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**Research** Paper

## Existing trends of trimming for apparels

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■ABSTRACT : Trimmings are an ornamental addition used on clothing and home furnishing such as facing, piping, braids, cords, laces, tassels patches, borders etc. Market is flooded with trimmings of numerous sizes, shapes, styles and colours. The study was conducted to know the latest trends of trimmings. Ten shopkeepers purposively selected ten shops and thirty consumers visiting these shops were selected on the basis of responsively to collect information regarding existing trends of trimmings. The information regarding availability of trimmings and sale of trimmings was collected through shopkeepers. Thirty consumers visiting these trimming shops were selected as respondents to know their usage pattern of trimmings for apparels. The information was collected using self-structured interview schedule and by observations. Majority of respondents preferred surface embellishments for female wears followed by children and male wears. The ornamentation materials (beads, sequins, rhinestone etc.) and readymade decorative trimmings were the most preferred types of surface embellishments used for female apparels. Majority of consumers preferred piping and facing as functional trimmings and laces and borders as decorative trimmings for formal, casual and night female wears. Most of consumers preferred laces, borders and tassels, as decorative trimmings for female formal wears.

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**KEY WORDS:** Trimmings, Fabric used, Embellishment materials, Apparels

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From the very beginning of civilization, clothing has been recognized as one of the primary needs of mankind. The compelling demands of the environment, along with fashion and the driving compulsions of the human personality have had immense influence on clothing styles (Lam, 2013) Fashion and clothing are closely linked. Fashion or style changes year by year and season by season. Today's consumer culture is driven by aspirationalism that diminishes the gap between the rich and economically volatile sections when it comes to accepting and adopting trends (Saravanan, 2015). A trim can add a special touch that makes the

dress completely unique (Anonymous, 2012). In certain culture trimmings are also used for social identity or superstitions (Anonymous, 2013). Buttons, braids can show rank and power. Beg (2015). Shiny items such as coins and mirror are commonly attached to garments to avert the evils eye (James, 2007).

Trimmings are an ornamental addition used on apparels and home furnishings (Anonymous, 2010). It is purposeful and adds a detailed finish to garments. These are generally used to enhance the beauty of apparels and attract customers. Trimmings could be both functional and decorative (Anonymous, 2009). The functional trimmings like interfacing, elastic, zipper etc. are an integral part of the garment structure and serve specific purpose in the garment performance and their aesthetic contributions are optional while decorative trimmings like piping, braids, tassels etc. are selected and applied to enhance the aesthetic appeal of a garment but are not essential to garment function and performance and have maximum scope of designing (Anonymous, 2015).

Market is flooded with trimmings of numerous sizes, shapes, styles and colours (Anonymous, 2011). All trimmings are require to be safe, comfortable and durable, compatible with the design and fabric and easily available or scheduled for production. The trimming was used for decoration or by utilizing many techniques for the development of attractive and saleable garments (Curteza et al., 2009). Today, most of the trimmings are commercially manufactured but before industrial revolution, all trimmings were made by hand. Women can dedicate their spare time, passion and skills in creating fabulous trimmings from using textile materials (Rai, 2002). Hence, the study was planned with infinite variety of attractive trimmings in market created with utilizing different texture of textile materials, various designing techniques and surfaces embellishment techniques and materials was explored to know the latest trends of trimmings.

#### ■ RESEARCH METHODS

The present study was conducted in Hisar district of Haryana state. The market of Hisar city was explored for collecting information regarding existing trends of trimmings and usage pattern of consumers for trimmings. Secondary sources like book, magazines and internet were also explored to know the latest trends of trimmings. The information regarding existing trends of trimmings included the availability of types of trimmings in the market of Hisar city and usage pattern of consumers for trimmings. The information was collected through market survey, secondary sources and interview of ten shopkeeper and thirty consumers visiting these shops. The shopkeepers and thirty consumers visiting selected trimming shops were selected as respondents to know their usage pattern of trimmings for apparels *i.e.* information regarding availability of trimmings and sale of trimmings, information regarding types of fabrics used for apparels, surface embellishment of fabrics and apparels and types of trimmings used on apparels specifically female apparels. The information was collected using self-structured interview schedule and supplemented by observations. Statistical parameters like frequency and percentage applied to assess and interpret data.

