



**India ITME Society launches commemorative postal stamp**

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## India ITME Society seeks to explore international destinations

**ITME Society launches commemorative stamp on its 40th year; to host expo in Ethiopia in 2020**

**VINAY NAYUDU**  
MUMBAI

THE India ITME (International Textile Machinery Exhibitions) Society celebrated its 40 years of undeterred and excellent service globally at an event at the Taj Mahal hotel in Mumbai last week.

On the occasion, India ITME Society launched a commemorative postal stamp marking its four-decade long journey and also as a mark of pride and humble gratitude to the nation.

The event was attended by P. Sathiasivam, former Chief Justice of India and Former Governor of Kerala; HE Dorothy Tembo - Deputy Executive Director, International Trade Centre, UN, and Swati Pandey, Postmaster General (Mumbai Region), India Post.

Back in 1979, the India ITME Society took a bold step towards projecting India as a friendly and feasible sourcing destination for African SMEs, designers and entrepreneurs. This aided in opening up new customers for the Indian Textile Industry.

During the memorable event, ITME Society organised a B2B meeting with women entrepreneurs from four African nations, Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya, aimed at empowering women across the world, and introduced 'Women Entrepreneur Initiative', one of the many value added services for the benefit of the industry.

Hari Shankar, Chairman of India ITME Society, said, "India ITME Society acknowledges the importance of industry associations by supporting trade and investment for its members not only

The India ITME Society is eyeing Qatar as a potential market as it is a growing market and a capable economy with dynamic vision, says its Chairman Hari Shankar

domestically, but also globally. The society is encouraging dialogue between industry associations, developing better business connects between countries and expanding customer connect & market access globally through associations as part of their 'Global Connect Initiative'.

While speaking to *Qatar Tribune*, Hari Shankar explained the role of ITME Society and how it came about and its future plans.

"Back in the 70s we didn't have the needed technology and we had to rely on sourcing equipment and machinery from Europe. But over the course of time we set up the ITME Society to have world-class and state-of-the-art exhibitions where various textile machinery manufacturers can come to our events and showcase equipment from all over the world.

"Over the years, even equipment manufactured in India is now world class and comparable to the best in the world. We now take it overseas, we are competitive, amongst the top in the world, and textile industry in India is now second largest in terms of employment generation," he said.

On ITME Society's future plans, Hari Shankar said, "Africa has been an unconquered territory, it's a huge market and by 2030 they are going to take up a lot of manufacturing operations.

"We are also looking at Qatar in



(From left) ITME Treasurer Ketan Sanghi, Former Chief Justice of India P Sathiasivam, Deputy Executive Director of UN International Trade Centre Dorothy Tembo, India ITME Society Chairman Hari Shankar and India Posts Postmaster General Swati Pandey unveil India ITME Society's stamp, in Mumbai, India.



Panelists during a panel discussion held as part of the 40th anniversary of the India ITME Society in Mumbai.

the Middle East since it's a growing market and a capable economy with dynamic vision.

"As a first step, the India ITME is going to hold an exhibition in Ethiopia in February 2020. It was a task to pick a destination and needed a lot of research. We had a very able partner in International Trade Center which suggested us

pinpointing Ethiopia. We shall soon have more world destination in our roadmap of the future.

"It is also about countries wanting to empower their own people and see their economy grow and trade can really lead up the path, we believe.

It is a mutual area of interest and not just one way and

about taking the skill sets forward through India ITME's experience of 40 years. That is something what we aim to take to several nations of the world.

"We will then have a flagship event in Noida, near New Delhi in December 2020. It will be one of the largest such event anywhere in the world."

The India ITME Society has evolved into a global phenomenon embracing internationalism and reaching out to emerging economies. India witnessed its first exhibition in 1980 & since then the legacy has been successfully carried forward.

Its exhibitions series namely India ITME Series & GITES along with several supporting initiatives have heralded a new era in the Textile Engineering Industry.

During the day-long event, a special interactive session on 'Strengthening bilateral trade relation with neighbouring countries' was organised for industry members, associations and officials.

