



NORTH INDIA SECTION OF THE TEXTILE INSTITUTE

NISTI (Regd)

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

COVERING THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE 11TH AGM HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2019 AND 13TH AGM ON 24 MAY 2021

READ BY MR VIJAY KOUL, HONORARY SECRETARY ON 24 MAY 2021 AT THE 13TH AGM HELD VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM AT 4.30 PM

Dear Members

I am pleased to present to the esteemed members of NISTI my report on the affairs and activities of NISTI for the period as outlined above.

1. GOVERNING BODY

The present Executive Council (EC) was elected on 24 January 2019 at the 11th AGM with 17 members. On 19 April 2019, EC co-opted an additional member, Prof Kushal Sen.

Thus, the EC is composed of:

Elected

Dr Vinod Shanbhag, Chairman-cum-Treasurer
Mr Vijay Koul, Hon. Secretary
Dr Kuldip Kr Sharma, Immediate Past Chairman
Mr S Kaushik
Prof Nien Siao
Ms Gurpreet Kaur
Mr Charan Singh

Mr Prabhunath Pandey
Mr Sudarshan Sharma
Prof R S Antil
Mr Avinash Gupta

Coopted

Prof V K Kothari, Past Chairman
Dr S K Chaudhuri, do
Mr Vijay Bhalla, do
Prof Kushal Sen
Mr R D Gupta
Mr I M Aggarwal
Mr R K Asthana

2. MEMBERSHIP

On rolls of NISTI, there are nearly 60 individuals. It is with deep regret noted that esteemed member Mr H L Bharadwaj is deceased.

Besides, there are 3 corporate members of TI associated. One corporate member of TI discontinued.

3. GOVERNANCE

(i) EC Meetings

During the period the EC met on 8 occasions as follows (meeting attendance in brackets).

24 January 2019 (12) at CSOI, Kasturba Marg, New Delhi
19 April 2019 (11) at Committee Room, Dept. of Textile Technology, IITD, New Delhi
20 May 2019 (11) do
10 July 2019 (11) do
13 September 2019 (9) at Staff Room, Lady Irwin College
30 January 2021 (12) virtual on ZOOM
17 February 2021 (8) (informal meeting) virtual on ZOOM
23 May 2021 (tbc) virtual on ZOOM

The year 2020 passed without an EC meeting primarily due to the pandemic.

All meetings were conducted with meticulous documentation of agenda notes as well as minutes.

The strong attendance at each meeting ensured that NISTI affairs and activities were well deliberated and directed with consensus.

The cooperation extended by various institutions above by lending facilities for conduct of EC meetings is gratefully acknowledged.

(ii) Lapse of 12th AGM

Owing to the pandemic, the 12th AGM could not be held during 2020 and the current 13th AGM incorporates the 12th AGM as an extraordinary circumstance under guidance from the Elders' Committee.

Although the lapse occurred due to matters beyond NISTI control, the Chairman expresses regret for the same.

(iii) Change of Registered Address of NISTI

NISTI registered address was legally changed to:

315 M J Shopping Centre
3, Veer Savarkar Block
Vikas Marg
Shakarpur
Delhi 110092

(iv) Change of Banker

Since inception of NISTI (regd) in 2007, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Safdarjang Enclave Branch had been official banker. However, by a GOI decision, Oriental Bank of Commerce was merged with Punjab National Bank from 1 April 2020. Thus, present banker is Punjab National Bank, Safdarjang Enclave Branch. The transition has been smooth without any hindrances to NISTI accounts with the bank.

(v) Statutory Audit

The statutory audit conducted by Messers Sanjay Rastogi & Company, has generated audit reports that vouch for the accounts of NISTI for FY 2018-19 and 2019-20.

(vi) Filing of IT Return

IT returns have been filed in due time for each of above financial years and acknowledgement received.

(vii) Establishment of Permanent Secretariat

It had been decided in principle to establish the permanent secretariat at the new registered address. Lease contract for the space had been signed in 2019. Action for staffing will be underway as soon as normalcy returns post-pandemic.

(viii) Revision of Constitution

The Elders' Committee comprising Past Chairmen reviewed NISTI's progress and future needs for further growth. It was felt that suitable changes will be desirable in NISTI's MoA and Rules to enable growth in individual and corporate membership. Accordingly, the documentation was closely examined and some changes identified and discussed within the EC. The formal amendment procedure will be taken up in due course in future by the successor EC.

