# NEWSLETTER

October 2024 to December 2024

Issue: 3

2024-2025

FOR MEMBERS ONLY



# The Textile Association (India)

Mumbai Unit

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### EDITORIAL

#### The Stitch of the Future: How AI is Redefining Textile and Fashion Innovation

The textile and fashion industries, often perceived as traditional and rooted in craftsmanship, are rapidly evolving through the transformative power of artificial intelligence (AI). Once confined to niche applications, AI is now a driving force in every stage of the fashion value chain-- from design and production to retail and consumer experience. As the industry faces growing demands for sustainability, efficiency, and personalization, AI is emerging as a game-changer, promising to redefine the very fabric of fashion.

One of the most significant ways AI is revolutionizing fashion is through design innovation. AI-powered tools can analyze vast datasets, including past collections, current trends, and even social media sentiment, to predict what consumers will want next. This datadriven approach enables designers to create highly relevant collections faster and more accurately, reducing guesswork and costly missteps. Machine learning algorithms can also assist in the design process itself, generating novel patterns or even entire garment concepts based on specific parameters such as color, fabric, and silhouette. This fusion of human creativity and machine intelligence is pushing the boundaries of fashion design, opening up new possibilities for innovation.

In textile manufacturing, AI is improving both efficiency and sustainability. Smart factories, powered by AI-driven automation, are optimizing processes like cutting, sewing, and quality control with precision. Robots equipped with AI can perform repetitive tasks at high speeds while minimizing errors, resulting in higher productivity and less waste. Moreover, AI is helping brands reduce overproduction, a significant issue in the fashion industry. By using AI to predict consumer demand more accurately, companies can better align production with actual market needs, reducing surplus inventory and cutting down on textile waste - a major environmental concern.

Al is also transforming the retail experience, making it more personalized and interactive. Virtual try-ons, powered by computer vision and Al, allow customers to visualize how clothes will look on their bodies without ever trying them on physically. Personalization algorithms, based on consumer behavior and preferences, suggest outfits tailored to individual tastes, making shopping more intuitive and enjoyable. Additionally, Al chatbots and virtual assistants provide real-time customer service, answering questions and guiding consumers through their buying journey.

In the age of AI, fashion is no longer just about aesthetics; it's about smart, sustainable, and personalized solutions. As technology continues to evolve, AI will play an increasingly pivotal role in shaping the future of the fashion industry. From speeding up design cycles to reducing environmental impact and creating more immersive shopping experiences, AI is stitching together a future where fashion is as innovative as it is sustainable.

Dr. Vijay Gotmare Hon. Editor (Newsletter)

Thank you for all the support and trust on us... We look forward a New Year filled with more opportunities to serve you better...



### TAI, Mumbai Unit Office Bearers

Rajiv Ranjan President

**C. Bose** President Emeritus

**R. R. Patil** Vice President

> V. C. Gupte Chairman

Dr. G. S. Nadiger Vice Chairman

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Rajiv Mohile Jt. Hon. Secretary

Navin P. Agrawal Jt. Hon. Secretary

Prof. K. D. Gawand Hon. Treasurer

**Dr. V. D. Gotmare** Hon. Editor (Newsletter)



Mr. Rajiv Ranjan President

# From the Desk of the President

Greetings and best wishes for the new year 2025 to all members of the Textile Association (India) - Mumbai Unit.

Last quarter, we lost Mr. Avinash Mantri, one of the pillars of our TAI-Mumbai Unit and a remarkable individual. It's difficult to find the right words when someone as special as Mr. Mantri leaves us. His passing is not only a personal loss to those of us who were fortunate enough to know him as a colleague and friend, but also a profound loss to the entire textile community and to The Textile Association of India – Mumbai Unit, where he served with dedication, vision, and integrity as our Secretary and Vice-Chairman.

As we step into another quarter, it is my privilege to address you through this newsletter, sharing updates, insights, and reflections on the dynamic world of textiles and apparel. The past few months have been marked by both challenges and achievements, and I am proud of the resilience and innovation displayed by our industry in navigating these times.

# State of the Industry

The textile and apparel industry continues to be a pillar of India's economic framework, contributing significantly to GDP, exports, and employment. In recent months, we have witnessed encouraging growth in domestic demand, supported by rising consumer confidence and the festive season. On the global front, India's position as a reliable and quality-centric textile hub is strengthening, with exports showing resilience despite global economic uncertainties.

However some challenges still remain. The low forecast for the cotton crop in the coming year could be daunting for the industry. Inspite of the imposition of a minimum import price, the import of cheap knit fabrics continues unabated from China, threatening to kill the domestic knits and woven fabrics sector.