This session was addressed by Dorothy Tembo, Deputy Executive Director, International Trade Centre, UN, who was in India for the first time, to encourage Indo - Africa bilateral trade relations.

This unique session provided an opportunity for participants to interact with industry associations from Botswana, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Turkey, Ghana, Switzerland and India.

In the panel discussion, the topic 'Role of Associations in strengthening bilateral trade' was delivered by panel speakers Govind Venuprasad from International Trade Center; Krishna Chinniah, President of the Botswana Textile & Clothing Association; HE Faruque Hassan - Consulate General of Greece in Bangladesh; Richard Salvatore - General Coordinator (TEMSAD); Doris N. Kessie - CEO/Director of D-G Embroidery and Dorees Fashion & Designs Institute; Prof. Dr. Ing. Yves-Simon Gloy - RWTH Aachen University, Germany; and HE Demeke Atafu Ambulo - The Consulate General of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in Mumbai.



## India ITME Society launches commemorative postal stamp



From left to right : Mr Ketan Sanghvi, Treasurer ITME, former Chief Justice of India, Shri P Sathasivam, H.E Ms Dorothy Tembo, Dy Exe Director of Intl Trade Centre, UN, Mr Harishankar, Chairman of India ITME Society and Ms Swati Pandey, Postmaster General for Mumbai Region, India Post

### Staff Reporter

**M**umbai, 20 Dec 2019: India International Textile Machinery Exhibitions Society (ITME) launched a commemorative postal stamp to celebrate their undeterred and excellent service for over four decades.

As a mark of pride and humble gratitude to a great nation, the society announced its 40th year of service to the Indian and international textile machinery and textile technology industry.

India ITME Society took a bold step towards projecting India as a friendly and feasible sourcing destination for African SMEs, designers and entrepreneurs. This aided in opening up new customers for the Indian textile industry.

It organized a B2B meeting with women

entrepreneurs from four African nations, Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya to empower women all across the world. It also introduced 'Women Entrepreneur Initiative', a services for the benefit of the industry and the nation.

The Chairman of India ITME Society, Hari Shankar, acknowledged the importance of industry associations by supporting trade and investment for its members not only domestically, but also globally.

He said that the society is encouraging dialogue between industry associations, developing better business connects between countries and expanding customer connect and market access globally through associations as part of their 'Global Connect Initiative'.

India ITME Society has

evolved into a global phenomenon embracing internationalism and reaching out to emerging economies. India witnessed its first exhibition in 1980 and since then the legacy has been successfully carried forward.

Its exhibitions series, India ITME Series and GTES along with several supporting initiatives have heralded a new era in the Textile Engineering Industry. This is aimed at promoting trade and investments, creating a friendly environment and forging a vibrant private sector partnership with the government, business community, development partners and other stakeholders.

The celebration begun with lighting of lamp by Chief guest Shri P. Sathasivam, former Chief Justice of India and former governor of

Kerala. It was also attended by Deputy Executive Director for International Trade Centre, UN and the Postmaster General for Mumbai Region, India Post.

As part of the celebration, a special interactive session on "strengthening bilateral trade relation with neighboring countries" was organized for industry members, associations and officials.

This session was addressed by the Deputy Executive Director for International Trade Centre, UN to encourage Indo-Africa bilateral trade relations. It provided an opportunity for participants to interact with industry associations from Botswana, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Turkey, Ghana, Switzerland and India.

In the panel discussion, the topic "Role of

Associations in strengthening bilateral trade" was delivered by panel speakers, including the President of the Botswana Textile and Clothing Association, and Consulate General of Greece in Bangladesh, among others.

India ITME Society) is a non-profit apex industry body established in 1980 to support and serve the Textile Engineering Industry through exhibitions, events, trade promotion services, education scholarships, student placements, and consultancy, among others.

It plays a pivotal role in strengthening the domestic as well as international Textile Industry by facilitating exchange of knowledge, technology transfer, and encourages Foreign Direct Investments and Joint Ventures.