



NORTH INDIA SECTION OF THE TEXTILE INSTITUTE

NISTI (Regd)

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

**PRESENTED AT 11TH AGM COVERING THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE 10 AGM
HELD ON 24 FEBRUARY 2018 AND 11TH AGM ON 24 JANUARY 2019**

**READ BY MR VIJAY KOUL, HONORARY SECRETARY ON 24 JANUARY 2019 AT
THE 11TH AGM HELD IN CSOI, KASTURBAMARG, NEW DELHI 110001**

Dear Members

I am pleased to present to you my report on the activities of NISTI for the period as outlined above.

The present EC was elected on 24 February 2018. Since that date to now, the activities and engagements of NISTI are recorded below.

1. Membership

At start there were 48 members of TI assigned to NISTI. During the course of the year there has been an addition of 8 members, thus taking the total membership to 56.

On behalf of the Executive Council, I have the pleasure to welcome the 8 new members.

The membership profile consists of 1 Hon. Fellow, 12 C Text FTI and 10 CText ATI. One CText FTI application is under process at TI Hqrs.

2. Governance

During the period the Executive Council (EC) met on 3 occasions.

The first meeting was held on 28 June 2018. The venue was the Conference Room of Department of Textile Technology, IIT Delhi, New Delhi 110016. Twelve members of the EC were present.

The second meeting occurred on 5 October 2018. This meeting was held Chinar Room of the India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003. Attendance was recorded by 8 members.

The 3rd meeting took place today that is 24 January 2019 in the CSOI, Kasturba Marg, New Delhi 110 001. The meeting was well attended by members.

In all meetings, members took active interest in discussion and participation, leading to a variety of accomplishments.

3. Internal Committees

The EC had supported the Chairman's suggestion to effect changes in the functional manner of NISTI's operations when he first assumed office in December 2016. Accordingly, the following committees had been established with the mandate to chart out activities for NISTI:

- a. Membership Development Committee headed by Mr I M Aggarwal
- b. Events and Industry Linkages Committee headed by Dr K K Sharma
- c. Institutional Linkages Committee headed by Prof V K Kothari
- d. Training and Skill Development Committee headed by Prof R S Antil
- e. Advisory Committee of Elders for NISTI's Strategic Direction headed by Mr Vijay BHalla

During the year the Chairman, with support of EC, set up a Core Group for Technical Textiles with mandate to steer developments in the field by way of conference, publications and potential education contribution. This Group is headed by the Chairman, Dr V Shanbhag.

The tasks carried out by the various groupings are reported below.

4. Membership Development Committee

The Committee had initiated a proposal to be submitted to Textile Institute for a new membership pattern in order to promote and augment Textile Institute membership on grounds that the current membership fees proved to be unaffordable and stood in the way of new enrolment.

The Textile Institute suggested that any such proposal may be initiated by INO so that it covers all sections in India. In this connection, it had requested Dr Chaudhuri, Chairman INO and Dr Shanbhag Chairman NISTI to formulate a proposal as soon as possible.

The proposition was formulated in consultation with all four sections under INO and escalated to TI Hqrs, where it was discussed in the TI Membership Committee during July 2018. The overall disposition in this TI committee was unfavourable to the proposition, as conveyed by the Chairman, INO, who attended the meeting.

In the light of this position, the EC has decided to view membership enrolment on a long-term basis by setting up NISTI CLUBS in graduate and post-graduate textile and fashion educational institutions. These clubs will perform value-adding services to students and faculty in the expectation to lure them into the membership fold in the longer run. Each Club will be supervised by one or two NISTI members.

The Chairman, Dr V Shanbhag, has thanked Mr I M Aggarwal and the members of the committee for their valuable contribution.

5. Events & Industry Linkages Committee

The first event was held on 19 May 2018 in the India Habitat Centre. Faculty of Ayushakti, an institution dedicated to Ayurvedic system of medicine and healing, addressed members and spouses on common maladies affecting elders, especially senior citizens, and the appropriate healing strategies and treatments for them. Audio-visual presentation was made by the faculty amid intense questioning and enquiry by the audience. Interested persons were treated to individual attention to their personal medical issues, a service which was availed widely.