Sustainability, digital transformation, and innovation remain key focus areas, with stakeholders across the value chain taking proactive steps to align with global trends. From adopting green technologies to leveraging digital tools, our industry is embracing the future with determination.

### Key Highlight from the Last Quarter

### 1. International conference on the topic 'Automation and Robotics in Textile & Apparel Industry'

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit organized an International Conference on "Automation and Robotics in Textile & Apparel Industry" on Friday, 15th November 2024 at Hotel The Lalit, Mumbai. The Conference received overwhelming response with 350 delegates in attendance. The theme of Conference, topics, presentations, and speakers were highly appreciated by one and all.

The conference reinforced the image of Mumbai Unit for holding conferences and seminars on cutting-edge topics and raising the bar every year organising these events.

#### Focus for the Next Quarter

#### 1. Promoting sustainability

As a unit, we are committed to promoting sustainable practices across the textile ecosystem. Our upcoming initiatives will focus on circular economy models, waste reduction, and energy efficiency, encouraging our members to adopt eco-friendly innovations.

## 2. Digital Transformation

The integration of automation and robotics is reshaping the industry, and we aim to equip our members with the knowledge and skills to harness these technologies.

#### 3. Networking and Collaboration

Building connections remains a priority. Our team is working to facilitate networking opportunities through conferences, webinars and seminars, creating a platform for meaningful collaborations and growth.

#### Message of Gratitude and Optimism

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to each member for their unwavering support and active participation. Your contributions drive the success of our initiatives and uphold the reputation of the Mumbai Unit as a beacon of innovation and leadership in the Textile Industry. The success of our last conference would not have been possible without the hard work, involvement and tremendous support of the members.

As we move forward, let us continue to embrace change with optimism and enthusiasm. Together, we can overcome challenges, seize opportunities, and ensure that the Indian textile and apparel industry remains a global leader.

Wishing you all a productive and fulfilling quarter ahead.

Warm regards,

Rajiv Ranjan President Textile Association (India)-Mumbai Unit

### **International Conference on**

# Automation and Robotics - in Textile & Apparel Industry

15th November 2024, Hotel The Lalit, Mumbai

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit organized an International Conference on **"Automation and Robotics in Textile & Apparel Industry"** on **Friday, 15th November 2024** at Hotel the Lalit, Mumbai. The Conference received overwhelming response with 350 delegates in attendance. The theme of Conference, topics, presentations, and speakers were highly appreciated by one and all. Some of the highlights of the conference are described as under.



Chief Guest Ms. Roop Rashi, Textile Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India lighting the lamp.

Standing (L to R): Mr. R. R. Patil, Vice President, TAI, Mumbai Unit, Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, President, TAI, Mumbai Unit, Mr. Navdeep S. Sodhi, Partner, Gherzi Textil Organisation, Zurich, Mr. Priyavrata Mafatlal, Managing Director, Mafatlal Industries Ltd., Ms. Roop Rashi, Textile Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, Mr. T. L. Patel, President, TAI, Mr. G. V. Aras, Conference Chairman & Trustee, TAI, Mumbai Unit, Mr. V. C. Gupte, Conference Convenor & Chairman, TAI, Mumbai Unit.



Welcome Address by Mr. V. C. Gupte, Conference Convenor & Chairman, TAI, Mumbai Unit.

**Mr. V. C. Gupte**, Chairman, TAI, Mumbai Unit and Convener of the Conference welcomed Chief Guest, Ms. Roop Rashi (IA &AS), Textile Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, Keynote Speaker, Mr. Navdeep S. Sodhi, Partner, Gherzi Textil Organization, Zurich, Awardee, Speakers, sponsors, Press, Media, and delegates. Mr. Gupte welcomed and congratulated the awardees Mr. Pradeep Dodhia. Managing Director, Dodhia Synthetics for "The Industrial Excellence Award". Mr. Gupte explained the programs organized by TAI Mumbai Unit over the past few years initiating with Industry 4.0 as the future needs of the textile trade and industry. He described that automation and robotics have become buzz words in the textile industry during the last decade and developing strategies for minimizing labour, enhancing productivity and quality. He mentioned that TAI, Mumbai Unit has always selected contemporary & innovative topics in all the conferences organized and presentations by high profile speakers. This conference is also no exception to the set tradition especially the theme being of international importance.

