



#### Muted demand behind revenue dip; higher input costs sink margin

Aggregate Home Textiles	Change YoY (%)	Change QoQ (%)
Revenue	-4	-7
EBITDA	-50	-24
Margin (bp)	-1,049	-254
Adj. PAT	-68	-36

## Macro headwinds to keep near-term demand muted for Home textiles

We have analyzed the performance of key Textile players in 1QFY23 and highlighted the key trends in the sector.

- Sluggish demand, destocking, a higher inflationary environment, and supply-chain issues continue to hamper margin.
- Cotton prices touched a record high in 1QFY23, but have cooled significantly since then. Companies expect prices to stabilize with the onset of the new cotton season in Oct'22.
- USDA's cotton report in Aug'22 has predicted a global production for the upcoming season at 117m bales (down by 3.1m bales from its Jul'22 estimate). It has raised its cotton season 2022-23 average farm price forecast to 97 cents per pound in Aug'22 from 95 cents per pound in Jul'22.
- KPR/VTEX has outperformed among other Textile players, with an EBIDTA growth of 64%/10% YoY.
- The mid to long-term outlook remains intact due to various government initiatives and higher export opportunities with the signing of Free Trade Agreements (FTA) between India and the UK and a few more in the pipeline.

### Lower volumes and rising input cost further hamper industry margin

- The Home Textile industry continues to face several headwinds in the form of sluggish demand, destocking, higher inflationary environment, supply-chain issues, and geopolitical concerns resulting in margin pressures.
- Aggregate Textile margin declined by 720bp YoY to ~16% on account of an increase in cotton prices and lower volumes in 1QFY23.
- While there are significant headwinds in the near term, a downward trend in cotton prices, easing of the supply chain, and measures taken by government to tackle inflation suggests a much better 2HFY23 for the industry. Further, companies expect to reduce their inventory backlog in the forthcoming holiday season.
- Managements remain positive on the demand scenario in the mid to long run, given the government's strong focus on the industry, as reflected by its various initiatives, coupled with export opportunities on account of the FTA signed by India with nations such as Australia and the UAE. An FTA with the UK is expected to be finalized by the end of Dec'22. Discussions on a FTA with the EU began in Jun'22. Such FTAs, along with the government's steps to boost India's Textile exports, reflects positively on the long-term outlook for the industry.

### Global Textile market dynamics

- As per data from OTEXA, **India's market share in US Cotton Sheets imports** fell to 56% in 1QFY23 from 63% in 1QFY22, whereas China/Pakistan gained a market share of ~1%/~5%. In the Terry Towels segment, India's share has fallen to 39% in 1QFY23 (v/s 45% in 1QFY22), China's share has remained constant at 20%, while that of Pakistan has improved by 200bp (*refer Exhibit 14 and 15*).

- Depreciation in the USD:PKR (*refer Exhibit 11*) helped Pakistan gain market share in the US and Europe as buyers see better pricing for its products. The USD:PKR depreciated by 47% as against a 7% depreciation in the USD:INR from Jul'21 to Jul'22.
- International players are looking for a stable supply source as the economy of other supplier nations seems weak. India will be the prime beneficiary of this, as it is the largest producer of cotton and a few other fibers.
- **Cooling down of cotton prices:** As per World Bank, the international price of cotton grew 80% YoY to touch a peak of USD3.6/kg in May'22. However, it declined by 20% from its peak to USD2.9/kg in Jul'22. Similarly, Indian wholesale cotton prices doubled on a YoY basis to INR11,359 per quintal in May'22, but fell 43% to INR6,428 per quintal in Aug'22. (*refer Exhibit 18 and 19*).
- At present, cotton prices remain volatile. However, managements expect it to stabilize after the upcoming cotton season starting from Oct'22.
- As per the USDA report on cotton in Aug'22, global production is lower by 3.1m bales to 117m bales, with the decline attributed to the US. India's cotton production in the upcoming season is expected to grow by 12% YoY to 27.5m bales. The USDA has increased its cotton season 2022-23 average farm price forecast to 97 cents per pound in Aug'22 from 95 cents per pound in Jul'22.

