Pacific Rim, the company completed a 190,000-square-foot business center in China in 2006.

With the acquisition of long-standing business partners The Astrup Company and John Boyle & Company in May 2007, Glen Raven joined forces with two of the United States largest distributors of fabrics, hardware and finishing supplies for the awning, marine and casual furniture industries. The new company, Tri Vantage, merged Glen Raven's resources with those of Astrup and Boyle to position the company to serve its global markets with greater supply chain efficiency and the highest level of customer service.

As part of the Astrup and Boyle acquisition, Mumbai-based Strata Geosystems (India) Pvt. Ltd., also came under the umbrella of Glen Raven. Strata India is an end-to-end geotechnical solution provider for reinforced soil walls, slope protection and stabilization, erosion control, foundation improvement for structures and embankments, steep slope embankments, strengthening of paved and unpaved roads, storage yards and industrial flooring.

Speaking with Tecoya Trend recently, Mr. Allen E. Gant, Jr. informed that Strata Geosystems (India) Pvt. Ltd., which was established in 2004, is a joint venture with Strata Systems Inc., USA - part of the Glen Raven group of companies.

Mr. Gant said that in India, the JV company headed by Mr. Ashok Bhawnani and Mr. Narendra Dalmia, manufactures knitted geogrids at Daman and was certified in 2009 by ISO 9001:2008. Strata is the leading provider for geosynthetic solutions in India with its StrataGrid becoming the highest selling uniaxial geogrid in India. Strata products are accredited by IRC and have received the CE marking, he said.

The Glen Raven CEO expressed huge confidence in the Indian market. "We are satisfied with our growth in India. The future is

fabulous with increasing investment in Indian infrastructure. We are upbeat for the next 100 years," Mr. Gant noted.

He said that the vision of Glen Raven and Strata India is to unlock minds of 'our associates' and fulfilling professional experiences through enthusiasm, focus, teamwork, diversity, creativity and innovation. "Our associates are our valuable resource and asset and we trust them," he stressed.

Strata has had the opportunity of working and executing some of the most challenging projects across the country with esteemed clientele such as National Highways Authority of India, IL&FS Transportation Network Limited, Soma, IRB Infrastructure Developers, IVRCL, GVR, IJM, H.G Group, SEW, Meenakshi among others. The main products of the company which are used by the Indian infrastructure companies include StrataGrid, StrataWeb, StrataBlock, StrataWall and StrataSlope. The company not only supplies the geotextiles but offers geotextile solution and undertakes turnkey projects. Strata under-takes civil construction work in order to provide end-to-end solutions, it may be noted here.

Mr. Gant said that "we are not a manufacturing and marketing company. We are 'market opportunities' company. We offer our customers market driven solution. We deliver product and services marked by excellence in quality, design and performance that deliver value and satisfaction at a level that instills preference and insistence in our customers."

It may be noted here that historic flag planted on the moon in 1969 was made of Glen Raven fabric and the company continues to be well placed in the hands of Mr. Gant. The future too is bright considering the fact that the young generation of Gant Family - Mr. Allen Gant III, son of Mr. Allen E. Gant, Jr. is well-groomed and all set to keep the Glen Raven flag flying high.