**Mr. Rajiv Ranjan**, President, TAI, Mumbai Unit in his presidential address, described the role of automation and robotics in the future advancement of productivity and quality. Initiatives such as automation in the textile value chain adopted by the organized sectors have yielded the results and minimized labour intensive operations. However, MSMEs must pick up momentum to actively involve in technology upgradation and reap the benefits of automation. He also said the apparel industry due to induction of modern machines have adopted the Automation to a larger extent. In this pursuit, the present program organized by TAI, Mumbai unit, he said will, give an insight of the automation and robotics in achieving the higher level of productivity, reduction in manpower deployment and enhanced quality norms thereby achieving better cost benefit ratio.



Presidential Address by Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, President, TAI, Mumbai Unit.

Mr. G. V. Aras, The Conference Chairman and Trustee, TAI, Mumbai Unit briefed about the details of the conference, including topics and speakers. He said every attempt has been made to address the theme from the perspectives of organized industry and MSMEs apart from international perspectives. He described that over the last more than a decade, Automation Technology has helped the Indian Textile Industry in increasing the productivity, improving efficiency, improving quality of the output, optimizing the resources and reduction of costs. Mechatronics and Artificial Intelligence has long been in use by the textile machinery industry while producing the state of the art textile machines. The apparel manufacturing industry has been one of the fastest amongst the textile value chain to use automation in the production lines. In the light of the above, this conference is organized in the opt time to discourse on the need to adopt automation, Robotics and Al. He informed that the conference will be addressed by knowledgeable speakers and panelist from the related field who would bring their rich experience in sharing with the delegates.

**Mr. Navdeep S. Sodhi**, Partner 'Gherzi Textil Organization, Zurich in his keynote address described the changing dynamics of the textile value chain in the 21st century wherein the automation, Robotics, AI have far reaching implications on the operations and management of the textile and apparel Industry. In this regard, he discussed the journey of automation and robotics in the international perspectives in respect of future developments of textile and apparel industry. Since India is a potent manufacturing hub with conducive ecosystem and policy interventions, Indian textile and apparel industry is poised to make a quantum jump. He emphasized that automation can be adopted in all the sectors of the textile and apparel industry and is the need of the immediate future of the textile trade and industry.

**Mr. Priyavrata Mafatlal**, Managing Director, Mafatlal Industries Ltd, who was the Guest of Honour, addressed the gathering. He expressed his appreciation for the chosen topic of the international conference by the TAI, Mumbai Unit. He emphasized that modern textile industry needs to adopt the technology and machineries with automation features for exhibiting competitiveness in terms of quality and productivity. It is an era of advanced technology driven enterprise which implies that the automated or robotics involved machineries-based technology in manufacture and other activities in the supply chain. He complimented the TAI Mumbai Unit, for organizing the conference on the topic of current interest to the textile trade and industry.



Mr. Pradeep Dodhia, Managing Director, Dodhia Group receiving The Industrial Excellence Award by the hands of Chief Guest Ms. Roop Rashi.



Address by Conference Chairman, Mr. G. V. Aras



Key Note Speaker Mr. Navdeep S. Sodhi, Partner, Gherzi Textil Organisation addressing the gathering.



Guest of Honour, Mr. Priyavrata Mafatlal, Managing Director, Mafatlal Industries Ltd. addressing the gathering.

#### The Industrial Excellence Award

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit has set a precedent by felicitating the textile professionals/industrialists for their outstanding contribution to the textile industry. In present Conference, the TAI, Mumbai Unit felicitated Mr. Pradeep Dodhia, Managing Director, Dodhia Group with "The Industrial Excellence Award" for his contribution in the field of textile and Apparel industry. Mr. Pradeep Dodhia in his remarks, emphasized the role of the textile and clothing sector in the light of international scenario. He thanked the TAI Mumbai Unit, for recognition and honouring him.

**Ms. Roop Rashi**, (IA &AS), Textile Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, the Chief Guest of the event addressed the delegates. She described the importance of the theme of the conference regarding holistic approach for the development of the textile and clothing sector. She highlighted the synergy of machinery development and promotion in achieving the productivity and quality. She emphasized the importance of the automation and robotics in achieving high productivity and improved quality. She complimented the TAI, Mumbai Unit for choice of the topic and organizing the international conference as it is an important topic of current interest to the textile trade and industry.

#### Informative technical sessions

There were two Technical Sessions – each Session had 5 papers and a Panel Discussion.

#### **Technical Session I**

Technical Session I was chaired by **Dr. G. S. Nadiger**, Chairman, Professional Award Committee, Textile Association (India) who moderated the session. There were five papers, and oral presentation was made by the authors.

