



The 29th India International Leather Fair 2015

The 29th India International Leather Fair was inaugurated by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, on the last day of January in Chennai. At this event both Indian and international companies in the fields of chemicals, machinery, raw materials, components and technology, footwear, leather garments, leather goods and accessories participate annually.

This year as many as 444 exhibitors supported the event, including 143 overseas companies from 23 countries. This compared with 385 exhibitors comprising 98 overseas exhibitors from 18 countries attending the 2014 fair.

With an annual turnover of \$12.0 billion, the export value of leather and leather products achieved \$5.9 billion in 2013-2014. Growth continues, and it was reported that during the first eight months of the current financial year (April-November 2014) the export of leather and leather products reached \$4.45 billion against \$3.8 billion for the same period in 2013.

The major export markets were Germany with a share of 12.4%, UK with 11.7%, USA with 11.5%, which together with other European countries, China, UAE, and Australia accounted for 73.4% of the total export from the leather sector. It was stated that the leather industry aims to augment production, enhancing its exports from the current level to \$15 billion by 2019-20.

The event was supported by an major fashion show where new designs in footwear, clothing and leather goods for spring-summer 2015 season from major players in the India leather sector were displayed. ★

Part of the Tata International range of textured clothing leathers 2015 fashion show. CREDIT: WTP