

# TEXTILES COMMITTEE

(GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE)

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

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 23, read with sub-clauses (d) and (e) of sub-section 2 of Section 4 of the Textiles Committee Act, 1963 (41 of 1963), the Textiles Committee, with the previous sanction of the Central Government, hereby makes the following regulations, namely:—

**1. SHORT TITLE, Commencement and application:**

- (1) These Regulations may be called the **'Handloom Cotton Cloth Inspection Regulations, 1977'**.
- (2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.
- (3) They shall apply to the Handloom Cotton Cloth meant for export.

**2. DEFINITIONS:**

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) **'Committee'** means the Textiles Committee established under Section 3 of the Textiles Committee Act, 1963 (41 of 1963).
- (b) **'Inspector'** means the person deputed to inspect the material.
- (c) **'Lot'** means the quantity of the material purporting to be of one definite type and quality.
- (d) **'Major flaw' means—**
  - (i) weft crack of more than 2 missing picks across the width of the fabric,
  - (ii) more than two adjacent ends running parallel, broken or missing and extending beyond 6",
  - (iii) damaged selvages other than irregular pulled in selvedge in case of fabrics like furnishing etc. produced out of very coarse counts,
  - (iv) noticeable warp or weft float in the body of the fabric,
  - (v) prominently noticeable oil or other stain in the fabric,
  - (vi) prominently noticeable oily weft in the fabric,
  - (vii) noticeable hole, cut or tear upto 1/8" in size in the body of the fabrics. In case of hand-spun weft/roving of very coarse count, weft gaps formed by broken picks should not be considered,
  - (viii) conspicuous gout due to foreign matter usually lint or waste woven into the fabric, will not apply to handspun weft/roving coarse yarns,
  - (ix) prominently noticeable printing or dyeing or embroidery or pattern defect,
  - (x) any other major flaw of similar magnitude.
- (e) **'Material'** means hand-woven cotton cloth of running length and mixed fabrics containing 85% or more by weight of cotton including such hand-woven cloth where yarns other than cotton are used as extra warp or extra weft. However, in case of embroidered fabrics the said definition should apply to the ground fabric irrespective of the type and quantity of yarn used for embroidery. However, the material

will exclude fabrics made out of yarns by blending of fibres in yarn stage and any other fabrics as may be decided by the Committee from time to time.

(f) 'Minor flaw' means flaws of minor nature similar in nature to major flaws but of lesser magnitude than that of major flaws but not insignificant.

(g) 'Serious flaw' means—

(i) more than one adjacent end missing in the body of the material and running throughout or more than three ends missing at a place and running over 24",

(ii) undressed snarls noticeable over a length exceeding 5 percent of the length of the piece,

(iii) smash definitely rupturing the texture of the fabric,

(iv) hole, cut or tear of more than 1/8" in size in the body of the fabric, and in case of handspun weft/roving coarse yarns, weft gaps formed by broken picks should not be considered,

(v) extensive printing, dyeing or embroidery defect,

(vi) any other serious flaw of similar magnitude.

### 3. OFFERING OF MATERIAL FOR INSPECTION:

(a) The manufacturer or exporter shall 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, removable stains etc.

(b) The pre-inspected material in lots of about 20,000 metres or less shall be offered for inspection in a well lighted shed.

(c) The manufacturer or exporter shall apply for inspection in the prescribed proforma as may be prescribed by the Committee from time to time.

### 4. INSPECTION CRITERIA:

Inspection will be for the following:

(a) Flaws:

(i) Serious Flaws

(ii) Major Flaws

(iii) Minor Flaws

(iv) If the contract stipulates higher standards with regard to the above than the ones defined or prescribed in these regulations, inspection will be carried out accordingly.

(b) Specifications:

(i) Dimensions: Dimensions shall be according to the contract. In the event of the contract not specifying dimensions the same will be according to the invoice. Also where a range of length is indicated it should be according to the invoice, but within the contractual stipulations.