The second event was held on 10 September 2018 at TIT&S Bhiwani, when, at their invitation, a delegation of NISTI members comprising Dr S K Chaudhuri, Dr K KSharma, Ms Nien Siao, Mr Shailesh Kaushik and Dr V Shanbhag made presentations to textile and fashion students on special topics, respectively, Pashmina textiles, Entrepreneurship, Fashion Trends, Technical Textiles, and TI Activities and Membership benefits. The event was organised through the forenoon of the day in the institute's auditorium under the overall direction of Prof G K Tyagi, Executive Director of TIT&S, Bhiwani.

The third event was the family tour which was undertaken to Gujarat Temples, in which 12 members undertook a four nights, five days visit to Somnath, Dwarka, Jamnagar and Ahmedabad from 10 December to 14 December 2018. The tour was schemed and planned by Mr Sudarshan Sharma through a vendor Big Breaks.com and the package arrangements with travel, local conveyance, stay, hospitality, etc, were discharged to utmost satisfaction. This family tour satisfied a long-standing demand of NISTI members. During the tour an institutional visit was

paid to NIFT Gandhinagar, where the delegation was received by Mr Arindam Das, Director and also NISTI member, who introduced the delegation to a profile of growth and development achieved by the institution. The delegation was conducted around its various departments, shown the array of equipments and instruments in the labs, and also introduced to exhibits of student works.

The Chairman, Dr V Shanbhag, has thanked Dr Kuldip Kr Sharma and other members of this committee for their accomplishments.

6. Training & Skill Development Committee

This committee had initiated a proposal for a collaborative arrangement between NISTI and ATDC to launch TI accredited Continuing Education courses for the textile and apparel industries. This proposal was welcomed by Textile Institute and an offer was received from TI for a 50% discount in the accreditation fees.

On 27 March 2018, ATDC and NISTI entered into a formal MoU agreeing the terms and conditions for the collaborative venture. The signing ceremony was attended by the top brass of ATDC management and faculty along with a strong contingent of 8 NISTI members in the premises of ATDC at Gurugram.

Following that ATDC worked on the curriculum development along with NISTI and a mutually agreeable curriculum was sent to TI Education Committee in mid-June for approval and accreditation which was successfully announced in mid-July and thereafter the accreditation certificate was received from TI in mid-August 2018.

Operational plans for delivery by ATDC are in progress.

The Chairman, Dr V Shanbhag has thanked Prof R S Antil and other members of the committee for the achievement.

7. Institutional Linkages Committee

In the previous year, the Committee had revived the standing offer of Textile Institute to Ms Paridhi Dhanuka, alumnus of Pearl Academy, for a fellowship to attend the TWC at Leeds University in July 2018. This offer materialised successfully with TI funding her conference participation and stay at Leeds while Ms Paridhi arranged her own air passage to and fro. Ms Paridhi also presented a research paper on jute-blended textiles, which was received very well by the audience.

The Committee made best of the opportunity of the NISTI delegation's visit to TIT&S Bhivani to propose a MoU on the occasion. Accordingly, NISTI and TIT&S agreed on mutually beneficial terms and conditions and later signed the MoU on 5 October 2018 at Delhi. This agreement envisages NISTI promoting the Institute's Corporate membership in TI, renewal of accreditation of its courses by TI, accomplishment of CText FTI by deserving members of its faculty, bi-monthly visits by two NISTI members to deliver specialist lectures to students and an annual seminar at the Bhivani campus under joint organisation by the two institutions.

During November 2018, Dr V Shanbhag, Chairman, along with NISTI member Mr Shailesh Kaushik engaged in discussions with Ms S Sunanda, Secretary General CITI for mutual cooperation. It is intended to further this into a concrete understanding in due time. As a gesture, CITI extended a waiver of delegate fees for participation in CITI's Global Textiles Conclave 2018 held in New Delhi on 27-28 November 2018 by NISTI members.

The CII, through the good offices of NISTI member Mr R D Gupta, also openly invited NISTI members to participate in the Annual Conference on 13-14 December 2018 at New Delhi

The Chairman, Dr V Shanbhag, has thanked Prof V K Kothari and other members of the committee for the value addition.