(ix) Succession of NISTI Office Bearers

Although, the tenure of the current Office-bearers ended formally in December 2019 on completion of the normal three years tenure, the Elders Committee in its wisdom guided that the succession issues be held in abeyance owing to the extraordinary circumstances arising from the pandemic and be considered when matters return to normalcy. As the pandemic appeared to be waning in the start of 2021, the Elders Committee felt desirable to renew the endeavour to identify successors for the posts of Chairman and Hon. Secretary. Accordingly, Chairman identified Dr D O Koshy, DG & CEO ATDC as nominee for Chairman's post and received ratification from past chairmen for the same with due consent of the nominee. Subsequently, the incoming chairman requested Dr Vijay Yadav, Director (Operations), TSSC to assist him in capacity of Hon. Secretary, to which Dr Yadav readily consented. Both gentlemen will be installed in their posts during 13th AGM and take office immediately thereafter.

(x) Internal Communication Media

Two WhatsApp Groups, one for NISTI members and the second for EC members, have been in operation since early 2019 to keep the wheels of communication in motion for informing and reporting outside of formal meetings.

4. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

During the period under review the organisation initiated the following organisational developments.

(i) New Web-site

A new web-site, www.nistiregd.in, was registered, freshly designed to communicate about NISTI past and present. The website has been welcomed by all stakeholders. The endeavour was spearheaded by Mr Prabhunath Pandey, who subsequently functioned as administrator of the website. The revamping of the website was outsourced to a professional organisation.

(ii) Foundation Day

NISTI was founded on 24 May 1989. Its Foundation Day was instituted and celebrated for the first time on 24 May 2019, when 3 decades of its contribution to nations' professional growth and development in the textile industry was celebrated at a well-attended event organised in the premises of IIT Delhi. Mr Shekhar Agarwal, Group Vice-Chairman, LNJ Bhilwara Group was the gracious chief guest.

TI joined the event and Ms Katie Greenyer, World President, and Ms Stephanie Dick, DG & CEO, TI, participated virtually and offered felicitations to NISTI.

On the occasion the contributions of all institutions/individuals during the three decades were recognised and mementos presented in honour to:

Directors of IIT Delhi and Shriram Institute of Industrial Research as institutions that spearheaded NISTI formation in 1989

Past Chairmen and Hon. Secretaries of NISTI

Pearl Academy for serving as Secretariat for nearly 2 decades and generous sponsorship of events

Corporate members (ATDC, NITRA, NIFT, TIT Bhiwani) for their keen association and unstinted support

Dept of Textile Technology for facilitation of NISTI EC and AGM meetings

Chairmen and Hon Secretary of sister Sections in India and INO

Current EC members

Owing to the pandemic Foundation day could not be celebrated during 2020. However, an event is on the cards for 33rd Foundation Day on 24 May 2021, details of which are given below in the events section.

(iii) Honours for Industry Leaders

NISTI honoured stalwarts of the textile and apparel industry for their glorious industry leadership as well as institutional contributions. Also recognised was their generous support to NISTI whenever requested. Honoured were:

Mr L N Jhunjunwala, Emeritus Chairman LNJ Bhilwara Group, Noida

Mr S P Oswal, CMD Vardhman Group, Ludhiana

Mr J L Oswal, CMD Oswal Group, Ludhiana

Mr R C Jain, Chairman T T Textiles Ltd, New Delhi

M H K L Magu, MD Jyoti Apparels, Chairman AEPC and Chairman ATDC

Mr Rakesh Vaid, Chairman Usha Fabs, Past Chairman AEPC and Vice- Chairman ATDC

Mr P S Uppal, CMD PeeEmpo and President OGTC

Plaques and shawls were presented to the honorees at a function which was part of the inaugural session of a conference event held on 12 July 2019.

The audience numbered above 150 with members and their families and all other associates including corporate members linked with NISTI.

(iv) Establishment of Forums in Educational Institutions

NISTI set up Fora in ATDC and Lady Irwin College for its members to visit on quarterly basis, enrich faculty and students with knowledge enhancement on advanced topics relating to the textile chain. This followed from the positive experience of the MoU with TIT&S Bhiwani by which NISTI members periodically delivered lectures to textile and apparel engineering students and faculty there. Students and faculty in the two institutions welcomed the development. NISTI Fora were inaugurated in Lady Irwin College on 13 September 2019 and in ATDC on 26 September 2019 with a lecture on “Fashion Trends” by Prof. Nien Siao. The initiative for establishing fora was executed by Prof Nien Siao and Ms Gurpreet Kaur.

