

# Knitting skills

ATDC sets tempo for skilling youth in knitwear manufacturing. A report by **Qasim K Naqash**

A seminar on 'New Pathways for Specialised Training and New Technologies in Knitwear Manufacturing' was organised by the Apparel Training & Design Centre (ATDC) at the ATDC Head Office, Gurgaon, on May 23, 2012. Eminent apparel exporters, academicians, subject experts, technical heads of machine manufacturers from the apparel industry, along with Hari Kapoor, Vice Chairman, ATDC; HKL Magu, Chairman, Finance & Budgeting Apparel Export Promotion Council; and Dr Darlie Koshy, CEO, ATDC & IAM were present.

Setting the tone for the seminar, Kapoor highlighted the importance and growing demand of the knitwear production in the country. He, along with Dr Koshy, emphasised on exploring ways for skilling youth in handling & manufacturing knit garments. "With the ticking of clock, change follows everywhere, and in everything. Today, knitwear garments are being popularly used in every part of the world. As a result, organisations in the apparel industry have shifted their business from wovens to knit manufacturing. Considering this shift, it has therefore become important that we provide specialised trainings & course developments in knitwear manufacturing in order to aptly skill the workforce for this segment of the apparel industry", said Kapoor.

Dr Koshy explained the purpose of the gathering, and requested the fellow members, subject experts, & representatives from the apparel industry to give their suggestions and expert views in order to upgrade ATDC's current ATDC-Knitwear Manufacturing Technology

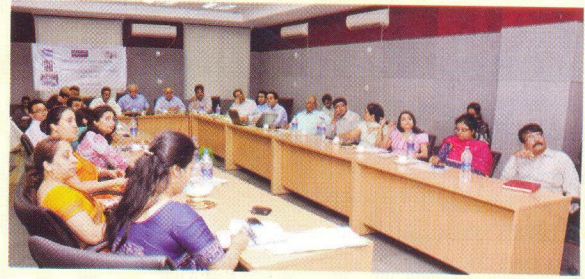


Programme, which is already on offer as six-month certificate and one-year diploma programme through the ATDC-IGNOU Community Colleges. He also discussed the ATDC's plans of introducing a short-term, fast-track course on knitwear production (45-90 days) through ATDC-SMART Training Project.

Sandeep Gupta, Managing Director, Gupta Exim

## OUTLINED SKILL SETS REQUIRED BY THE ATDC-SMART SKILLED WORKFORCE PROGRAMMES:

- Understanding of different types of fabrics and yarns like Tencel yarn, Modal yarn in viscose rayon etc.
- Behaviour and drape of different fabrics as per their fibre contents and knit structures.
- Handling techniques for different types of knitted fabrics.
- Knowledge of both woven & knitted fabrics for combination garments.
- Specific machine specialists and product specialists may also be required.



Pvt. Ltd., shared his perspective on the subject and also highlighted the growing requirements of skilled manpower for knit manufacturing organisations in the country, especially in North India. Ludhiana, Tirupur, Kolkata and Faridabad have become the major knitwear manufacturing hubs in recent years. "Freshers with some sort of diploma in apparel craft are welcomed in our company, but it is important that their understanding of basic skills & knowledge is clear," added Gupta.

Salabh Srivastava, General Manager (Training), Matrix Clothing, described the importance of skills, knowledge, and attitude in the workforce at all levels ie shop-floor, operator, and supervisor. He pointed some common challenges that the workforce often confronts in the apparel industry, and also suggested kind of the skills industry requires in the future workforce.

The three-hour interactive session ended with a note that a core group will soon be formed to take forward the comments, suggestions, and outcomes of the seminar in order to reframe & re-launch the existing ATDC programmes. ■