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11th November 2020

To
Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani Ji
Honorable Minister
Ministry of Textiles
Udyog Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110 011
Email: mot_fb@nic.in

India's global leadership in cotton production.

Honorable Minister Smt. Smriti Irani Ji,

Respectful greetings to you from Crop Care Federation of India (CCFI) an apex trade body for Indian crop protection industry.

Our member companies actively work among farmers of India. We also have a small team of professionals who ardently monitor the growth in production and trade of major crops cultivated in India.

I am sending this communication following my recent discussions with them regarding a subject matter connected to cotton that merits your attention.

On the eve of 2nd World Cotton Day (7th Oct), the Ministry of Textiles released a press statement that, among others, stated:

"India is the 2nd largest cotton producer and the largest consumer of cotton in the world."

Link: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1662480>

This press release is factually incorrect.

India became the world largest producer of cotton in 2015. India continues to retain this coveted position till now (save for a single year).

Cotton Production

Year/Cotton season	Top 3 Countries in Production (Mill tons)			World Production (Mill tons)	India's Share	India's Rank
	India	China	USA			
2015-16	5.6	4.8	2.8	20.9	27%	First
2016-17	5.9	5.0	3.7	23.2	25%	First
2017-18	6.3	6.0	4.6	27.0	23%	First
2018-19	5.6	6.0	4.0	25.8	22%	Second
2019-20	6.4	5.9	4.3	26.5	24%	First
2020-21	6.5	5.9	3.7	25.5	25%	First

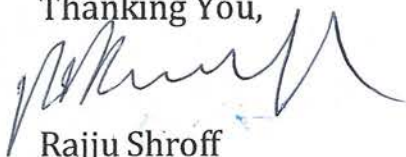
Source: Cotton: World Markets and Trade report by USDA (Accessed on 8th November 2020)

India's global leadership in cotton production is hard earned by millions of farmers ably supported by the government and Indian agri. input industry.

India's global leadership in cotton merits prominent mention in all public forums. It deserves to be carefully orchestrated both in electronic and print media to gain competitive advantage.

We will be pleased to play an active role in the aligned efforts towards this direction.

Thanking You,



Rajju Shroff

Copy to: Sh. Ravi Capoor, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Udyog Bhawan,
New Delhi - 110 011, Email: secy-textiles@nic.in

Postscript:

China is the largest consumer of cotton in the world and not India. China consumes ~ 8 mn tons per year. India's cotton consumption is ~5 mn tons.