**Mr. S. Anandhakumar**, Vice President-Sales (Exports), **Mr. P. Satyanandan**, Vice President (Sales) and **Mr. Ramanathan**, Sieger Spintech Equipments Pvt. Ltd presented a paper on "Automation opportunities in the Textile industry". The authors presented the potential scope in automation in the textile value chain including composite units. The paper was well received by the delegates as witnessed in the question answer session.

**Mr. Sudhir Mehani**, Chief Digitalization Officer, Marzoli, India, made a presentation on "Building Smarter Factories: AI and Path to predictive maintenance' 'Machine health Management '. Artificial Intelligence and ISO, IEC standards were discussed. Author brought home the ease of adopting AI and other tools in automation in textile machineries.

**Mr. Fabian Altorfer**, Sales Manager, Steinmann Central Vacuum Systems, Switzerland, made a presentation on "Steinmann Central Vacuum Systems- Automated Textile Waste Management Solutions" As one of the leading machinery manufacturers globally, presentation focused on automated textile waste management solutions in line with Steinmann Central Vacuum Systems. Presentation covered various types of textile waste and explores automated waste handling solutions across processes like air-jet spinning, openend spinning, and winders. Key points included the benefits of Steinemann's Central Vacuum Systems, disposal logistics for different textile processes, and its global presence. The presentation also highlighted variations in disposal methods, demonstrating Steinemann's comprehensive approach to waste management in textile manufacturing.

**Mr. Gilberto Loureiro**, CEO and Co- Founder of Smartex ai, USA made presentation on "Automation in Action: The power of Smartex Inspected Fabric Towards Zero waste Textile Supply Chain" The presentation focused on the use of automated Smartex Inspected Fabric adopted in the manufacturing cycle which can reduce waste significantly at different levels of manufacturing including garmenting, knitting and Dyeing through AI enabled real time inspection of fabric. The quality assurance through automation can also lead to enhanced production and quality thereby better profit margins.



Chief Guest Ms. Roop Rashi, Textile Commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India addressing the gathering.



Release of Book of Papers



Technical Session I – Speakers (Sitting L to R): Mr. Gilberto Loureiro, CEO & Co-Founder of Smartex.ai, USA, Mr. Sathyanandan P, Vice President – Sales, Sieger Spintech Equipment's Pvt. Ltd., Mr. S. Anandhakumar, Vice President – Sales (Exports), Sieger Spintech Equipment's Pvt. Ltd., Dr. G. S. Nadiger, Chairman, Professional Award Committee, The Textile Association (India), Mr. Victor Macovei, Area Sales Manager, Color Service s.r.l., Italy, Mr. Sudhir Mehani, Chief Digitalization Officer, Marzoli India, Mr. Fabian Altorfer, Sales Manager, M/s Steinemann Central Vacuum Systems, Switzerland.

**Mr. Victor Macovei**, Area Sales Manager, Color Service s.r.l; Italy made presentation on "Automatic Dosing and Dispensing Systems". Speaker highlighted the scope and goal of dye house automation through automotive dosing and dispensing systems, Presentation focused on saving of dyes, chemicals, labour and improvement in quality and productivity.

At the end of the technical session, the questions were welcome from the delegates. The clarifications/answers were provided by the respective authors. At the end, the chairman of technical session summed up briefly the deliberations in the session and thanked the authors who had prepared and presented their papers.

#### **Technical Session II**

Technical Session II was chaired by Professor (**Dr.**) **Ashok Athalye**, Department of Fibers and Textile Processing Technology, ICT, Mumbai, who moderated the session. Like Technical Session I, there were five papers, and oral presentation was made by the authors.

**Mr. Umesh Prasad**, Director, UV Hitech Pvt. Ltd, enlightened the audience on the importance & significance of "Storage Automation Opportunities for the textile Industry". He covered various aspects of inventory management and highlighted the resultant benefits in terms of value addition. A few industrial case studies enumerated the practical outcome and the resultant advantage of adequate and optimum storage automation. He emphasized that the tailer made solutions are needed in the automation of the storage as each situation is discreet.

**Mr. T. Harshavardhan**, CEO, Count AI Pvt. Ltd. and his associate from the affiliated organisation IndoTexnology Pvt Ltd presented the 'Cascading benefits of Automatic Inspection of Textile Materials. The defects associated with the circular knitting process resulting in fabric construction damage causing significant wastage of material and financial loss. Online inspection linked with process control can automatically stop machine working to control the occurrence of fabric defects.



