

TEXTILES COMMITTEE

(GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE)

79, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Bombay-18.

In exercise of the powers conferred on it under section 23 of the Textiles Committee Act, 1963 (No. 41 of 1963) read with Sub-clauses (c) and (d) of sub-section 2 of section 4 of the same Act, the Textiles Committee, with the previous sanction of the Central Government, makes the following Regulations establishing inspection standards for textiles meant for export and specifying the type of inspection to be applied:

1. SHORT TITLE:

These Regulations may be called **The Mill-made Cotton Cloth Inspection Regulations, 1966.**

2. DEFINITIONS:

(a) 'Committee' means the Textiles Committee.

(b) 'Lot' means the quantity of material purporting to be of one definite type and quality.

(c) 'Major flaw' means—

- (i) weft crack of two or more missing picks across the width of the fabric,
- (ii) weft bar due to the difference in raw material, count, twist, lustre, colour, shade or pick spacing of adjacent groups of weft yarns,
- (iii) more than two adjacent ends running parallel, broken or missing and extending beyond 6 inches,
- (iv) prominent selvedge defect,
- (v) noticeable warp or weft float in the body of the fabric,
- (vi) oil or other stain in the fabric,
- (vii) oily weft in the fabric,
- (viii) prominently noticeable slub or slubby weft,

(ix) conspicuous broken pattern,

(x) gout due to foreign matter usually lint or waste woven into the fabric,

(xi) coloured flecks—

(a) prominent pileless spots, uneven or loose piles,

(b) defective raising,

(c) defective hemming (in the case of piled and raised fabrics),

(xii) blurred or dark patch,

(xiii) patchy or streaky or uneven dyeing,

(xiv) dye bar,

(xv) prominent stain,

(xvi) printing defect caused by non-alignment of printing screen or roll,

(xvii) off-side printing stain,

(xviii) uneven printing or tinting,

(xix) printing defect caused by hanging thread,

(xx) printing defect caused by cloth being wrinkled while printing,

(xxi) bad printing or dyeing on selvedge mainly due to selvedge crease,

(xxii) doctor's stain or line, and

(xxiii) defective embroidery.

(d) 'Material' means mill-made or powerloom cotton cloth but excludes 'seconds' as defined in the Textile Control Order and clearly stamped as 'seconds', narrow width cloth and other cloths like duster cloth, mop cloth and cotton waste blankets as may be specified by the Textiles Committee from time to time.

(e) 'Serious flaw' means—

- (i) More than one adjacent end missing in the body of the material running throughout the piece or more than three ends missing at a place and running over 24 inches or prominently noticeable double end running throughout the piece,
- (ii) undressed snarls noticeable over a length exceeding 5% of the length of the piece,
- (iii) smash definitely rupturing the texture of the material,
- (iv) hole, cut or tear in the body of the material more than $\frac{1}{4}$ " in size, or pin holes in the body of the cloth,
- (v) reed marks prominently noticeable over a length exceeding 5% of the length of the piece,
- (vi) defective or damaged selvedge noticeable over a length exceeding 5% of the length of the piece, and
- (vii) wrong heading or absence of heading.

3. OFFERING OF THE MATERIAL FOR INSPECTION:

- (i) The mills will be responsible for carrying out inspection of the material prior to offering the same for inspection so as to eliminate any material which

is not upto the required standard and to rectify the rectifiable defects such as loose threads, snarls, removable stains etc. The mills will flag all the serious and major defects.

- (ii) It will be the further responsibility of the mills to ensure that the number of two part pieces do not exceed 5% of the total quantity offered for inspection in the case of grey material and 10% in the case of finished material.
- (iii) The material duly pre-inspected and flagged shall be offered in lots of about 20,000 metres or the contracted quantity, whichever is less.
- (iv) The material may be offered by the mills and the processing factories for inspection either in loose condition or in packed condition. However, if the material is offered outside the mills or processing factories, the material shall be offered only in packed condition.