Thereafter, pandemic imposed restrictions on physical meetings. However, the Fora were serviced with e-presentations that were organised by NISTI during May-July 2020 and are reported below in the events section.

(v) TI Innovation Award

NISTI promoted the application of Messers Vista Furnishings Pvt. Ltd., Noida for the TI Innovation Award 2019. The medium sized company in medical textiles put up two innovations, Mammapod and Patient Transfer Device, for consideration of the Award. The TI jury selected the company for the 2019 Innovation Award amid stiff competition from worldwide. On behalf of TI, the Award was presented to the company on 12 July 2019 during the inaugural function of a conference held on this date.

Dr Kuldeep Kr Sharma, Past Chairman, was recognised for his mentorship of the company for the R&D leading to the innovations.

(vi) NISTI Technical Textiles Forum on WhatsApp

From the beginning of 2019, a WhatsApp Group to foster professional exchanges between members of the technical textiles industry was set up and has now grown to a size of 158 participants. The group has become very popular, thanks to the sincere endeavours and promotion by Mr S Kaushik who administers it.

(vii) NISTI Industry and Section Awards

On the pattern of TI's annual awards, NISTI had instituted in May 2019 Industry and Section Awards for conferment on Foundation Day. The awards are:

- NISTI Innovation Award for industry conferable from 2020
- NISTI Chairman Emeritus award to Chairmen on completion of tenure, conferable with immediate effect to all past chairmen and in future to every chairman completing full tenure at the last AGM held under his leadership
- NISTI Section Award to NISTI members for the Section contribution, conferable from 2020

Chairman Emeritus Awards were conferred on all past chairmen at the Foundation Day event on 24 May 2019, recipients being:

Prof V K Kothari
Mr K C Tapadar
Mr Vijay Bhalla
Dr S K Chaudhuri
Late Mr Alope Goyal
Late Dr A K G Nair
Dr Kuldip Kr Sharma

The other Awards have been deferred for start until normalcy returns in the post-pandemic period, hopefully in 2022.

5. EVENTS ORGANISED

(i) NISTI-ITTA Technical Textiles Conference

The NISTI-ITTA Joint Conference on "Opportunities of High Growth Segments in Technical Textiles" was conducted very successfully and in a grand manner on 12 July 2019 at India Habitat Centre, Delhi. Dr S K Chaudhuri, Vice-chairman, World Council of TI, was chief guest at the inaugural.

The conference witnessed participation of nearly 150 persons. The technical programme, covering automobile textiles, medical textiles, structural composites, protective textiles, witnessed thought-provoking and rich ideation on the topics. There were 12 presenters, all in the forefront of R&D or manufacturing in their respective areas. All sessions were well attended throughout the day.

Financial sponsorship was received from:

Shivam Taxyarns, Coimbatore
T T Textiles Ltd, NewDelhi
Pearl Academy, New Delhi
ATDC Gurgaon
Texport Syndicate, Mumbai

The final accounts of the conference were as follows:

Income: Rs 698346.00
Expenditure: Rs 429877.00
Profit: Rs 268469.00

NISTI's share of profit @50% is Rs 134235.00

The conference owed its success to the sincere efforts of Prof Kothari, Prof Kushal Sen, Mr S Kaushik along with Dr Anup Rakshit, ED of ITTA for the technical programme. Preparatory execution for conference arrangements were carried out by Mr Vijay Koul, Hon. Secretary, and the floor coordination of the event was executed by Prof Nien Siao and Ms Gurpreet Kaur. Faculty and students of ATDC provided strong back-up for floor coordination and management.

(ii) Competitions for Students and Faculty

For the first time NISTI ventured into the arena of competitions.

NISTI had announced two competitions: a design competition for students in fashion design and textile design, and a faculty research paper competition.

The Fashion Design Competition attracted 31 entries; textile design competition saw only 1 entry; the faculty research paper competition attracted 11 entries. Textile Design competition was withdrawn for lack of competitive interest.