(ii) Counts of warp and weft, ends and picks per inch and weight:

Inspection will be carried out according to the stipulations in the contract or of the sample approved by the foreign buyer for these characteristics. If the contract is silent about these, inspection for these will not be carried out. In such cases, however,

if inspection is required by the applicant on voluntary basis, the same will be carried out accordingly to the declaration made by the applicant in these respects. Inspection for counts of warp and weft, ends and picks per inch will not apply in the case of materials made of handspun yarn.

- (iii) According to the minimum or standard specifications that may be laid down by the Committee from time to time in respect of any particular fabric.
  - (iv) Colour fastness: In the case of material marked as 'fast' fastness to washing [IS standard 765 (1966)-Test-4 (revised) ] shall be carried out in all cases. In the case of furnishings, in addition to the above, fastness to light [IS 2454 (1967)-colour fastness-Artificial (Xenon lamp) ] shall also be carried out. For the purpose of rating, if an approved sample from the foreign buyer is furnished, that should form the basis of acceptance.
  - (v) Other specifications: They shall be according to the contract or according to the minimum or standard specifications or standards as may be prescribed by the Committee from time to time for any particular type of fabric.
5. In case of exporters consistently producing better quality material 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.

## 6. SAMPLING PLAN FOR INSPECTION:

- (a) Sampling plan for the final 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 shall also be selected on 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. However, in cases where the piece length is 10 metres and below, 10% of the lot subject to a minimum 150 metres and a maximum 300 metres.
  - (ii) Second Sample: If the acceptability or otherwise regarding major flaws cannot be decided straightaway on the basis of the inspection of the 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 inspec-

tion for construction particulars is required, ends and picks per inch shall be determined on these 5 pieces. Width and picks per inch will be determined at two, three and five different places in case of piece lengths upto and inclusive of 10 metres, above 10 to 20 metres and above 20 metres, respectively. Ends per inch shall be measured at two different places in all cases.

**7. DRAWING OF SAMPLES FOR TESTS:**

- (a) One sample of 0.9 metre full width per lot shall be drawn for laboratory tests, where inspection as at clause 4(b)(ii), (iii), (iv) or (v) is required.
- (b) In the case of material marked as 'fast' if the above sample does not represent all colours, enough number of additional samples of  $\frac{1}{2}$  metre each covering all colours shall be drawn.

**8. REJECTION CRITERIA:**

- (a) 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 even one serious flaw,
  - (ii) if the number of major flaws is equal to or exceeds the number shown in column 3 of the Table annexed hereto corresponding to the first sample size,
  - (iii) if too many minor flaws are observed in the sample inspected so as to render the material poor or shoddy in appearance,
  - (iv) if inspection for flaws is carried out as at regulation 4(a)(iv) and if the sample is not acceptable accordingly,

(v) even if one piece is found to be of less width,

(vi) 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,

(vii) Ends and picks/inch and weight: If the sample inspected for these are beyond the tolerance,

(viii) Count and other specifications: If the sample tested does not pass the required tests subjected to the tolerance prescribed,

(ix) Colour fastness: If the sample tested as per I.S.I. Standard does not come upto rating 4 in case of wash fastness and rating 5 in case of light fastness, wherever applicable or as prescribed by the foreign buyer,

(x) in case of inspection as at regulation 4(b) (iii) or (v) if it does not conform to the minimum standards or minimum standard specifications in the manner prescribed,

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 2 of the said Table, corresponding to the first sample size.

**(b) 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 2 but is less than the number given in

column 3 of the Table referred to in subclause b(ii) corresponding to the first sample size, then the second sample as per plan should be inspected for major flaws only. In such cases, if the number of major flaws is in excess of the number shown in column 2 of the said Table referred to in subclause b(ii) corresponding to the pooled sample size of the first and second samples.

**9. PROCEDURE FOR APPEAL:**

In case of rejections by the inspector, if the concerned parties are not satisfied with the inspection findings, they will have the right of appeal. In such cases, they should appeal to the immediate Superior Officer who will reinspect the material and give his verdict regarding acceptability or otherwise of the lot in question. If the lot is again rejected and if the parties still feel aggrieved, they may appeal to the higher authorities.