#### KPR and VTEX clock EBITDA growth, while others lag

- In 1QFY23, major Home Textile companies (WLSI, ICNT, TRID, and HSS) reported a cumulative revenue decline of 8% each YoY and QoQ in the Textile business. TRID led the pack with a growth of 5% YoY and a decline of 14% QoQ in Textile revenue. ICNT reported a marginal growth (1% YoY), but jumped 27% QoQ.
- Revenue for WLSI/HSS fell 13%/22% YoY and 11%/17% QoQ in 1QFY23.
- Gross margin of TRID/WLSI/HSS contracted by 1460bp/920bp/930bp YoY to 44.9%/41.5%/39.4% in 1QFY23, while margin for INCT grew 300bp YoY to 56.6%. On a sequential basis, gross margin for TRID/HSS contracted by 80bp/740bp, but expanded by 40bp/290bp for WLSI/INCT. The operating margin for TRID/WLSI/INCT/HSS contracted by 1,010bp/1240bp/260bp/1,780bp YoY to 15.2%/7.8%/19.7%/ 1.7% in 1QFY23.
- Home Textile players (aggregate) reported an EBITDA margin contraction of 1,050bp YoY and 250bp QoQ to 11.3% in 1QFY23. EBITDA for aggregate Home Textiles players decline by 50% YoY and 24% QoQ.
- Other Textile players (Garment, Yarn, and Fabric) such as KPR (textile division), VTEX, and NSPL reported an aggregate revenue growth of 47% YoY and 2% QoQ in 1QFY23.
- KPR/VTEX/NSPL reported a 63%/46%/28% YoY revenue growth. On a sequential basis, revenue for KPR/VTEX grew 6%/4%, while the same for NSPL fell 8%.
- Gross margin for KPR/VTEX/NSPL contracted by 650bp/850bp/1,400bp YoY and 40bp/210bp/650bp QoQ to 40.5%/46.3%/34.3%. The operating margin for KPR/VTEX/NSPL contracted by 160bp/620bp/790bp YoY to 23.2%/18.7%/15.4%.
- Other Textile players (Garments, Yarn, and Fabric) reported an EBITDA margin decline of 500bp YoY and 70bp QoQ to 19.6%.

**Key takeaways from the management interaction**

- **WLSI** witnessed a slowdown in orders as discretionary spends reduced (due to higher prices) globally, and primarily in the US, which is a major market. Raw material prices are coming off their highs, but companies are not stocking up on inventories as raw material prices still remain volatile.
- The company is increasing its capacity across segments: Towels to 90,000MT by 2QFY23 from 85,400MT in FY22, and Rugs and Carpets to 18m sq. ft. by 1QFY24 from 12m sq. ft. in FY22.
- It expects to incur a capex of INR1.2b by the end of FY23. Of this, it has already spent INR850m in 1QFY23.
- **ICNT**: Challenging conditions such as the inflationary environment in the US, sluggish customer offtake, and a rise in overall input prices impacted its performance in 1QFY23. However, the management expects a normalized 2HFY23 on account of a downward trend in cotton prices, resolution of supply chain issues, and favorable government measures.
- **INCT**'s focus on value-added products and customer services will provide a strategic advantage to sustain future growth. The management aims to double its revenue over the next three-to-five years and maintain healthy margin.
- It will incur a capex of INR2.7b on installing 70,000 spindles in FY23 (INR1.75b by way of debt and the rest via internal accruals). The first phase of capex, consisting of 25,000 spindles, is on track and is expected to be operationalized by 3QFY23.
- **HSS**: Utilization rate in the Towels/Sheet/Spinning division stood at 54%/55%/78% in 1QFY23, down from 74%/79%/101% in 4QFY22. 1QFY23 performance was adversely impacted by higher RM prices and destocking of inventory. As markets are currently volatile, it has put on hold further capacity additions, via debottlenecking. However, the management sees progressive improvement in demand from 3QFY23.
- Destocking at some retailers have been completed, which is a positive sign. Signing of the FTA with the UK will be another positive development as the management expects the UK to change its sourcing activities. It expects a tame inflation due to a better new crop season, which starts from Oct'22.
- **VTEX** has put all upcoming capex plans on hold as the current cost of machinery is very high due to disruption in its availability. However, its ongoing expansion plan will be completed on time.
- The management is confident of its long-term growth story on acceleration in FTA signings, China+1 policy, and the government's focus on mega Textile parks. The company's current product composition of 70% cotton and 30% synthetic has a favorable outlook in the upcoming environment.
- **KPR** has completed its expansion project for its Garments and Sugar division. Capex incurred overshoot by INR1b on account of the modernization of its plants. The management is trying to ramp up capacities at new facilities over the next six months and is expecting 15-20% growth in the production of garments on account of the additional capacity.
- For FY23, the management expects a capex of INR1.5b for modernization of its existing mills.
- Management expects good traction from Australia after the signing of the FTA. Australia accounts for ~15% of its consolidated revenue.

