

BIR 3rd quarter textiles

Market is relatively stable but insecurity will remain due to dangerous political situations

The market situation for original clothes has become stable over the last three months. At the end of the holiday period, demand has risen considerably and equals the supply situation on the market.

Prices remained stable at the level of the previous months. Despite recent speculations on changing trends, the situation will probably remain the same. Even additional quantities resulting from increasing street collection can easily be absorbed by the market.

Demand from East Europe has increased over recent weeks, particularly for winter clothes.

As regards of exports to Africa, September has traditionally shown an increased demand for used clothing. Order books are already well filled.

However, it is quite difficult to predict the development of the sector in the near future in light of the recent acts of terror in the United States. It is equally difficult to give forecasts regarding the reaction of the Dollar exchange rate. It is quite likely that in some regions, trade may come to a complete standstill. Sales are threatened in Pakistan, Afghanistan and other countries of this region.

The situation for wiping cloth has changed in as far as some white grades, which used to be very much in demand, now seem to be difficult to sell. Also cotton cloth reaches only very bad prices. Knitted qualities, however, experience a good demand, with prices having reached their upper limit.

Unfortunately, the expected price increase for some recycling grades particularly in India has so far not materialised. On the contrary, prices actually seem to be dropping slightly.

Prices for bed feathers are currently in free fall, and nearly every day brings new lows. The buyers of these materials complain about huge sales problems in their sector and cannot see any light at the end of the tunnel. It is quite likely that within a few months prices will reach the extremely low level of two years ago.

In summary, it can be said that the situation in the recovered clothing sector is quite ambiguous. On the one hand, many articles have good sales opportunities with acceptable prices. On the other hand, some qualities are under very much pressure and suffer from a very low price level.

Moreover, the current confusing and dangerous political situation in the world has led to an overall insecurity, which has a negative influence on the world-wide economic climate.

