

## ITMF & IAF Conference opens in Uzbekistan

# RIL targets to become net-zero carbon company by 2035

By Rakesh Kumar & Mohit Sharma

SAMARKAND, SEPT. 08—

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) - A Fortune 500 company and the largest private sector corporation in India has aimed to build a more responsible world by committing to net zero carbon by 2035, stated Mr. Ajay Sardana, President & Head of Strategy & Business Development - Polyester at Reliance Industries Ltd., here today.

In his presentation on 'Polyester: The Magical Fibre' during the 'Man-Made Fibres Session' on the opening day of the International Textile Manufacturers' Federation (ITMF) Annual Conference and International Apparel Federation (IAF) World Fashion Convention on 'Innovation, Cooperation & Regulation - Driver of Textile & Apparel Industry', Mr. Sardana noted that RIL believes that the global new energy agenda needs to move from dialogue to action, from commitment to urgent implementation on the ground.

Therefore, RIL is committed to growing with care for the planet and the company has boldly embarked on a transformative phase to decarbonize its business. RIL is investing heavily across all levels of decarbonisation to meet its target of net-zero carbon by 2035, Mr. Sardana informed.

On the polyester front, Mr. Sardana opined that polyester will witness a faster growth rate in India going forward backed by policies of the Indian government to promote MM in the country.



Factors such as increasing use of polyester in non-woven and technical textiles, changing consumer trends including increasing emphasis on fitness and hygiene, fast changing fashion trends, increasing women participation in workforce will further boost the demand of polyester in India, he emphasised.

According to Mr. Sardana, the polyester demand in India

will clock 5.1 per cent CARG and will reach the level of 8723 thousand tonnes by 2035 as against the present level of 6598 thousand tonnes.

India will record higher growth at 5.1 per cent when compared to China and the Rest of the World at 3.9% and 4% respectively by 2030, he pointed out.

Polyester share in total fibre basked in India, Mr. Sardana said, is low when compared to China and global. Hence, there is a huge opportunity for polyester to grow in India. India is catching up in line with global trend with increasing polyester share. The share of polyester in India has grown to 48% in 2024 and by 2030 it will reach the level of 50%, according to Mr. Sardana.

He informed that the per capital final consumer demand of MMF is quite low in India compared to global average levels and it is likely to grow with rising disposable income. The share of polyester in the MMF basked is above 75% at the mill level both in India and globally, indicating the importance of polyester in the textile industry.

The per capita demand for man-made fibres in India will increase from the current level of 5 per kg to 6.3 per kg by 2030, Mr. Sardana informed.

## MoT launches 'VisioNxt' - India's first fashion forecasting initiative

NEW DELHI, SEPT. 08—

The Union Minister of Textiles, Mr. Giriraj Singh has launched the 'VisioNxt Fashion Forecasting Initiative' of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), a bilingual web portal and the India-specific Fashion Trend Book 'Paridhi 24x25'.



In his address, Mr. Giriraj Singh stated that the VisioNxt project has been launched under the visionary leadership and guidance of the Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi. Mr. Giriraj Singh said that after 2014, India began prioritizing indigenous design and manufacturing and VisioNxt is a result of this shift.

In this era of fast fashion, VisioNxt initiative will foster healthy global competition and elevate Indian culture and design to new heights on the global stage, Mr. Singh said.

He noted that the fashion industry will benefit from Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Emotional Intelligence (EI) based trend insights offered by VisioNxt. This service will establish India as a leader in the global fashion sector, he added.

At the Global Textile Summit in 2017, the Prime Minister highlighted the gap in the availability of India-specific real-time trend insights for industry stakeholders. Recognizing the necessity for a tech-enabled trend prediction system, India aims to engage in a dynamic dialogue—drawing inspiration from within while projecting its influence outward—to understand the mindsets and aspirations of Indian citizens.

In response, VisioNxt—a Trend Insights and Forecasting Initiative—was conceived and established at NIFT Delhi (Creative Lab) and NIFT Chennai (Insights Lab), with the support of the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, in 2018.

The initiative, now centralized in Chennai, focuses on delivering trend insights and forecasting for the Indian fashion and retail market. It also offers various trend related consultancy services, academic courses, workshops etc.

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