

Udhyog Nagari Kanpur

Kanpur was once known as a centre for all type of industrial activities. Negligence of the entrepreneurs and immunity to problems of trade, industry and work force on the part of planners of the city, has given rise to the deterioration in many industrial activities and now the situation has arised where one can not boast that it is an industrial city as it used to be. Kanpur was once a Textile city too. Textile manufacturing activities at Kanpur are however, now surviving only to a little extent, mainly on account of the old defence set up which sources it's requirement from the units of Kanpur. Quite a few entrepreneurs based at Kanpur are engaged in hosiery and garment manufacturing but overall picture is dismal. Gigantic chimneys of large textile mills which were once lifeline of the city, do no longer emit smoke and the scene of herd of mill workers with tiffin box in their hand, walking hurriedly to start the day's work and returning at the end of the shift in a quest to meet their family does no longer exist. A lot is required to be done to bring back the old glory of the city. Brief details of kanpur textile processing cluster are given below :-

Historical Background and location :

Kanpur was once called an industrial city, with almost everything getting manufactured there. It was blooming with textile activities and was known as "Manchester of India". Sheeting, Mineral khaki, defence clothing, Lal Imli Lohis, Shawls, Sweaters, Jerseys, leather goods were all once novelties of Kanpur. There are now only a few popular brands. Cownpore woollen mills of British India corporation produces woollen products like suitings, shawls, blankets with the brand name "Lal Imli". A brand named "JET" for hosiery items is also prevalent.

Kanpur is famous for leather and textile goods of fine quality. It was once a major industrial city with aviation, wool, cotton and leather industries. It is still the commercial capital of State of U.P.

Kanpur is situated on the bank of Ganga river, with the longest Grant Trunk (GT) Road (Kolkatta to Peshawar) passing through Kanpur. It is on Delhi – Howrah train route about 435 kms from Delhi, 350 kms from holy city Varanasi, 200 kms from Allahabad and around 1000 kms from Howrah. State capital Lucknow, the city of Nawabs is just 70 kms off Kanpur.

Kanpur, spread around 1000 sq kms, was originally founded by King Hindu Singh of the erstwhile State of Sachendi, Kanpur. It came under British rule by a treaty between Nawab Saadat Ali Khan of Awadh and East India Company. With that Kanpur was set up as one of the most important military station of British India. It is still an important base of Army (Infantry and Airforce). It was declared a district on 24th March, 1803. Kanpur has created history in almost each field. It was an epicenter of outbreak against British rule in 1857. After 1857, Kanpur acquired phenomenal growth. Government harness and saddler factory was set up for supplying leather material in 1860, followed by Cooper Allen & Co. in 1880. The well known Elgin Mills, which later on came under the fold of British India Corporation, was set up in 1862. Muir Mills was set up in 1882.

2. Industrial profile :

There are 13 power processing units, together with 7 SSI spinning units, 10 composite units, 28 technical textile units, 125 garment units and 250 hosiery units scattered around Kanpur. Ordnance factory under the Ministry of Defence at Kanpur, sources textile goods from the units at Kanpur. Defence Material & Stores Research Development Establishment (DMSRDE), a large set up at G.T. Road, Kanpur works on material research for Army and paramilitary clothings for adverse working conditions. Most of the units at Kanpur work for manufacturing, processing and supply of textile goods for defence. The textile units are however, equipped with old and obsolete technology machines.

3. Product profile :

Kanpur is now famous for supply of technical textile to Ministry of Defence. Units here are manufacturing and processing cotton drill cloth, shirtings, suitings, gaberdines, nylon fabrics, canvas cloth, tarpaulins, survival blankets (Barrack blankets), mosquito nets, polyester khaki, flame retardent fabrics, bed sheets, sheet barracks, polyester blended raincoats with detachable hood made from blended single texture rubberized fabric, ground sheet of Khaki / olive green / other shades, durries, base plate, roof pole, tape of OG/Khaki/white/other shades in different sizes, braided nylon cord, braided cotton cord, nylon rope climbing, elastic cord, laces, Kines bedding, cotton duck water proof, duster dosull, sheet hospital, leopard cloth, cotton niwar, twill cotton, cover water proof, cellular shirt OG / khaki, hat felt gorkha, drawers cotton short, trouser plain weave, shirt drill, shirt plain weave, trouser combat disruptive, tent fabric, postal cash bag, surgeon gowns, razal, anklet battle dress, carrier water bottle, belt waist, belting cloth, sling rifle web, parka, coat combat, sleeping bags, heater space, Swiss cottage tent, cotton huck back towel, ground sheet, fabric coated, jacket wind cheater, gloves glacier, face mask etc. These goods are manufactured and processed for supply to Ordnance, Ministry of Defence.

Inner garments, socks and other garments are also manufactured for civil supply. Worsted woollen blended suiting, shirting, shawl / lohi and woollen blended blanket / rug are produced in units at Kanpur for civil supply as well as Govt. The most of units have their own small process houses. Some units are having only process houses and doing work on job work basis.