Technical Session II – Speakers (Sitting L to R): Mr. Harshavardhan T., CEO, Count AI Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Thirupathi S., Managing Director, Indo Texnology Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Umesh Prasad, Director, UV Hitech Pvt. Ltd., Dr. Ashok Athalye, Professor – Textile Chemistry, Department of Fibers and Textile Processing Technology, ICT, Mr. Navin P. Agrawal, Sr. Vice President, Textile Engineering - Fabric Forming, A. T. E. Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Parag S. Kothari, Chairman & Managing Director, Jaysynth Orgochem Limited, Mr. Mangesh B. Raut, Director – Sales & Marketing, SoftCore Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

**Mr. Navin P. Agrawal** Sr, Vice President, Textile Engineering- Fabric Forming, A.T.E Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. made the presentation on "Machine Upgradation- Need of Time". In his presentation, he described automation or application of robotics in the machines is normally linked to modernization namely replacement of machines with automatic machines. This case leads to constraints in terms of budgetary limitations on the part of the textile or apparel unit. Instead of capital intensive proposition, the author proposes to upgrade the available machines to tune for automation. With his experience of implementing in different textile units as case studies, he illustrated the possibility of automation through machine upgradation, and automation that can be done economically. ATE team have been working on this hypothesis as an alternate development strategy for the textile and apparel industry.

**Mr. Parag Kothari**, Chairman and Managing Director, Jaysynth DyeChem Ltd. discussed 'Automation in Textile Printing', emphasising the developments in the fasted growing segment of Digital Printing. He elaborated on the features and benefits of using Pigment Ink-Jet printing and the advantages in terms of substantial reduction in water footprint, energy conservation enhanced productivity and the resultant Point of Sale usage. He described the conventional printing technique and digital printing and brought advantages of digital printing and some of the challenges involved. He brought home the theme of automatic printing through digital printing technology.

**Mr. Mangesh Raut**, Director- Sales and Marketing, Software Solutions Pvt. Ltd made presentation on "Technology Transformation for Textile and Apparel Industry". In his Presentation, he informed that the use of various Information Technology Based management tools such as SAP, IOT ERP pave path for automation. He emphasised the software developed by his company 'SOFTCORE'. A number of case studies wherein the company has worked in regard to textile and apparel units were showcased. The presentation impressed upon the technology transformation leading to integrated solutions in the overall enterprise management.

At the end of the technical session II, there were questions from the delegates and the clarifications/answers were provided by the respective authors. Prof. Athaley, Session Chairman, summed up briefly the deliberations in the session and thanked the authors who had prepared and presented their papers.

#### **Panel Discussion Session**

The theme of the Panel Discussion was on "Automation and Robotics: Challenges and Opportunities" bringing together a diverse group of industry experts, technology innovators, and business leaders. The event drew an enthusiastic audience, reflecting the growing importance of technological transformation in one of India's most significant economic sectors.

The Panel Discussion was moderated by **Mr. Rajiv Ranjan**, President, The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit.

The panel discussion served as a valuable platform for industry stakeholders to explore the impact of automation and robotics on the textile and apparel industry. The event highlighted the sector's readiness to embrace change while addressing the challenges that come with integrating advanced technologies into traditional workflows.

The panel included some of the most respected personalities from the industry:

- 1. **Mr. Kailash R. Lalpuria**, Executive Director and CEO, Indo Count Industries Ltd.
- 2. Mr. Rajesh Relekar, Vice President, Birla Cellulose, Grasim Industries Ltd.
- 3. **Mr. S. Rajendran**, Senior Vice President, Business Head-Textile Engineering Processing and Accessories, Zonal Head-South India, A.T.E. Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.
- 4. Mr. K.B. Prasad, Vice President, IIGM Pvt. Ltd.
- 5. **Mr. Amit Mittal**, Management Consultant & Advisor, Independent Director, Madasky Consulting



Panel Discussion Session (Sitting L to R): Mr. S. Rajendran, Senior Vice President, Business Head – Textile Engineering Processing, and Accessories, Zonal Head – South India, A. T. E. Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Amit Mittal, Management Consultant & Advisor, Independent Director, Madasky Consulting, Mr. Rajesh Relekar, Asst. Vice President – Marketing (Pulp & Fibre Business), Birla Cellulose, Grasim Industries Ltd., Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, President, The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit, Mr. K. B. Prasad, Vice President, IIGM Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Kailash R. Lalpuria, Executive Director & CEO, Indo Count Industries Ltd.

Mr. Rajiv Ranjan skillfully steered the discussion to cover a wide range of topics, from the technical advancements driving automation to the economic and social implications of robotics adoption in India's textile sector.