#### ■ RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The existing trends of trimmings in Hisar market and usage pattern of consumers for trimmings in Hisar market were also explored to know the latest trends of trimmings. This paper also included the information on textile materials used by consumer, surface embellishment used on fabrics, and types of trimmings and embellishment materials used by consumers.

#### Availability of trimmings on shops :

The data depicted in Table 1 illustrated the availability of types of trimmings and their sale. It is clear from the data that two types of trimmings *i.e.* functional and decorative trimmings were available on all the selected shops of trimmings. The piping as functional trimming was available on all the shops while facing as functional trimming was available only on three shops. Laces, borders, tassels and ornamentation materials such as beads, sequins and rhinestones were available on all the shops of trimmings. Ready to use patches were available on nine shops. Cords and braids were available on six shops. As per the observation of shopkeepers facing and piping as functional trimmings and all the decorative trimmings except braids and cords along with ornamentation materials were frequently sold trimmings. The same observation were recorded as per secondary references as all these functional and decorative trimmings along with ornamentation materials were the frequently and widely used trimmings on female apparels. Tassels were developed into highly decorated forms by nomadic tribes became status symbol of royal, military and home interior as decoration (James, 2007).

In the information of existing trends of trimmings, the piping as functional trimming, laces, borders, tassels and ornamentation materials (Beads, sequins and rhinestones) as decorative trimmings were available on all trimming shops. This may be because these both types of trimmings were most commonly and most widely used trimmings as these trimmings can be used with various types of female apparels such as formal wear, casual wear and night wears and also as per latest trend. Availability and sale of ready to use patches, braids and cords as decorative trimmings and facing as functional trimmings were available on all shops of trimmings was also limited same observed by (Oebleswan, 2010).

Table	e 1 : Availability of trimmings on shops	(n=10)
Sr. No.	Trimmings	Availability on shops (F)
1.	Functional trimmings	
	Facing	3
	Piping	10
2.	Decorative trimmings	
	Braids	6
	Cords	6
	Laces	10
	Tassels	10
	Ready to use patches	8
	Borders	10
3.	Ornamentation materials	10
	(Beads, sequins, rhinestones)	

F= Frequency

## Type of textile materials used by consumers for commonly used apparels :

The data presented in Table 2 indicated the types of textile materials used by the consumers for commonly used apparels. All the consumers used cotton fabric for female wears followed by 96 per cent consumers used cotton for both male and children wears in summer season. In winter season also, majority of consumers used cotton fabric for female wear, male wear (92.0%) and children wear (80.0%). Twenty six per cent consumers used silk fabric for female wears followed by 10.0 per cent for male wears in winter season. All the consumer used wool fabric in winter season for female, male and children wear. None of the consumer used wool fabric in summer season. During winter season half of the consumers used synthetic fabric for female and male wears followed by 20 per cent consumers used synthetic fabrics for children wear. During summer season 33.3 per cent consumers used synthetic fabric for female wear, 20 per cent for male wear and 10 per cent for children wear. The majority of consumers (80%) used blended fabrics for female and male wear in summer and winter seasons followed by 76.6 per cent consumers used blended fabrics for children wears. It was concluded that cotton fabric was widely used textile material for female wears, male wears and children wears in both the seasons by majority of consumers followed by blended fabrics. The silk and wool fabrics were used only during the winter season.

# Type of surface embellishments of fabrics for commonly used apparels :

The data in Fig. 1 revealed that all the consumers used plain fabrics for female and male wears followed by children wears (86.7%). Printed fabrics were also used by all the consumers for female wears followed by children wears (50%) and male wears (40%). More than half of consumers (56.6%) used self designed fabrics for female wears followed by male wears (50%) and only 23.3 per cent consumers used self designed fabrics for children wears. All the consumers used embroidered fabrics for female wears. The ornamented fabrics having beads, sequins and rhinestones were used by majority of consumers for females wears (70.0%) followed by children wears (46.7%) and for male wears (23.3%). Hence, It was concluded that all the consumers used plain, printed and embroidered fabrics for females wears followed by ornamented fabrics (70%). For male and children wears majority of consumers used plain fabrics.