- **NSPL's** capex plan of INR9.6b is on track (INR7b/INR2.6b for the Spinning/Knitting business). The majority of the capex (~INR6.6b) is being funded through long-term debt and the rest via internal accruals. The management expects new capacity to be commissioned in phases. Knitting and Weaving and value-added capacities are expected to be operationalized in FY23, while Spinning capacity will be added in 1HFY24.

#### Valuation and view

- We expect demand in the Home Textile segment to stay muted in the near term due to multiple headwinds. However, it is expected to improve progressively from 2HFY23 due to stabilization of cotton prices and normalization of demand.
- We expect gross margin pressures to sustain till the onset of the new cotton season. The long-term outlook for the Home Textile business remains positive, despite the persistence of short-term risk to margin.
- The outlook for the Textile industry remain positive, with a favorable demand scenario in the mid- to long-run due to various government initiatives, coupled with the signing of FTAs with key countries.

#### Exhibit 1: Revenue for TRID grew YoY; pressure on margin continues

(INR m)	1QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	Change YoY	Change QoQ
Revenue	14,770	18,471	16,671	13%	-10%
EBITDA	3,734	3,163	2,530	-32%	-20%
Margin	25.3%	17.1%	15.2%	-1,010	-195
Adj. PAT	1,973	1,623	1,227	-38%	-24%

Source: Company, MOFSL

#### Exhibit 2: WLSI's 1QFY23 performance was severely hampered by a decline in margin

(INR m)	1QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	Change YoY	Change QoQ
Revenue	22,145	22,271	19,573	-12%	-12%
EBITDA	4,471	2,265	1,518	-66%	-33%
Margin	20.2%	10.2%	7.8%	-1,243	-241
Adj. PAT	2,175	522	224	-90%	-57%

Source: Company, MOFSL

#### Exhibit 3: INCT witnesses better performance on a sequential basis

(INR m)	1QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	Change YoY	Change QoQ
Revenue	7,837	6,243	7,943	1%	27%
EBITDA	1,749	1,139	1,568	-10%	38%
Margin	22.3%	18.2%	19.7%	-257	150
Adj. PAT	1,160	701	957	-18%	36%

Source: Company, MOFSL

#### Exhibit 4: Lower margin hampers profitability for HSS

(INR m)	1QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	Change YoY	Change QoQ
Revenue	8,154	7,648	6,378	-22%	-17%
EBITDA	1,587	1,004	108	-93%	-89%
Margin	19.5%	13.1%	1.7%	-1,776	-1,144
Adj. PAT	577	80	-547	NA	NA

Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 5: Aggregate Performance for the Home Textile companies remain under pressure on higher RM cost**