The panel discussion delved into several critical areas, offering valuable insights for all delegates. Below are the highlights:

- 1. Opportunities in Automation and Robotics The panelists emphasized the potential of automation and robotics to revolutionize the textile industry by:
  - Enhancing efficiency and productivity: Automated processes like robotic sewing, cutting, and fabric handling drastically reduce time and cost.
  - Improving quality control: AI-driven systems ensure consistent product quality, minimizing defects and waste.
  - Driving sustainability: Advanced technologies allow for precise resource utilization, reducing water and energy consumption.
- 2. Challenges in Implementation

Despite the promise of automation, the panel acknowledged several challenges:

- High Initial Costs: The adoption of robotics involves significant investment, making it inaccessible for many small and medium enterprises (SMEs).
- Skill Gap: There is a pressing need to upskill the workforce to operate and maintain advanced systems.
- Job Displacement Concerns: Automation raises concerns about labor displacement, particularly in India, where the textile industry is a significant employer.
- 3. Government Support and Policy Initiatives

The panelists called for stronger government policies to enable smoother transitions to automation. Key suggestions included:

- Expanding incentive schemes for automation investments.
- Creating training and upskilling programs for workers to bridge the skill gap.
- Strengthening support for SMEs to adopt robotics through subsidies or shared resources.
- 4. The Role of Collaboration

One of the recurring themes was the importance of collaboration between industry players, technology providers, and the government. Such partnerships can:

- Accelerate the adoption of cutting-edge technologies.
- Foster innovation tailored to India's unique needs and scale.
- Create a supportive ecosystem for both large and small manufacturers.

The discussion was followed by an interactive Q&A session, where attendees had the opportunity to pose questions to the panelists. Questions ranged from the technical feasibility of specific automation solutions to the socioeconomic impact of these technologies on India's textile workforce. The panelists provided thoughtful and comprehensive responses, further enriching the discussion.

The event was widely appreciated by attendees, who represented a broad spectrum of the industry, including manufacturers, exporters, designers, technology providers, and policy-makers. Participants lauded the panel for addressing the challenges of automation with a balanced perspective while highlighting opportunities that could drive growth and sustainability.

In closing the session, the moderator summarized the key takeaways, emphasizing the importance of:

- Investing in technology to stay competitive in the global market.
- · Fostering innovation to address unique challenges in the Indian context.
- · Prioritizing sustainability in all automation initiatives.
- · Preparing the workforce for a technology-driven future.

The event concluded with a resounding message: while the path to automation in the Indian textile and apparel industry comes with challenges, it also presents unparalleled opportunities for growth, efficiency, and sustainability. Stakeholders must act collectively and decisively to harness the potential of these transformative technologies.

There was good interaction by speakers with the delegates during question answer sessions/Tea & Lunch break resulting thereon effective delivery of the thought sharing on the theme of conference "Automation and Robotics in Textile & Apparel Industry".

**Mr. Haresh B. Parekh**, Hon. Secretary, TAI, Mumbai Unit proposed vote of the thanks to everyone who have contributed for the success of the international conference which was attended by around 350 participants.



Vote of Thanks by Mr. Haresh B. Parekh, Hon. Secretary, TAI, Mumbai Unit.



The Distinguished Audience



# The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit conducted ATA & GMTA Examination of The Textile Association (India), Central Office.

The Textile Association (India), Central Office conducts ATA, GMTA examinations to enable experienced technicians to enhance their qualifications. The award 'Associate-ship of the Textile Association (ATA)' is given on the basis of examination in three parts, similar to the Courses offered by the Polytechnic Institutes. Graduate Member of the Textile Association (GMTA)' is the up-gradation of ATA course. It has been designed on the basis of more of industry oriented curriculum spread in five sections. This is comparable to the Four Year Degree courses offered by any textile degree Institutes.

The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit conducted ATA & GMTA Examination of The Textile Association (India), Central Office for the year 2024-2025 from 21st December 2024 to 25th December 2024 in their Conference Room.

This exam was attended by 7 students from TAI, Mumbai Unit for ATA Part I, ATA Part II and GMTA Section A, B & C.

This year about 76 students attended ATA & GMTA exams at various Units of the TAI all over India.





# Obituary



LATE SHRI AVINASH V. MANTRI (21.02.1953 – 11.10.2024)

Shri Avinash V. Mantri who was the Vice Chairman & member of the Governing Council of The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit passed away on 11th October 2024 at the age of 71 years. He was one of the key functionaries of this important Organization of Textile Professionals.