4. INSPECTION CRITERIA:

- (a) Inspection of the material will be both with reference to specifications and standards for flaws. If no standards for flaws are stipulated in the contract, inspection will be done with reference to the standards prescribed in the Regulations. The specifications with reference to which inspection will be done, will be:—
 - (i) Specification of the overseas buyer as stipulated in the relevant export contract, or,
 - (ii) Where the export contract does not spell out any specifications but is with reference to shipment sample, in accordance with the specifications of such shipment samples, or

- (iii) Where no export contract exists at the time of offering the material for inspection, the specifications as given by the manufacturer.
- (b) In the case of dyed, printed and coloured woven material, there will be no inspection or test for colour fastness unless the buyer expressly specifies the standards of colour fastness required.
- (c) In the case of foreign buyers nominating other agencies to inspect material before shipment, the material will not be re-inspected by the Committee provided:-
- (i) The specifications of the foreign buyer are more stringent than the minimum quality standard laid down by the Committee, and
- (ii) The standards and methods of inspection employed by the private agency are acceptable to the Textiles Committee.
- (d) In case of mills consistently producing better quality cloth for export, the material offered for inspection can be inspected on the basis of a plan for selective inspection of lots, as may be decided by the Committee from time to time in this respect. (vide Annexure I).

5. SAMPLING PLAN AND REJECTION CRITERIA:

- (a) **Sampling Plan for the Packages:** If the material is offered in packed condition, 10% of the packages in the lot, subject to a minimum of two and a maximum of 5 packages, shall be opened by selection on random sampling basis, by the use of Table for

Random Numbers. Pieces required for detailed inspection as per sampling plan for pieces shall also be selected on a random basis from all the packages so opened.

- (b) **Sampling Plan for Pieces:** When the material is offered in loose condition, selection of pieces for detailed inspection shall be made on random basis and the sample size shall be as follows:

- (i) **First Sample:** 300 metres in case of grey material and 10% of the lot subject to a minimum of 150 metres and a maximum of 300 metres in case of processed material.
- (ii) **Second Sample:** If the acceptability or otherwise regarding major or serious flaws cannot be decided straightaway on the basis of the inspection of first sample, an equal quantity as stipulated in the first sample.

EXPLANATION-1: The actual size of the sample selected for detailed inspection will depend upon the piece length and will be such that the sample chosen is nearest to the sample size specified, and not on the lower side.

EXPLANATION-2: The first sample selected shall include at least 5 pieces.

EXPLANATION-3: Measurement of width and length shall be on 5 pieces in the first sample selected for detailed inspection. If inspection for construction particulars is required, ends and picks per inch shall be determined on those 5 pieces. Width and picks per inch will be determined at two, three

and five different places in cases of piece lengths of 10 metres and upto and including 20 metres and above 20 metres, respectively. Ends per inch shall be measured at two different places in all cases.

EXPLANATION-4: Where laboratory tests are necessary, a sample of 0.9 metre full width will be drawn.

(c) Rejection Criteria for First Sample:

The lot shall be rejected outright on the basis of the inspection of the first sample itself for any one of the following reasons, namely:—

- (i) If it contains more than one serious flaw;
- (ii) Even if one piece is found to be of less width;
- (iii) If two or more pieces are found to be of less length or the total measured length of the five pieces is less than the sum of their stamped lengths;
- (iv) Even if one piece is found to contain less ends per inch or picks per inch, wherever the material is inspected for construction particulars also;
- (v) Where inspection is required for specifications or other special quality requirements mentioned in the overseas importer's contract, if the sample drawn in aid of inspection and tested in the Laboratory does not come upto the contractual requirements in these respects;
- (vi) If too many minor flaws are observed in the sample inspected so as to render the material poor or shoddy in appearance;

(vii) Where inspection has been carried out according to the contract, stipulating standards for flaws of any or all types, in respect of permissible number or magnitude, in a manner stringent than the Standards Specified in these regulations in these respects, if the first sample inspected contains flaws in greater magnitude or in excess of the number prescribed in the contract;

(viii) If the number of major flaws is equal to or exceeds the number shown in column 2 of the Table annexed hereto corresponding to the first sample size the standard of inspection applicable.