(INR m)	1QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	Change YoY	Change QoQ
Revenue	52,907	54,633	50,564	-4%	-7%
EBITDA	11,541	7,571	5,725	-50%	-24%
Margin	21.8%	13.9%	11.3%	-1,049	-254
Adj. PAT	5,885	2,926	1,860	-68%	-36%

Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 6: Revenue for the Home Textile division declines on a sequential basis**

Home Textile - Revenue (INR m)	1QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	Change YoY	Change QoQ
TRID	12,821	15,699	13,436	5%	-14%
WLSI	21,284	20,730	18,521	-13%	-11%
INCT	7,837	6,243	7,943	1%	27%
HSS	8,154	7,648	6,378	-22%	-17%
Total	50,096	50,319	46,278	-8%	-8%

Source: Company, MOFSL

**Exhibit 7: Margin for VTEX stabilizes on a sequential basis**

(INR m)	1QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	Change YoY	Change QoQ
Revenue	19,270	27,071	28,118	46%	4%
EBITDA	4,788	4,992	5,256	10%	5%
Margin	24.8%	18.4%	18.7%	-616	25
Adj. PAT	3,147	3,221	3,291	5%	2%

Source: Company, MOFSL

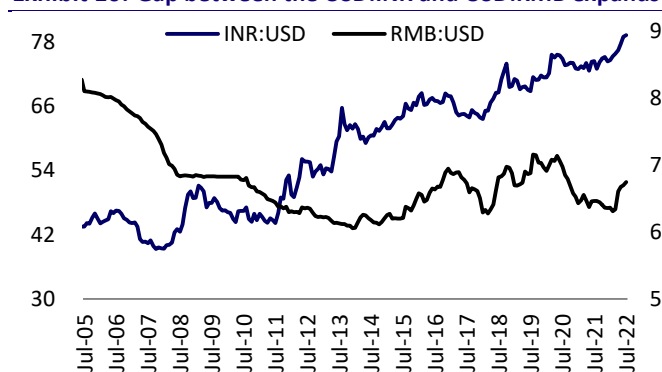
**Exhibit 8: KPR's records strong revenue growth amid an uncertain environment**

(INR m)	1QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	Change YoY	Change QoQ
Revenue	9,037	14,498	15,848	75%	9%
EBITDA	2,247	3,363	3,681	64%	9%
Margin	24.9%	23.2%	23.2%	-164	3
Adj. PAT	1,681	2,198	2,267	35%	3%

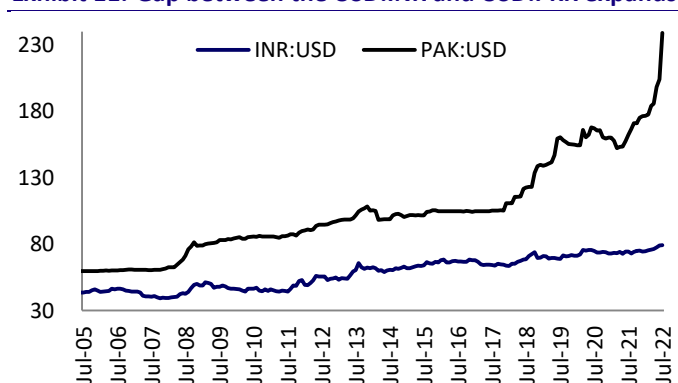
**Exhibit 9: Sharp impact on margin for NSPL**

(INR m)	1QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	Change YoY	Change QoQ
Revenue	5,536	7,691	7,088	28%	-8%
EBITDA	1,286	1,674	1,089	-15%	-35%
Margin	23.2%	21.8%	15.4%	-786	-640
Adj. PAT	600	855	656	9%	-23%