Shri Mantri was a very active member of The Textile Association (India) and served the TAI, Mumbai Unit as a Hon. Secretary from 2007 to 2023. He was honoured with the Service Memento and Service Gold Medal by TAI for his meritorious services and contribution to the Textile Association. Shri Mantri's contribution in redevelopment of Santosh Building was enormous and he played a vital role in the success of the conferences and seminars organized by TAI, Mumbai Unit. He was very strong in administration work and was very particular and disciplined about any work.

Shri A. V. Mantri did his B.Sc. in 1978 from Bombay University and joined Century Textiles & Industries Limited as a Liaison Office and rose to the Sr. Managerial level of the company with his hard work and efficiency. He worked with Century Textiles & Industries Limited for 39 years and retired in the year 2017.

The Mumbai Unit was very privileged and will always be proud to have a person like Shri Mantri at the helm of its affairs and his absence will be very much felt by the Association. His sad demise is a great loss to the TAI, Mumbai Unit.

Shri Mantri a man of the masses who truly had a special place in the hearts of many Textile Professionals. He is no more with us but his memories will always inspire us in the years to come. By the sad & sudden demise of Shri Mantri, The TAI has lost a very important Pillar of Strength.

A Condolence meeting in memory of Shri A. V. Mantri was held on 14th October 2024 at TAI, Mumbai Unit Office.

Our prayers to the Almighty to give everlasting peace to such a kind, compassionate and wonderful soul.

# **Forthcoming Events**

# LIVE WEBINAR



The Textile Association (India) Mumbai Unit

# Impact of current situation in Bangladesh on Indian Textile Industries and way forward

# SATURDAY 11TH JANUARY 2025 11.00 AM TO 12.30 PM

# MODERATOR



**Dr. G. S. Nadiger** Chairman, PAC, TAI and Vice Chairman, TAI, Mumbai Unit

# SPEAKER



**Mr. R. K. Vij** Advisor - Polyester Indorama Synthetics (India) Ltd.

# SPEAKER



Mr. Piyush Chandarana Business Head SRNL, Uganda, Africa

**Click Link Below** 

# **Registration Link:**

# https://us05web.zoom.us/meeting/register/vP1xmTP0TLiNQZpiN84Y\_w

(After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar)

RAJIV RANJAN President **R. R. PATIL** Vice President V. C. GUPTE Chairman H. B. PAREKH Hon. Secretary

# The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit

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# Linked in THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING PRESENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA: HOW TEXTILE ASSOCIATION (INDIA), MUMBAI UNIT ACHIEVED 9,000 FOLLOWERS RAPIDLY ON LINKEDIN

In today's interconnected world, social media is not just a platform for networking but a crucial tool for organizational growth, outreach, and influence. For institutions like the Textile Association (India) – Mumbai Unit, leveraging social media effectively is a testament to the importance of adaptability and strategic engagement in an increasingly digital landscape. Achieving 9,000 followers on LinkedIn within a short span is a remarkable milestone that highlights the power of social media when harnessed with purpose and creativity.

### WHY SOCIAL MEDIA MATTERS

Social media platforms are the digital equivalents of bustling marketplaces where ideas, information, and opportunities are exchanged. For an organization like the Textile Association (India) – Mumbai Unit, being present on these platforms means staying relevant, visible, and engaged with stakeholders.

### THE JOURNEY TO 9,000 FOLLOWERS

Achieving 9,000 followers in a short time is no small feat, and TAI-Mumbai's success is a result of strategic planning, creative content, and consistent engagement. Here are the key strategies that contributed to this rapid growth:

#### 1. Understanding the Audience

TAI-Mumbai began its social media journey by understanding its audience—textile professionals, students, manufacturers, and industry leaders. By analyzing their interests, challenges, and preferences, the association tailored its content to resonate with its followers.

#### 2. Content Strategy

A well-thought-out content strategy was pivotal. TAI-Mumbai focused on creating a mix of content that included:

Industry Insights: Sharing updates on trends, technologies, and developments in the textile sector.

Event Promotions: Highlighting workshops, conferences, and webinars organized by the association.

Thought Leadership: Posting expert opinions from industry veterans.

#### 3. Consistency and Timing

Consistency was key to maintaining momentum. Regular posting schedules and strategically timed content ensured that TAI-Mumbai stayed visible and relevant.

#### LESSONS FROM TAI-MUMBAI'S SUCCESS

TAI-Mumbai's journey to 9,000 followers offers valuable lessons for organizations looking to establish a strong social media presence:

- 1. Know Your Audience
- 2. Be Consistent

3. Use Visual Content

CONCLUSION

The success of the Textile Association (India) – Mumbai Unit on social media underscores the importance of a strategic and dynamic approach to digital engagement. In an industry as vibrant and evolving as textiles, social media serves as a powerful bridge between tradition and innovation, connecting stakeholders and amplifying the collective voice of the community.