NOTE: The lot shall be considered as acceptable for major flaws, if the sample contains major flaws equal to or less than the number shown in column 1 of the said Table, corresponding to the first sample size and the standard applicable.

(d) Rejection Criteria for Second Sample:

If the material is acceptable in all respects except that the number of major flaws observed in the first sample exceeds the number given in column 1, but is less than the number given in column 2 of the Table referred to in sub-clause (c) (viii), corresponding to the first sample size and the standard applicable, the second sample as per plan should be inspected both for the presence of major flaws and serious flaws. In cases where the first sample is found acceptable in all respects including major flaws but contains one serious flaw in it, the second sample shall be inspected for serious flaws only. In such cases, the lot shall be rejected on the basis of the findings of both the first and second samples pooled

together, for any of the two following reasons:—

- (i) If it contains more than one serious flaw,
- (ii) If the number of major flaws is in excess of the number shown in column 1 of the said Table referred to in sub-clause (c) (viii), corresponding to the pooled sample size of the first and second samples and the standard applicable.

6. PERMISSIBLE TOLERANCES:

When determining whether the material conforms to the construction and other particulars stipulated in the specification and/or approved samples, the following tolerances shall be allowed, unless different tolerances are specified in the export contract:

(a) Count of yarn	± 5%
(b) Ends/inch	± 5%
(c) Picks/inch	± 5%
(d) Length	
(e) Width	

As specified in the Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry Notification (Trade and Merchandise Marks), New Delhi dated the 20th September, 1962. (Copy of the extract given as **Annexure-II**).

(f) Weight per piece + 5% and - 2.5%

7. PACKING AND SEALING:

The lot inspected and passed shall be marked with the required stamps and packed into bales in the prescribed manner. The bales so packed shall be sealed by the Inspector provided the mode of packing and the quality of packing material inspected on a random basis conform to the standards prescribed. If the material is not packed in the direct or constructive presence of the Inspector, he may, for the purpose of satis-

fying himself that only inspected and approved material has been packed and that the mode of packing is correct and quality of packing material satisfactory, open 5% of the packed bales subject to minimum of one bale and a maximum of three bales.

8. CERTIFICATE:

(a) In respect of the lot inspected and not rejected under Regulation 5, a certificate shall be issued to the party concerned by an Officer of the Committee authorised by the Committee in this behalf. Such certificate shall be issued:—

(i) Where inspection is done in accordance with Regulation 4(a) (i) and 4(a) (ii), after completion of inspection and necessary laboratory tests,

(ii) Where inspection is done in accordance with Regulation 4(a) (iii), after the relevant export contract is entered into and produced to the Committee after the Committee is satisfied that the material conforms to the specifications given in the contract, and

(iii) Where inspection is done by an Agency, other than the Committee, nominated by the foreign buyer, after the inspection findings are submitted to the Committee by the said Agency and the Committee is satisfied that conditions of Regulation 4(c) (i) and 4(c) (ii) are fulfilled.

(b) The lots not actually covered under inspection referred to in sub-clause (d) of Clause 4 shall be authorised for export after due endorsement of self-certification is produced by the manufacturer in the manner specified by an Officer, of the Committee authorised in this behalf.

