Driving Innovation and Growth: ITTA's 14th AGM Highlights the Future of Technical Textiles in India



The **Indian Technical Textile Association (ITTA)** successfully held its 14th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **13th September 2024** at the Orchid Hotel, Mumbai. The meeting was chaired by **Shri Avinash Misar**, with the participation of ITTA members, special invitees, and media representatives. **Dr. Anup Rakshit**, Executive Director of ITTA, welcomed the distinguished guests and media representatives to the event. The business session was conducted by **Shri Mahesh Kudav**, Vice Chairman of ITTA.
The AGM was graced by the presence of **Shri Rajeev Saxena**, Joint Secretary (Textiles), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, as the Chief Guest, and **Shri Virendra Singh (I.A.S.)**, Secretary (Textiles), Government of Maharashtra, as the Guest of Honour.
Key Highlights from Shri Rajeev Saxena's Address
Shri Saxena emphasized the pivotal role ITTA has played in advancing the technical textile sector and fostering innovation, sustainability, and growth. He highlighted ITTA's involvement in key government committees such as the Mission Steering Group and the Empowered Programme Committee under the **National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM)**.



Shri Saxena mentioned that **two-thirds of the investments under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme** are dedicated to technical textiles. Of the **Rs. 60 crores allocated**, **Rs. 40 crores** are earmarked specifically for this sector. He stressed the importance of innovation in securing the future of the industry and encouraged companies to engage in **market-focused R&D initiatives**, with the government covering 90% of the costs and allowing companies to retain Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for 3 to 4 years. He also announced the upcoming introduction of **Quality Control Orders (QCOs)** for 11 key technical textile products, aimed at preventing the dumping of cheap foreign products and strengthening domestic supply chains.
Shri Saxena urged conventional textile manufacturers to diversify into technical textiles, leveraging their spare capacities for enhanced productivity and profitability. He also suggested that ITTA conduct **training and skill development programs** in Tier-2 cities to further the industry's technical knowledge.

Maharashtra's Textile Policy - Key Points from Shri Virendra Singh's Presentation
Shri Virendra Singh shared insights on Maharashtra's **State Textile Policy**, which prioritizes the development of **six technical textile parks**—one in each revenue division of the state. The policy includes substantial support in the form of:

- Infrastructure support
- Capital subsidies
- Support for solar power plants
- Zero Liquid Discharge initiatives
- Effluent Treatment Plants



An **Expression of Interest (EoI)** for these parks will soon be released, and the **Maharashtra Technical Textile Mission** will be launched within two months. A **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between the Government of Maharashtra and ITTA is set to be signed to ensure the effective implementation of state policies.

ITTA's New Initiatives



Shri Avinash Misar, Chairman of ITTA, extended his gratitude to the Ministry of Textiles for its continued support of the technical textile sector. He also urged the government to address the availability of specialty raw materials, such as fibers, yarns, chemicals, and

polymers, that are crucial for manufacturing high-end technical textiles but are not produced in India. He highlighted that the QCOs should not be imposed on upstream sectors reliant on imported raw materials, as this could hinder the growth of the industry.



Dr. Anup Rakshit, Executive Director of ITTA, introduced two new membership categories—**Associate** and **Student Membership**—to cater to individual entrepreneurs and startups entering the technical textile industry. Additionally, ITTA has taken a focused initiative to collaborate with **Academic Institutions** to organize **Education and Training Programs** on technical textiles. This initiative will support the **NTTM's goal** of creating a skilled workforce for academic institutions and the industry.
ITTA's **Entrepreneurial Development Programs (EDPs)** have successfully trained over 200 candidates, contributing to the growth of the technical textile sector.

As the industry evolves with cutting-edge innovations, sustainability practices, and emerging technologies, **Technical Textiles Innovation Magazine,Publish by Times International** is set to provide the latest insights, trends, and breakthroughs, serving as an indispensable resource for global stakeholders.
Awards and Recognitions



A significant highlight of the AGM was the presentation of the **"Lifetime Achievement Award"** to **Shri Pramod Khosla**, Chairman of Khosla Profil Pvt. Ltd., for his exceptional contributions to the technical textile industry. Shri Khosla was also inducted into the **'ITTA Hall of Fame'**, alongside **Shri Yogesh Kusumgar** of Kusumgar Corporates and **Shri Mohan Kavrie** of Supreme Nonwovens.

Innovation Awards

The **Innovation Awards** were presented to five companies for their outstanding contributions to the technical textile industry:

1. **Garware Technical Fibres Ltd.** – *Shri Neeraj Shrivastava & Shri Apurv Gadekar* for **Advancing Sustainability**: Development of ropes from recycled materials – Renew Ropes.
2. **SRF Ltd.** – *Ms. Angeline Divya*, Associate Vice President, for the **Development and Commercialization of Food-Grade Tank Liners** made from coated fabric for water storage in rural areas.
3. **High Performance Textiles Pvt. Ltd.** – *Dr. Nandan Kumar*, Managing Director, for **Innovative Inherent Flame-Retardant (IFR) Fabric** for arc-flash protection.
4. **Fibriltex Pvt. Ltd.** – *Shri Ishaan Sharma*, Director of Business Development, for the **Flushable Biodegradable Sanitary Pads**.
5. **Indo German Yarn & Fibres LLP** – *Shri Rajiv Sajdeh*, Partner, for the **PROMYDE KARANW-2 WR 480 GSM Fabric** – Personal Protection Sustainable.

A Game-Changer for the Global Textile Industry

One of the most significant developments highlighted at the AGM was the role of **Technical Textiles Innovation Magazine**, published by *Times International*. The magazine has been identified as a **game-changer for the global textile industry**. As the industry evolves with cutting-edge innovations, sustainability practices, and emerging technologies, **Technical Textiles Innovation** is set to provide the latest

insights, trends, and breakthroughs, serving as an indispensable resource for global stakeholders.
This AGM showcased ITTA's strong commitment to advancing the technical textile industry, fostering innovation, and addressing key challenges through strategic collaboration with government and industry stakeholders.