With 9,000 followers on LinkedIn and counting, TAI-Mumbai's journey is a shining example of how embracing digital platforms can drive growth, engagement, and influence in today's interconnected world.

# SOCIAL MEDIA INITIATIVE TAKEN BY THE TAI, MUMBAI UNIT

As a Social Media initiative taken by the TAI, Mumbai Unit, we are regularly posting news articles on LinkedIn. We are glad to inform you that we have crossed 9000 followers on LinkedIn. We have also started our other social media platforms like Instagram, twitter, facebook, etc. We request all the members to follow our social media pages:



LinkedIn : https://www.linkedin.com/in/tai-mumbai-unit-90658021b/



Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61566748117668&mibextid=ZbWK wL



**Instagram:** https://www.instagram.com/textilefortoday?igsh=ZHJjaHpoa3ZqdHZ0



**X (Formerly Twitter):** https://x.com/textilefortoday?t=2i070Exz2ahyCrmlk uXEw&s=09



# WhatsApp Group only for the members of TAI, Mumbai Unit.

This group will help the members to get regular updates about events, LinkedIn post link, JTA, Newsletter letters, etc.

We request all the members to give permission with your WhatsApp number to add the same in the group by mail on taimumbaiunit@gmail.com or on mobile 324904271.

Whatsapp Group Link: (Only for Members of TAI, Mumbai Unit) https://chat.whatsapp.com/DxcOyEVeqza9akIQCxHUuX

# **Membership**



#### Membership of The Textile Association (India), Mumbai Unit

The Textile Association (India) is the national body of textile professionals and technocrats having 26 affiliated units all over the country. The TAI, Mumbai Unit is one of the largest Unit in the country having the membership strength of over 4000 members. The Mumbai Unit is the pioneer Unit of this Association and organizes seminars, national and international conferences in the most professional manner, for the betterment of the textile industry.

We request you to become the member of the Association and be a part of this esteemed organization.

The Association renders the following benefits to its members:

- 1. Member is eligible for a substantial discount in delegates fees in the conferences / seminars / exhibitions organized by any Unit of the Association all over India and TAI, Central Office.
- 2. Opportunity to enhance your textile qualification by undertaking examination / submitting CV to acquire professional qualifications such as ATA, GMTA, FTA.
- 3. Opportunity to get involved in the activities of TAI by getting elected / selected to specific committees.
- Eligible for a complimentary soft copy of bi-monthly magazine i.e. Journal of the Textile Association (JTA) and Newsletter.
- WhatsApp Group (Only for members of TAI, Mumbai Unit) 9324904271
  WhatsApp Group Link: https://chat.whatsapp.com/DxcOyEVeqza9akIQCxHUuX
  We are regularly sending Linkedin Post, news, magazines, newspaper, etc on whatsapp group
- 5. You can regularly visit our website for the current issue of JTA and other activities of the TAI, Mumbai Unit. Our website is: <u>www.textileassociationindia.com</u>

The various memberships of TAI available are as follows. We have three categories of membership: Life / Patron / Corporate membership.

### TAI MEMBERSHIP FEES

Srl. No.	Type of Member	Membership Fees	GST @ 18%	Total Fees
1.	Life Member	3,200 /-	576 /-	3,776 /-
2.	Patron Member	4,600 /-	828 /-	5,428 /-
3.	Corporate Member	20,000 /-	3,600 /-	23,600 /-

Please visit our website for membership registration: website: www.textileassociationindia.com

Registration Link: http://textileassociationindia.com/online-membership-registration/

You can register yourself or your organiastion online through above registration link. Please transfer the necessary membership fees including GST to the Unit by RTGS/NEFT and mention the payment details while filling-up the online form.

The Life & Patron Membership is for individual person and Corporate Membership is for Organisation. The fees for the membership is onetime and membership is for the lifetime.

If you need any further information, please contact us.

# **Appeal to Members**

## Dear Members,

We have noticed that many members have not informed changes in their personal profile due to which various communication sent by the Mumbai Unit do not reach them. We would kindly request you to spare few minutes for updating your records for our office purposes. Your kind action in this regard will establish a continuous and better link between yourself and the Association. We would request you to kindly complete the following format and send it back to Association as per your convenience i.e. by e-mail, post or courier, etc. This will enable us to serve you in a better way. Also request your friends / colleagues who are members of the Association to update their address and contact details. Kindly accept our thanks in advance for this co-operation from your end.





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taimumbaiunit@gmail.com

www.textileassociationindia.com