The jury for the Fashion Design Competition met on 6 July 2019. The jury comprised Prof Kulkarni, Prof Ambika Magotra, Prof Usha Patel led by Prof Nien Siao. Of the submissions, the work of Ms Garima Uppal was selected as winning submission. Ms Uppal, PG student from Pearl Academy, tweaked the Chamba woollens into gorgeous, fashionable dresses. Ms Uppal was presented a plaque as Award, besides earning an internship opportunity with Design Studio David Abraham and Rakesh Thakore Noida. NISTI is grateful to the sponsors of the internship.

The jury for the Faculty Research Paper Competition comprised Prof Kushal Sen and and Dr V Shanbhag. An elaborate set of criteria with weights was used to evaluate the papers. The paper submitted by Prof Deepali Rastogi, HoD, Fabric and Apparel Science Department in Lady Irwin College was declared as the best submission. Her paper was titled 'Mosquito Repellent Formulations from Eucalyptus and Citronella Oils: A Comparative Study'. Prof Rastogi was

presented a plaque as award, besides a free delegate pass worth Rs 6000/-, sponsored by All India Management Association, to attend the National Management Convention in September 2019. NISTI is grateful to AIMA for the sponsorship.

Conferment to both recipients was arranged during the valedictory session of the conference held on 12 July 2019.

Prof Nien Siao delivered yeoman services for conducting both competitions effectively and successfully.

(iii) Inauguration of online delivery of NISTI-ATDC Training Programme approved by TI

Under an MoU between NISTI and ATDC signed in March 2018, a face-to-face training programme had been launched in November 2018 for skill development in the apparel sector. This programme was ratified and approved by TI. With a growing demand to deliver it online, the programme was designed for online delivery for which the launch took place on 12 July 2019 during the inaugural function of the conference on this date. The programme has garnered domestic as well as overseas subscription. The sincere endeavour of Mr Deepak Singh of ATDC, who is coordinator of the programme is acknowledged.

(iv) MoU with TIT&S Bhiwani

MoU with TIT&S Bhiwani had been first initialled for a year on 5 October 2018 and its successful implementation led to renewal of the MoU on 22 October for a further period. Under its provisions, two sets of special lectures were arranged for students and faculty of Textile Dept. and Apparel Engineering Dept.

29 March 2019: Prof V Kothari, Prof Kushal Sen and Mr S Kaushik

22 October 2019: Mr Vijay Koul, Mr Prabhunath Pandey and Dr V Shanbhag

(v) Webinars

Since physical delivery of specialised lectures became infeasible owing to the pandemic, resort was made to webinars, with the cooperation of the IT Dept. of TIT&S Bhiwani, addressing its students and faculty as well as those of ATDC and Lady Irwin College.

During May - July 2020, six seminars were presented by various professionals covering diverse textile and fashion topics. The online delivery was facilitated by Prof G S Tyagi, Executive Director TIT&S, Bhiwani who placed the institute's IT infrastructure at NISTI disposal on Chairman's request. The first 3 seminars were coordinated by Mr S Kaushik and the remaining 3 by Dr V Shanbhag. Dr Mukesh Kumar, HOD, IT Dept, TIT&S, Bhiwani supervised technical aspects of the online delivery and Prof K N Chatterjee, HoD, Apparel Engineering Dept, TIT &S

Bhiwani, oversaw all arrangements. The valuable cooperation received from TIT&S Bhiwani is gratefully acknowledged.

Presenters were:

- *PROF MUKESH KUMAR, IIT DELHI
- *PROF SUMIT RAY, IIT MANDI (HP)
- *DR DEBASHIS BANERJI, NISTI
- *PROF SHARMILA KATRE, PEARL ACADEMY
- *MS MONICA SHARMA, NISTI
- *MS MOHANA PRIYA R, ATDC BANGALORE

(vi) Forthcoming global online roundtable event

A global roundtable has been scheduled for the 33rd Foundation Day celebratory event on 24 May 2021, featuring keynote addresses by Ms Katie Greenyer, World President, TI , Mr T Rajkumar, Chairman, CITI and Mr Shishir Jaipuria, CMD, Ginni Filaments Ltd. Prof V K Kothari, Emeritus (rtd), IIT Delhi will be discussant. The theme of the Roundtable is “Textile Industry Revival and Growth: Looking Ahead”.The event is jointly organised by TI and NISTI and being convened by Dr D O Koshy, incoming NISTI chairman.