**TABLE [See Clause 5 (c) and (d)]
ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION NUMBERS FOR MAJOR FLAWS**

STANDARD 'A-1'	Acceptance and Rejection Number for MAJOR FLAWS				STANDARD 'A'
Sample size in metres	Acceptance No. for First Sample or for First and Second Samples pooled together	Outright Rejection Number for First Sample	Acceptance No. for First Sample or for the First and Second Samples pooled together	Outright Rejection Number for First Sample	
	1	2	1	2	
1200	29	41	56	76	
1175	28	40	55	74	
1150	27	40	54	73	
1125	27	39	52	71	
1100	26	38	51	70	
1075	25	38	50	69	
1050	25	37	49	67	
1025	24	36	47	66	
1000	23	35	46	64	
975	23	35	45	63	
950	22	34	43	62	
925	22	33	42	60	
900	21	32	41	59	
875	20	32	40	57	
850	20	31	38	56	
825	19	30	37	54	
800	18	29	36	53	
775	18	28	35	51	
750	17	28	34	50	
725	16	27	32	49	
700	16	26	31	47	
675	15	25	30	46	
650	14	25	29	44	
625	14	24	27	43	
600	13	23	26	41	
575	12	22	25	40	
550	12	22	24	38	
525	11	21	23	37	
500	11	20	21	35	
475	10	19	20	34	
450	9	18	19	32	
425	9	18	18	31	
400	8	17	16	29	
375	7	16	15	28	
350	7	15	14	26	
325	6	14	13	25	
300	6	13	12	23	
275	5	13	11	22	
250	4	12	10	20	
225	4	11	8	18	
200	3	10	7	17	
175	3	9	6	15	
150	2	8	5	13	
125	2	7	4	12	
100	1	6	3	10	

Note: The party offering the material for inspection will have the option to ask for inspection in accordance with either of the above two standards, subject to the condition that Standard 'A' shall be applicable uniformly as compulsory minimum in respect of any material falling under these regulations meant for any destination.

ANNEXURE-I

PLAN FOR SELECTIVE INSPECTION OF LOTS CONTAINING MATERIAL DEFINED UNDER THE "MILL MADE COTTON CLOTH INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1966".

1. CRITERIA FOR SELECTIVE INSPECTION:

(a) All the exporting Mills have the option for availing of the facility of selective inspection of lots containing 'material' defined under the Mill-made Cotton Cloth Inspection Regulations, 1966, and meant for export. The facility of selective inspection shall be granted to the mills producing consistently high quality cloth for export. This will be determined from the computerised inspection data furnished every month by the Committee to the exporting Mills. The criteria for deciding upon and granting such facility shall be as follows:—

- (i) The average number of major flaws per 100 metres inspected over a period should be less than All India Average in this regard, or as may be laid down by the Committee from time to time;
- (ii) The periodicity for reckoning the average and reviewed thereof shall be as laid down by the Committee from time to time;
- (iii) The selective inspection plan will be made applicable only in respect of lots containing material requiring inspection for flaws and dimensions and under Minimum Standards. All lots containing material requiring inspection under

any other higher Standard and for quality aspects in addition to flaws and dimensions should necessarily be inspected according to the regulations even though the Mills in question may be eligible for selective plan of inspection.

2. PERCENTAGE OF SELECTIVE INSPECTION OF LOTS:

- (a) The percentage of selective inspection of lots shall be as decided by the Committee from time to time, in respect of the Mills satisfying the prescribed criteria.

3. BUILT-IN SAFEGUARDS:

Certain built-in safeguards are essential in the operation of the plan to ensure reliability and prevent its misuse by any one concerned. The following are the safeguards:-

- (a) The facility of selective inspection of lots granted to any Mill shall be withdrawn immediately on the occurrence of any of the following:-
- (i) On a periodic review, if the material inspected during the review is found to contain average number of major flaws per 100 metres in excess of the level prescribed by the Committee at 1(a) (i) above, till a further review in which the quality performance comes within the said prescribed level.

