

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/430

14 May 1979

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Report on the Status of Restrictive Measures in
Thailand as Requested by the Textiles Surveillance Body

The Textiles Surveillance Body has received from Thailand a periodic report¹ on the situation in its textile industry and its relation to the restrictions applied to trade in textiles. This report was sent to the TSB in accordance with the procedures evolved for the review of restrictions notified under Article 2, paragraph 1 by countries participating in the Arrangement which are not contracting parties to the GATT. A copy of the report is circulated for the information of the participating countries.²

¹For previous notifications see COM.TEX/SB/165, 187 and 351.

²See paragraph 7 of COM.TEX/SB/431, for observation by the TSB.

REPORT ON TEXTILES IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

During 1978 Thailand maintained import controls on polyester fibre, polyester yarn, nylon filament yarn and nylon stretched yarn due to a continuing situation of over production, slow increase in local demand and a growing accumulation of surplus.

Since the last report, however, the situation has improved and the Thai Government (through Ministry of Commerce Announcement No. 94 of 21 February 1979) now permits the above-mentioned products to be imported freely without requiring import licences.

Attached to this report are Tables 1, 2 and 3, containing updated information on Thailand's Balance of Trade, Thailand's Import of Textile Products subject to Import Control and, Thailand's Balance of Textiles Trade, respectively.

Table 1: Thailand's Balance of Trade

Value : million baht

Year	Export	Import	Balance
1973	32,226	42,184	- 9,958
1974	50,325	64,043	- 13,718
1975	48,438	66,835	- 10,146
1976	60,797	72,877	- 14,780
1977	71,198	94,177	- 22,979
1978 (Jan - Oct)	66,312	88,349	- 22,037

Table 2: Thailand's Import of Textile Products
Subject to Import Control

Description	1977		1978	
	Quantity Kgs.	Value C.I.F.Baht	Quantity Kgs.	Value C.I.F.Baht
Polyester fibre Polyester yarn Nylon filament yarn Nylon stretched yarn	3,220,618	67,639,484	3,055,710	82,860,049

Source: Department of Foreign Trade.

Table 3: Thailand's Balance of Textiles Trade

Value : million baht

Item	1976			1977			1978 (Jan - Nov)		
	Import	Export	Balance	Import	Export	Balance	Import	Export	Balance
	Cotton	2,112.0	-	- 2,112.0	2,871.3	4.7	- 2,866.6	1,861.5	44.88
Cotton yarn	12.3	55.0	+ 42.7	8.2	121.9	+ 113.7	3.476	162.333	+ 158.857
Cotton fabrics	208.6	1,032.6	+ 824.0	272.5	857.4	+ 584.9	303.348	854.435	+ 546.037
Man-made fibres	273.4	-	- 273.4	286.9	93.1	- 193.8	207.393	78.772	- 128.621
Man-made yarn	314.3	380.4	+ 66.1	200.5	453.5	+ 253.0	177.867	553.854	+ 375.937
Man-made fabrics	753.6	993.2	+ 239.6	778.8	1,224.9	+ 446.1	1,045.839	2,066.441	+ 1,020.602
Garments	63.6	1,525.4	+ 1,459.8	63.6	1,655.8	+ 1,592.2	29.947	2,280.337	+ 2,250.39
Total	3,737.8	3,984.6	+ 246.8	4,481.8	4,411.3	- 70.5	3,634.37	6,041.052	+ 2,406.632

Source: Bank of Thailand.