6. INTER-INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION

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- 1 seat each by special invitation had been obtained in the Higher Education Committee and the Skills Development Committee and Dr V Shanbhag represented NISTI in both.
- 1 seat had been obtained in the Textile Industry Committee. Prof V K Kothari was a member of this Committee.
- 1 seat had been obtained in the Public Health Services Committee and Dr K K Sharma had been nominated by virtue of his deep interest in medical textiles.

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- 1 seat each by special invitation to the meetings of Technical Textiles Committee, Composites Working Group and the Textile Industry Committee had been obtained. Mr Shailesh Kaushik was nominated to the Composites Working Group and Mr Avinash K Gupta to the Textile Industry Committee.

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- An understanding was created by which special invitation to two nominees of either party to the other’s public events was arrived at and executed to each other’s satisfaction.

7. HONOURS RECEIVED FROM INSTITUTIONS

- ATDC honoured NISTI on the occasion on its Foundation Day during November 2019 for close cooperation and collaboration in progress since 2018.
- Shri Vishvakarma Skills University, Haryana honoured NISTI on its Foundation Day celebration in November 2020 for cooperation and collaboration during the preparatory workshops organised during 2017, leading to the establishment of the University.

8. INTERFACE WITH TI HEADQUARTERS

Frequent consultation between NISTI Chairman and Ms Stephanie Dick, DG & CEO of TI, has been the hallmark of the strong bonds between section and headquarters.

Other than administrative cooperation, there has been interface with Ms Rebecca Unsworth, ED, on academic matters such as programmes, chartered qualifications. NISTI has ratified the applications for CText FTI (1) and CText ATI (2). One application for CText FTI is pending for ratification.

On 17 March 2021, TI Hqrs and NISTI had an online interaction to discuss future growth of NISTI. Participants were Ms Dick, Ms Ellen Fritzpatrick (Manager, Membership, TI), Dr S K Chaudhuri, Dr K K Sharma and Dr V Shanbhag. The ideation shared during the discussions has been placed before Ms Elizabeth Fox, Chairperson of TI World Council, for consideration in the membership Development Committee of TI.

Support rendered by TI hqrs is gratefully acknowledged, particularly for participation in the 31st Foundation Day celebratory event, promotion of NISTI-ITTA Technical Textiles Conference and the joint organisation as well as promotion of the forthcoming global event on 24 May 2021.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIGNMENTS HANDLED BY EC MEMBERS

The EC's efficiency and effectiveness in execution was considerably enhanced by the able performance of assigned administrative tasks by EC members:

- Mr Vijay Koul as Hon. Secretary for leaving no stone unturned in discharging administrative responsibility
- Mr Prabhunath Pandey for creating a new website and administering it
- Mr S Kaushik for coordinating and administering WhatsApp Forum for Technical Textiles which has grown to 158 participants nationally and coordinating matters pertaining to NISTI-TIT&S MoU
- Prof Nien Siao for ably conducting competitions among students and faculty and serving as compere at events
- Ms Gurpreet Kaur for floor coordination and assistance in conduct of major events

- Mr Sudarshan Sharma for meticulous arrangements for NISTI industry tour
- Mr Avinash Gupta for overseeing the NISTI-ATDC MoU.
- Prof V K Kothari and Prof Kushal Sen for overseeing facilitation of IIT Delhi infrastructure for NISTI's utilisation for meetings/events

10. COMPLETION OF TENURE BY CURRENT EC

The current EC has completed its extended tenure and will retire with the completion of the 13th AGM. It has been the undying endeavour of the EC to be actively engaged and to conduct the affairs of NISTI with transparency and utmost sincerity as well as integrity. From the foregoing account, it can be clearly inferred that NISTI has created institutional bonds with textile educational sector, national industry bodies. Collaboration and cooperation has been the hallmark of NISTI functioning under the direction of the current EC leading to many firsts, including the collaborative organisation of the Technical Textiles Conference with ITTA. The success and achievement is no less the result of encouragement received from NISTI membership through the postings in the WhatsApp group. The EC is grateful to every member for graceful feedback and suggestion.

The Chairman thanks the EC for the solid support received from and generous engagement of precious time by all its members.

The Chairman is grateful to the Elders for the discrete advice and guidance extended whenever requested.

This EC hands over reins of the NISTI governance to the successor EC with best wishes for a successful tenure and even more splendid achievement that may put the current EC in its shadow.

Mr Vijay Koul
Hon. Secretary
NISTI (REGD.)