- (ii) If any complaint is received from the importing country regarding the quality of the material exported by the mills, and the same is established as genuine as per the findings of the Committee. In such cases the withdrawal of the facility of selective inspection shall be for a period as may be prescribed by the Committee from time to time.
- (iii) If two consecutive lots are found to have been rejected on any day or more than two lots have been rejected at any time out of the previous ten lots inspected. In such cases, the selective inspection plan shall be withdrawn at least for the next 7 days or any further period till the above condition is satisfied, after which the facility of selective inspection will be restored.
- (b) The lots to be covered under actual inspection, under the selective inspection plan should be selected on a random basis to cover almost all the qualities produced by the Mills for export and the entire period of production of such qualities;
- (c) The Committee may, however, at its discretion withdraw the facility of selective inspection at any moment. This can be exercised at the option of the Chairman/the Vice-Chairman or an officer of the Committee authorised for the purpose;
- (d) No single inspector should inspect 10 or more consecutive lots in one and the same mills, as far as possible.

4. PROCEDURE:

During the period of selective inspection the following procedures should be followed:—

- (a) The Mills coming under the selective inspection plan should as usual submit application lot-wise irrespective of the fact whether any lot is to be actually inspected or not. All such applications on any day should be entered in a register in the proforma prescribed before commencement of inspection;
- (b) The Inspector should select at random on the basis of Table of Random numbers or according to a prescribed specific plan the lots that are to be actually inspected;
- (c) On completion of inspection on a particular day and if the conditions laid down are satisfied, the Inspector will indicate to the Mills the lots that are to be authorised for export without actual inspection but on the basis of self-certification and the Mills should immediately arrange to stamp the said material with the Committee's date stamp, if offered in loose condition and arrange to pack the same;
- (d) After packing of the material not actually covered under inspection and also in case the material has been offered in packed condition the Mills should produce the required self-certification lot-wise in the text prescribed, alongwith the reference sample/samples to represent the lots, before sealing.
- (e) The Inspector should thereafter carry out supervision of packing, as prescribed in the regulations in case

of loose material, and then seal all the bales/packages in the usual manner. In case of offer of material in packed condition, the packages can be sealed straightaway. It should be ensured that the supervision of packing in case of offer in loose condition and sealing of packages in both cases, i.e. offer in loose and packed condition, is carried out only in respect of the packages mentioned in the self-certification applicable.

- (f) The Inspector, after completion of sealing of the packages should pro-

perly scrutinise the self-certification for its correctness and endorse the same if found satisfactory in all respects.

- (g) The mills should also maintain a register in the prescribed proforma **in duplicate** in respect of lots authorised for export without inspection. The Inspector initially deciding to that effect and the one who endorses the self-certification should be responsible to ensure the correctness and up-to-date maintenance of the register. One copy of the said register is meant for the Committee.

ANNEXURE-II

Extract from the Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry Notification (Trade and Merchandise Marks), New Delhi dated the 20th September, 1962.

I. A trade description of length stamped on grey, bleached, mercerised or coloured cotton piece goods:

- (i) in pieces stamped as of length 9 metres and below the stamped length shall not exceed the actual length by more than 1 percent of the piece length or 7.5 cm. whichever is less, and;
- (ii) in pieces stamped as of length above 9 metres the stamped length shall not exceed the actual length by more than 0.6 percent of the piece length or 7.5 cm. whichever is higher.

Provided that the average length of the pieces in question shall not be less than the stamped length.

II. A trade description of width stamped on grey, bleached, mercerised or coloured cotton piece goods:

- (i) in pieces stamped as of width 102 cm. or below, the stamped width shall not exceed the actual width at any point by more than 1.3 cm.
- (ii) in pieces stamped as of width over 102 cm. upto 152 cm. the stamped width shall not exceed the actual width at any point by more than 1.25 percent of the stamped width of the piece;
- (iii) in pieces stamped as of width 152 cm. and above the stamped width shall not exceed the actual width at any point by more than 1.25 percent of the stamped width of the piece or 2.5 cm. whichever is less.

Provided that average width of the piece in question shall not be less than the stamped width.