**10. PERMISSIBLE TOLERANCE:**

When determining whether the material conforms to the construction and other particulars declared or stipulated in the contract and/or approved sample or declaration by the party, the following tolerances shall be allowed unless different tolerances are specified in the export contract.

- (a) Counts of yarn : For 10s and below: 10% subject to a minimum of  $\frac{1}{2}$  count (English cotton count)  
 $\pm 7.5\%$  for counts upto and including 30s (English cotton counts)  
 $\pm 5\%$  for counts above 30s (English cotton counts)

- (b) Ends/inch :  $\pm 5\%$
- (c) Picks/inch :  $\pm 5\%$
- (d) Weight/piece :  $-5\%$  and no limit on plus side.
- (e) Width : (i)  $-1\%$  and no limit on plus side for the average of the findings of all the pieces in the sample selected and examined.  
(ii)  $-1\frac{1}{2}\%$  and no limit on plus side for individual pieces.
- (f) Length :  $-2\frac{1}{2}\%$  and no limit on plus side for individual pieces.

Note:—The above tolerances except (e)(ii) and (f) shall be applied to the average of findings of all the pieces actually inspected for construction.

**11. PACKING AND SEALING:**

The lot inspected and passed shall be marked with the required stamps and packed into bales/cases in the presence of the Inspector. All the bales comprising the lot shall then be sealed by the Inspector. The finished packages shall be packed in a manner as may be prescribed by the Committee from time to time. The packages shall be sealed as above only if the packing is found satisfactory.

**12. CERTIFICATION:**

In respect of each lot inspected, and not rejected under Regulations 8 and Regulations 11, a certificate shall be issued to the party concerned by an officer of the Committee authorised by the Committee in this behalf.

MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS

Sl. No.	Description	Count of warp	Count of weft	Ends/ inch	Picks/ inch	Threads/ sq. inch.
1.	Madras checks	60s	40s	84	84	168
2.	Casements	20s	20s	42	38	80
3.	Shirtings	20s	20s	48	48	96
4.	Crepe (Cheese cloth) 35 T.P.I.:					
	i) Grey (Loom state)	20s	20s	36	40	76
	ii) Processed	20s	20s	40	44	84
5.	Bleeding Madras*	60s	40s	84	84	168

**\*DEFINITION:**

Bleeding Madras fabric is a plain, closely woven solid check or stripe patterned cotton cloth. The yarn used is dyed with dyes which are not fast to washing. On washing, the colours blend or mute with one another to produce a mellowed or subdued shade effect.

**TEST METHOD FOR DETERMINING BLEEDING PROPERTIES:**

Cut out two test specimens each measuring approximately 10cm. x 10cm. from the sample

under test. One of the test specimens is treated in a soap solution containing 2 gms per litre soap (Specimen to liquor ratio being 1:50) at a temperature of 40°C for half an hour. Thereafter, rinse the specimen in cold water and dry at room temperature. Compare the treated specimen with the untreated specimen. Bleeding is said to have taken place, when the colours of the treated test specimen mute or blend on to the neighbouring colours to produce a mellowed or subdued shade effect.

[TABLE (See Clause 8(a) &amp; (b))]

## ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION NUMBER FOR MAJOR FLAWS

Sample size in metres	Acceptance No. for 1st sample or for 1st & 2nd sample pooled together	Outright rejection number for 1st sample
1000	92	120
975	90	117
950	87	115
925	85	112
900	83	109
875	80	106
850	78	104
825	75	101
800	73	98
775	70	95
750	68	92
725	65	90
700	63	87
675	61	84
650	58	81
625	56	78
600	53	76
575	51	73
550	49	70
525	46	67
500	44	64
475	41	62
450	39	59
425	37	56
400	34	53
375	32	50
350	29	47
325	27	44
300	25	41
275	22	38
250	20	35
225	18	32
200	16	29
175	13	26
150	11	23
125	9	20
100	7	17