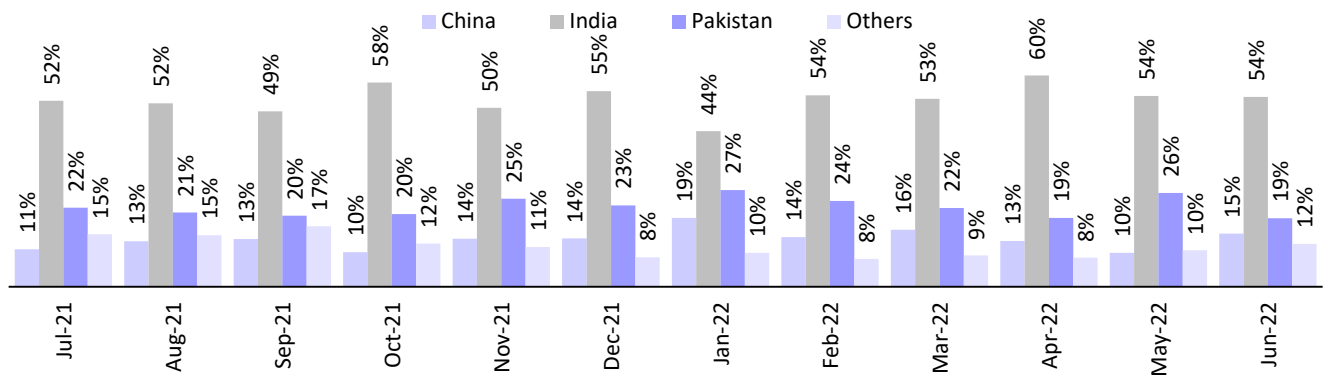
Source: MOFSL, Company

**Exhibit 10: Gap between the USD:INR and USD:RMB expands**

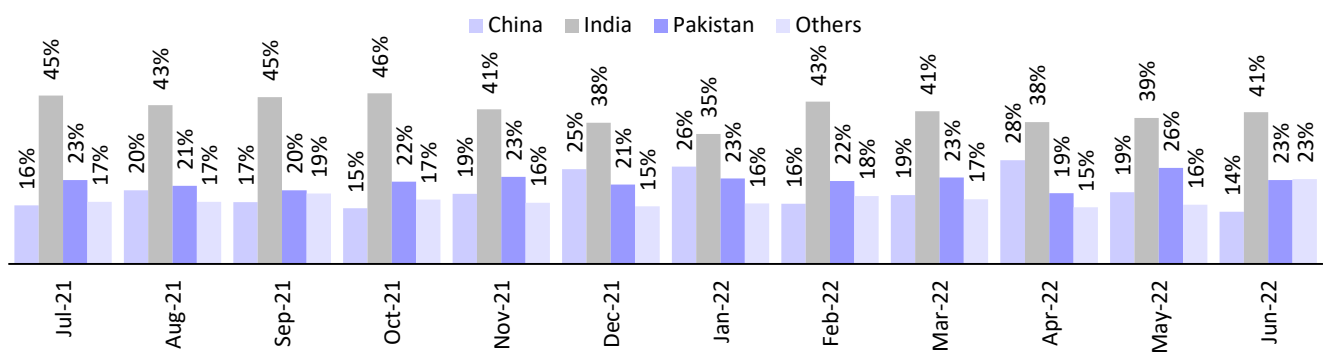
Source: MOFSL, Company

**Exhibit 11: Gap between the USD:INR and USD:PKR expands**

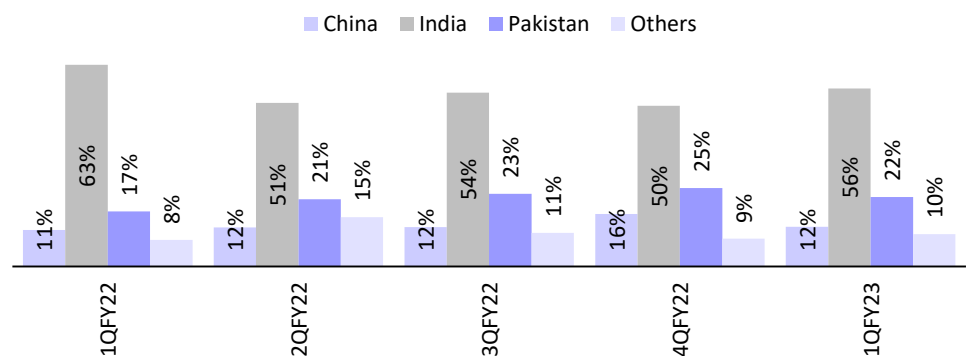
Source: MOFSL, Company

**Exhibit 12: Monthly market share in US Bed Sheet imports**

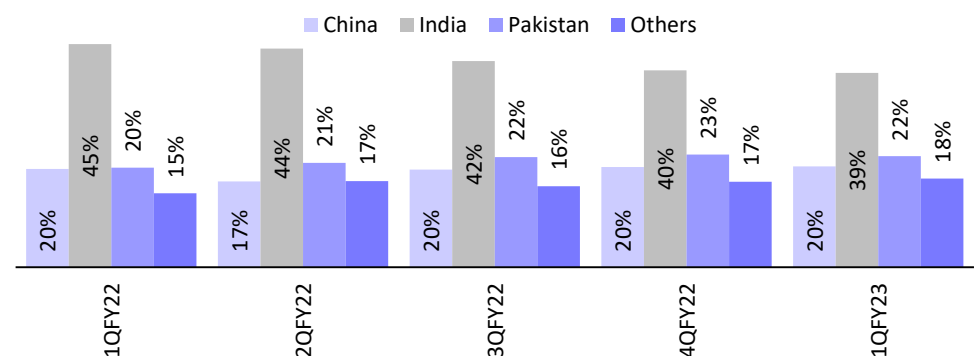
Source: MOFSL, Company