Annual value of the products processed by processing units at Kanpur is around Rs.550 crore including goods for defence. Disperse, Reactives, Vats and Sulphur dyes are used. For defence supply, the use of sulphur dyes is to the extent of about 60% and that of vat dyes 40%. For civil supply 80% consumption is of disperse dyes and 20% of reactive dyes. Disperse dyes are used for polyester yarn dyeing and reactive dyes for cotton yarn dyeing, to produce yarn dyed fabrics. Those metal complex dyes, which are not coming under the banned azo

dyes category, are used for dyeing of woollen items like suiting, blazers, shawls and blankets etc. Consumption of dyes is to the level of Rs.18 –20 per kg of fabric. The main market is for dyeing, camouflaging printing, water proofing and fire proofing for defence supply. Value addition achieved in dyeing is of the order of 10 – 12%, printing 15 – 20%, waterproofing 35 – 40% and fireproofing about 50%. Job charges vary as under :-

Product	Job charges for bleaching, dyeing and others (Rs./meter)
Dress material	3 – 5
Shirting	5 – 10
Suitings	10 – 15
Dyeing & Camouflaging printing	20 – 25
Water proofing	15 – 20
Fire proofing	40 – 50
Hosiery fabrics	3 - 5

60% of the total production is for defence supply and about 40% for civil supply in U.P. and nearby states. Some of the garment units and technical textile units are engaged in export supply. Export of textile goods from this area are not that significant. Products are marketed in the local markets of Generalganj and Kahookothi.

4. Infrastructure and support services :

There is nothing to say of infrastructure to promote textile manufacturing, marketing and exporting activities at Kanpur. Large volume of effluents are discharged by processing units. Groundwater consumed by the processing units is affecting adversely the ground water table. There is no common effluent treatment plant. Some units have set up their own effluent treatment plants.

Associations to support the activities of textile processing are as under :-

- i) Dyeing & Chemical manufacturers Association, Nayaganj, Kanpur**
- ii) Rang Rasayan Udhyog Association, Govind Nagar, Kanpur.**
- iii) Indian Industries Association, CF – 2, Udhyog Kunj, Panki industrial area, Site – 5, Kanpur.**

There are certain institutes to provide technical hands for the textile industry at Kanpur and elsewhere in the country.

- i) U.P. Textile Technology Institute
11/208, Souterganj, Parvati Bangla Road, Kanpur**
 - ii) Govt. Polytechnic, G. T. Road, Rawatpur, Kanpur**
- Regional office of the Textile Committee at 117/Q/51 Sharda Nagar, Kanpur helps the industry in quality testing of different parameters on the state-of-the-art testing equipments.**
 - Regional Office of the Textile Commissioner at 181 – 184 Sharda Nagar Kanpur, provides various support services, technical guidance, policy formulation and implementation. Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme of Govt. of India, Ministry of Textiles for low interest finance for upgradation of technology in the area is implemented through Regional Office of the Textile Commissioner, Kanpur.**

- **A Powerloom Service Centre of Northern India Textile Research Association, under the funding from Ministry of Textiles, at 110, Meerut Cantt Kanpur provides general testing facilities and training to powerloom weavers for their skill upgradation. Other offices to support textile industry of Kanpur are :-**
 - i) U.P. State Industrial Development Corporation Vikas Nagar, Kanpur.**
 - ii) District Industries Centre, Kalpi Road, Kanpur**
 - iii) Directorate of Industries (U.P.), G. T. Road, Kanpur**
 - iv) Directorate of Handloom & Textiles, Kabir Bhawan, G. T. Road, Kanpur**
 - v) U.P. Industrial Consultants Ltd., 5th Floor, Kabir Bhawan, G. T. Road, Kanpur**

5. Problems and Suggestions :

- i) Power breakdowns damage the material during processing and are impediments in quality processing. Uninterrupted power supply is needed for the growth of processing.**
- ii) There is no dedicated infrastructure for the textile industry, a bottleneck in it's development. A textile Park under the scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) which makes available a grant of 40% of the Project cost, with a ceiling of Rs.40 crore by the Ministry of Textiles, is required to create state-of-the-art infrastructure for the growth of textile activities in this area.**
- iii) Machines installed in the units are of old and obsolete technology. Modernisation with low interest finance under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) and 10% Capital Subsidy with 5% Interest Subsidy for specified hitech processing machines introduced by Govt. of India, Ministry of Textiles, is required to be undertaken.**

- iv) **A common effluent treatment plant is required to take care of effluent treatment problems of a group of units, rather than having effluent treatment plants by individual units, which adds up the cost and reduces margins, hence impediment to growth of an individual unit.**
- v) **Kanpur was once a hub of textile activities. Now it is reduced to insignificant level. All out efforts are required by the organisations engaged in the development of textile industry to provide infrastructure, finance, upgradation of technology, awareness creation for quality, market infrastructure, availability of trained manpower, R & D, brand promotion etc. so that it may come up again to its past glory and may contribute to country's economy.**

Source : Material in this cluster profile is based on the cluster profile prepared by Regional Office of the Textile Commissioner, Kanpur. This profile is given the appropriate shape by Shri Ram Asrey Lal, Dy. Director (Chemical Processing), under the instruction and guidance of Shri J. N. Singh, IAS, Textile Commissioner, Mumbai.