

**Sindh Govt urged to reopen textile, allied industries**

KARACHI: Ahmed Chinoy urged Sindh Government to reopen all the textile and its allied industries. Pakistan is the 8th largest exporter of textile commodities in Asia.

Textile sector contributes 8.5 percent to the GDP of Pakistan. The sector employs about 45 percent of the total labour force in the country (and 38 percent of the manufacturing workers). Pakistan is the 4th largest producer of cotton with the third largest spinning capacity in Asia.

Pakistani textile industries have been contributing sizeable revenue to the national treasury. Many have been the forefront leaders in manufacturing & exporting field of fabric, garments & home textiles in the local and international market. Textile industry contributes upto 80 percent of the national tax revenue.

Pakistan Cloth Merchants Association appreciates the steps taken by Sindh government to contain the spread of the Covid-19. No doubt countless lives have been saved. They also record their appreciation of the phased and safety driven manner in which provincial government has allowed economic activity to resume.

Pakistan Cloth Merchants Association urges Sindh Government to allow all the textile and its allied industries to resume operations, conditional of course to compliance with the SOPs prescribed. Prolonged shutdown carries the risk of permanent closure of some undertakings and the consequent loss of jobs and revenue to the Government of Sindh.