

Press Release

Visit of Hon'ble Minister of Textiles to Hannover

Dr. K.S, Rao, Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Government of India accompanied by Mr. Balvinder Kumar, Development Commissioner for Handlooms and Dr. Bhaskar Katamneni, Private Secretary visited Hannover during January 10-12, 2014 to attend DOMOTEX 2014, the world's leading Trade Fair for carpets and floor coverings.

On January 11, 2014, the Hon'ble Minister inaugurated the India Pavilion of the Carpet Exports Promotion Council (CEPC) at the Fairgrounds and interacted with the Indian exhibitors. He also inaugurated the Pavilion of Coir Board and met representatives of the National Jute Board. This was followed by an interview of the Minister by *CarpetXL* magazine during which he elaborated on the strengths of Indian carpet industry and potential for future growth. In the afternoon, he met Dr. Wolfram von Fritsch, CEO of Deutsche Messe, Dr. Jochen Koeckler, CEO of DOMOTEX Fair and Board Member of Deutsche Messe and discussed matters of mutual interest. Directors of Ministries of Economics, Labour & Transport as well as Education of the State of Lower Saxony and Director of German-India Business Centre (GIBC) called on the Minister and made presentations. In the evening, Indian Association Hannover (IASH), a community organization comprising Indian professionals and businessmen hosted the Hon'ble Minister and the delegation over an interactive session.

DOMOTEX 2014 once again cemented India's position as one of the leading manufacturers of carpets and floor coverings in the world. The exquisite craftsmanship, reasonable price and the wide array of products offered by our exhibitors were certainly attractive to prospective customers, as reflected in the positive feedback from most of our exhibitors. Besides providing encouragement to the Indian exhibitors, the Minister's visit gave them an opportunity to share their views about the Fair and its business prospects. The visit was also useful in getting an insight into the potential for cooperation between India and Lower Saxony, especially pertaining to textiles sector. Interaction with the Indian community in Hannover was useful in getting first-hand knowledge of the experience of and opportunities for Indian businessmen and professionals in Germany.

Hamburg
January 15, 2014



Hon'ble Minister of Textiles and delegation during meeting with CEOs of Deutsche Messe and DOMOTEX



Hon'ble Minister during exchange of gifts



Inauguration of India Pavilion by Hon'ble Minister



Hon'ble Minister and his delegation at the Fairgrounds



Hon'ble Minister examining carpets at the Fairgrounds



Interview of Minister by CarpetXL Magazine



Minister and delegation with Lower Saxony State officials and GIBC Director