**Exhibit 13: Monthly market share in US Terry Towel imports**

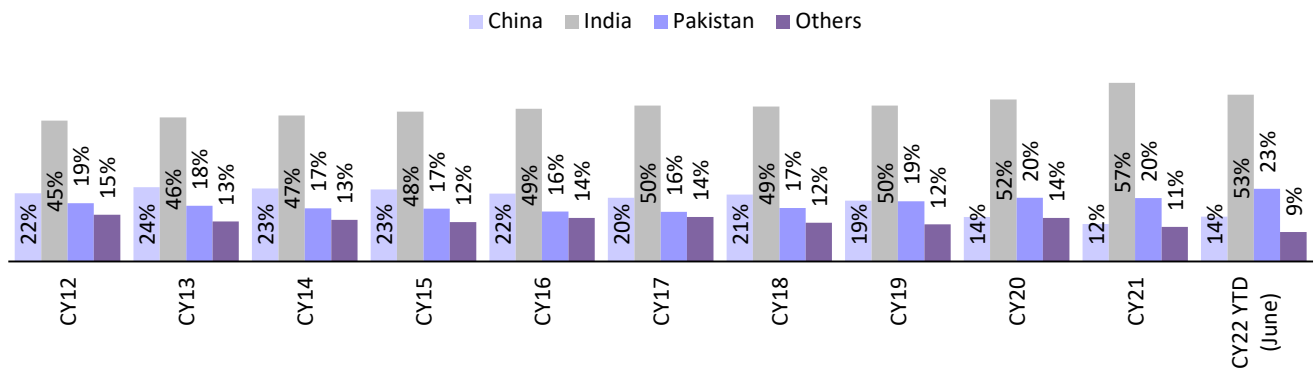
Source: Otexa, MOFSL

**Exhibit 14: Quarterly market share in US Bed Sheet imports**

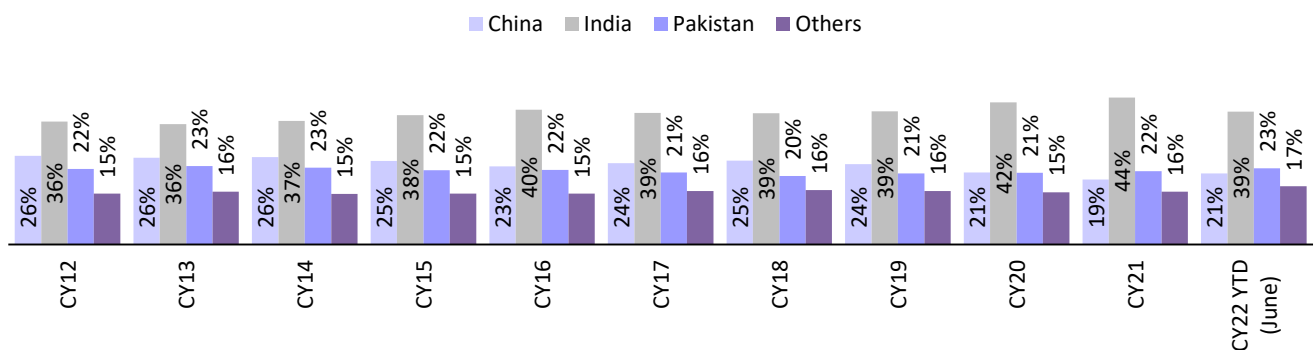
Source: Otexa, MOFSL

**Exhibit 15: Quarterly market share in US Terry Towel imports**

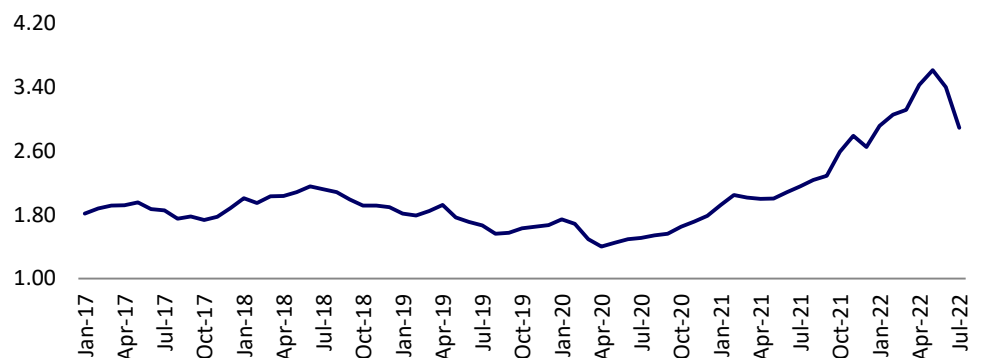
Source: Otexa, MOFSL

**Exhibit 16: India's market share in US Bed Sheet imports fell 400bp to 53% in 1HCY22...**

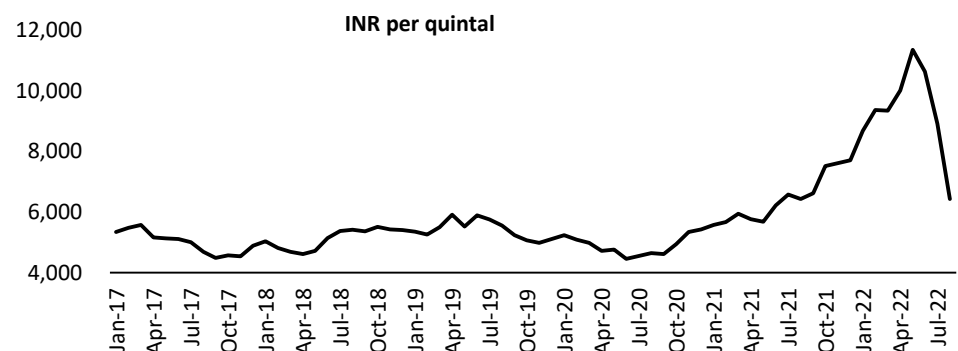
Source: Otexa, MOFSL

**Exhibit 17: ...whereas the same in US Terry Towel imports fell 500bp to 39%**

Source: Otexa, MOFSL

**Exhibit 18: Cool down in international cotton prices (USD/kg)**

Source: World Bank, MOFSL

**Exhibit 19: Indian wholesale cotton prices fall significantly from their peak**

Source: Indexmundi, MOFSL

NOTES



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