

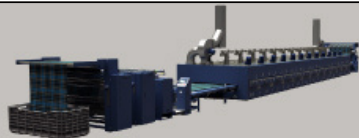
THE TEXTILE MAGAZINE

ASIA'S LEADING TEXTILE INDUSTRY MAGAZINE

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SIMA appeals to Government of Tamilnadu for inclusion of textile units under continuous process industry

The Government of Tamilnadu on 18 th April 2021 has imposed certain restrictions with effect from 20 th April 2021 to curb the second wave of COVID-19. The textile industry, which is a labour intensive one, has recently limbed back to normalcy consequent to the efforts taken by Government of India under “Atmanirbharbharat” and other COVID-19 relief measures. Further, the textile units incurred huge expenditure to bring back the workers from various States, who left for their hometowns following countrywide lockdown last year.

In a Press Release, the Chairman of Southern India Mills' Association (SIMA), Mr.Ashwin Chandran has appreciated the efforts and initiatives taken by the Tamilnadu Government in curbing the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. However, he expressed his concern over the decision of stopping of industrial units during night hours between 10 pm and 4.00 am., and on Sundays.

He stated that only recently the textile units resumed normalcy in production and in all other aspects. In such a situation, stopping the units during night hours and on Sundays would affect the production activities, exports and also the jobs of several lakhs of workers.

SIMA Chief has stated that the textile industry has to work 24 x 7 across the value chain especially in the case of spinning, weaving, knitting, processing and vertically integrated units and the shift timings are normally from 7 am to 3 pm, 3 pm to 11 pm and 11 pm to 7 am. He has stated that the textile employee mobility will be normally between 10 pm and 1 am for the third shift employees to report for work and the second shift employees to return home after completing the work at 11 pm.

Mr.Ashwin Chandran has stated that time restrictions between 10 pm and 4 am and lockdown on Sundays would curtail 2/3 rd of the production as the manufacturing units would be in a position to work only in one shift for six days in a week and had to stop production for two shifts and also on Sundays.

He stated that this would make over 75% of the workers jobless that would have severe impact on the industry and livelihood of the people. He has stated that the industry is taking all care to adopt SOPs and also vaccinating the employees of age 45 years and above on a fast track and therefore, such restrictions are not required for the manufacturing activities. He stated that any stoppage would amount to huge loss, as the material and machinery condition might get affected apart from involving huge manpower loss.

SIMA Chairman, therefore, has appealed to the Government to include spinning, weaving, knitting, processing and vertically integrated textile units under continuous process industry category and permit them to run between 10 pm and 4 am and allow the managements and the employees to use their transport facilities to operate in the night shifts and work on Sundays also by strictly adhering to the SOPs prescribed by the Government.



Per Olofsson appointed as new Managing Director of SSM

SSM Schärer Schweiter Mettler AG, a subsidiary of the Rieter Group, has appointed Per Olofsson as Managing Director and member of the SSM Group's management team effective April 1, 2021. Mr. Olofsson is a Swedish citizen and holds a Master of Science Degree in Supply Chain and Operations Management from the University of Liverpool, United Kingdom, and an Executive MBA from the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) in Lausanne, Switzerland. Per Olofsson joined the Rieter Group in 2013 and is an experienced operations manager with a proven management track record at both local and global level.

SSM, based in Wädenswil (Switzerland), is a subsidiary of the Rieter Group. SSM is the world's leading supplier of precision winding machines in the fields of dyeing, weaving and sewing thread preparation and enjoys success in individual segments of filament yarn production. SSM comprises the companies SSM Schärer Schweiter Mettler AG in Wädenswil and subsidiaries in Italy and China. SSM is represented worldwide in all major markets.

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