**Plan for Selective Inspection of lots containing material defined under the 'Handloom Cotton Cloth Inspection Regulations, 1977.'**

**1. Criteria for Eligibility:**

- (a) All manufacturers, exporters and merchant exporters are eligible for availing of the facility of selective inspection, provided there is a consistency in performance both with regard to quantity and quality of their exports. The criteria for determining the consistency in performance will be as decided by the Committee from time to time.
- (b) There should be adequate and upto date: preshipment inspection facilities for getting the material properly checked by trained and experienced staff, using well-established and acceptable technique/methods of pre-inspection. The basic facilities, trained staff so employed and the techniques/methods so adopted for pre-inspection are subject to approval of the Committee from time to time. Availability of in-process control and material control with laboratory arrangements will have the added preference.
- (c) There should have been no established complaints in regard to their export of material during the past one year from any quarter, namely, overseas buyer, his agent, etc.
- (d) The list of eligible parties will be reviewed periodically and additions and deletions to the list should be made on the basis of the above criteria.

**2. Material that can come under selective plan:**

- (a) Material other than those for which a certificate-cum-test report is required for purpose other than mere authorisa-

tion for export in case of compulsory inspection.

- (b) Material for which minimum specifications have been laid down will also be eligible as may be decided by the Committee from time to time.
- (c) Material for which the contract is silent about quality aspects except dimensions.

**3. Percentage of Selective Inspection of Lots:**  
The percentage of selective inspection of lots shall be as decided by the Committee from time to time.

**4. Built-in Safe-guards:**

- (a) The facility of Selective Inspection of lots granted shall be withdrawn immediately on any of the following:
  - (i) If any complaint is received from the importing country regarding the quality of the material exported by the party 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.
  - (ii) If two consecutive lots are found to have been rejected on any day or more than two lots have been rejected 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 during which 10 lots have been inspected and also till the above condition is satisfied in respect of these 10 lots, after which the facility of selective inspection will be restored.



- (b) In the event of (i) or (ii) above, the inspection shall invariably be on the basis of the sample size of the first and second samples put together, during the period of withdrawal of the selective inspection plan.
- (c) The lots to be covered under actual inspection under the selective inspection plan shall be selected on a random basis to cover almost all the qualities produced for export and the entire period of production of such qualities.
- (d) 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.
- (e) No single inspector should inspect 10 or more consecutive lots of one and the same party, as far as possible.

5. **Procedure:**

During the period of applicability of selective inspection, the undermentioned procedures shall be followed:—

- (1) The exporters coming under the selective inspection plan should as usual submit lot-wise applications irrespective of the fact whether any lot is to be inspected actually or not. Before commencement of the inspection all such applications on any day should also be lot-wise entered in a register of prescribed proforma.
- (2) After having verified that the material for all the lots offered for inspection are physically in proper condition, the inspector should select at random (on

the basis of random number table) or according to a prescribed specific plan the lots that are to be actually taken up for detailed inspection.

- (3) On completion of inspection on a particular day and if the conditions laid down are satisfied, the Inspector will indicate to the party the lots that are to be authorised for export without actual inspection but on the basis of self certification and the party should immediately arrange for sealing of the material in the packages of the related lots.
- (4) After sealing the material of the lots not to be actually inspected by the inspector of the Committee, the party should produce the required self certification lot-wise in the text prescribed, along with the related contract copy and the other relevant declaration/samples of the overseas buyer.
- (5) The concerned inspector should thereafter verify all the documents with the declarations in the inspection applications and then verify the mode and method of packing, sealing used by the party. After having satisfied in all its aspects such lots will be endorsed for self certification as an authorisation for export.
- (6) The party should also maintain a register in the prescribed proforma in duplicate separately in respect of lots authorised for export without inspection. The concerned Inspector should ensure the correctness of the entries in such register and initial the related entries while endorsing the related self certification form.