8. Technical Textiles Core Group

The Core Group, set up in May 2018, has been very active. It has met several times during the year with Prof V K Kothari, Dr K K Sharma, Mr Shailesh Kaushik, Mr Vijay Kumar Koul in attendance. The first decision of the Group was to widen the range of NISTI interest to focus beyond medical textiles to a larger range comprising composites, agro textiles, protective and defence textiles, industrial textiles, etc, capable of manufacture in MSMEs. It was agreed that NISTI endeavour would be to expose the accomplished R&D, promote commercialisation and enlighten MSMEs about the investment opportunities. Thus, it was proposed to hold a conference with such a thrust. Various collaborative propositions were pursued, with the Textile Commissioner and PHDCCI. Finally, it is now being envisaged jointly with Indian Technical Textiles Association (ITTA) and is likely to occur in mid-2019. In this connection, the Chairman who has been exchanging communications with the Executive Director, ITTA, has also met him in person and separately Dr K K Sharma has met the Chairman of ITTA in Delhi. Subsequently, all four met in Mumbai on the sidelines of the ITTA Conference on 19 January 2019. Discussions have moved around jointly conducting conferences, launching a TI approved certificate for Technical Textiles as a value addition opportunity to graduate and post-graduate textile students to imbibe relevant knowledge and skills for better fit as manpower to the technical textiles industry, and also consider book publications.

Chairman, Dr V Shanbhag, has thanked all colleagues in the Group for their cooperation and support.

9. NISTI Representation/Participation in External Events

Dr V Shanbhag, Chairman, participated in a 1 day event on medical textiles organised by SITRA on 7 June 2018 at Mumbai.

Dr K K Sharma attended the one-day TAI Delhi conference on 17 November 2018 at Delhi. Mr Shailesh Kaushik was a member of the TAI Delhi Conference committee.

Dr V Shanbhag, Dr KK Sharma, Mr R D Gupta, Mr Shailesh Kaushik, Mr R Saxena, Mr M K Garg, Mr B P Saxena, Prof R S Antil, Mr I M Aggarwal, Ms Gurpreet Kaur participated in an international conclave on the occasion of CITI diamond jubilee celebrations in Delhi on 27-28 November 2018 at Vigyan Bhavan. On this occasion, Mr Shailesh Kaushik was a member of the Technical Textiles panel chaired by Mr Raghavendra Singh, Secretary, MoT.

Mr B P Saxena participated in a two day event organised by CII on 14-15 December 2018 in Delhi.

Dr K K Sharma attended a MoT conference arranged by CII on 6 January 2019 at Delhi.

Dr Vinod Shanbhag and Dr K K Sharma attended three events in succession in Mumbai:

- a. Platinum jubilee celebrations of ITAMMA on 17 January 2019
- b. GTTES 2019 on 18 January 2019 organised by India-ITME Society
- c. ITTA conference on Technical Textiles Machinery on 19 January 2019

10. Textile Institute Matters

Dr V Shanbhag, met the TI delegation that visited India between 20 February and 1 March 2018 for meetings with EISTI, SISTI and WISTI. The delegation comprised Ms Stephanie Dick, CEO and Ms Rebecca Unsworth, Executive Director (Education and Professional Qualifications). The meeting provided an opportunity for highlighting NISTI growth as well as pending issues with Hqrs particularly with membership servicing. This meeting was held in Mumbai; Dr V Shanbhag also arranged for the delegation to visit SASMIRA. The Chairman also conveyed NISTI reservations that the delegation did not include NISTI in its itinerary

Dr Sailen Kumar Chaudhuri, Chairman INO, was installed as Vice-Chairman of the World Governing Council of TI in July 2018

11. Conclusion

The period has seen renewed institutional actions, which represent the collective motivations and energy of the NISTI membership. Acknowledgement is also due to every Past Chairman for unstinting support and encouragement extended. On behalf of the Executive Council, I am thankful to the NISTI membership for the full cooperation received.

On behalf of the EC, I am deeply thankful to and grateful for the courtesy and hospitality extended by Department of Textile Technology, IIT Delhi, ATDC Gurugram, Ayushakti Delhi, PHDCCI Delhi, CITI Delhi, CII Delhi, NIFT Gandhinagar and TIT&S Bhivani.

I am also highly grateful for the unstinted support and prompt cooperation received from TI Headquarters, Manchester.