#### Type of embellishments used for apparels :

The data in Fig. 2 depicted the type of embellishments used by the consumers for apparels of

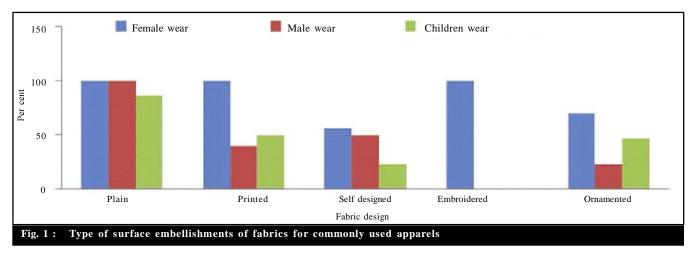
Table 2 : Ty	able 2 : Type of textile materials used by consumers for commonly used apparel					
Fabric	Apparels					
materials	Summer			Winter		
	Female wear F(%)	Male wear F(%)	Children wear F(%)	Female wear F(%)	Male wear F(%)	Children wear F(%)
Cotton	30(100)	28(96.0)	28(96.0)	26(92.0)	26(92.0)	24(80.00)
Silk	-			13(26.0)	3(10.0)	2(6.66)
Wool	-	-	-	30(100.0)	30(100.0)	30(100.0)
Synthetic	10(33.3)	6(20.0)	3(10.0)	15(50.0)	15(50.0)	6(20.0)
Blend	24(80.00)	24(80.00)	23(76.60)	24(80.00)	24(80.00)	23(76.60)

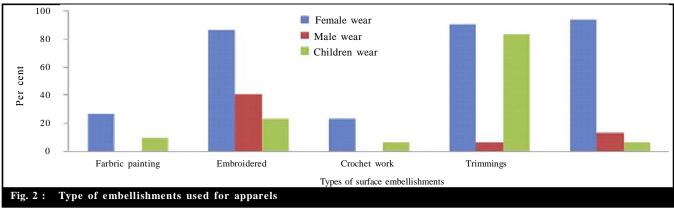
F= Frequency, Multiple responses

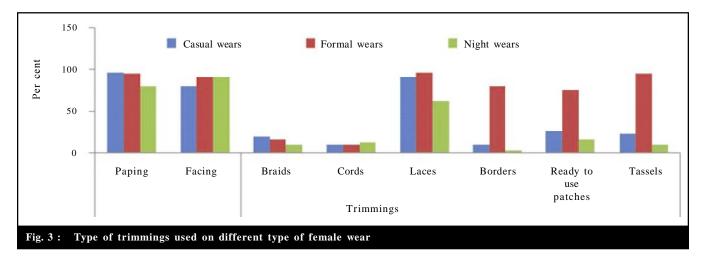
female, male and children. The 26.7 per cent consumers used fabric painting for embellishment on female wears followed by 10 per cent on children wears. The embroidery was used as embellishment by majority of consumers for female wears (86.6%) and for male wears (40%) and 23.3 per cent consumers also preferred embroidery for children wears. The crochet work as embellishment was used by 23.3 per cent consumers on female wears and by 6.6 per cent consumers on children wears. Trimmings were preferred by a large majority of consumers (90%) for female wears followed by 83.3 per cent consumers for children wears. Only 6.7 per cent consumers preferred trimmings for male wears. Majority of consumers (93.3%) preferred ornamentation materials such as beads, sequins and rhinestones as embellishment for female wears. For male wears 13.3 per cent consumers preferred these materials while only 6.7 per cent consumers preferred ornamentation materials for children wears. It was concluded that ornamentation materials and trimmings as embellishments were preferred by majority of consumers for female apparels. For male wears embroidery and for children wears trimmings were used as embellishment.

### Type of trimmings used on different type of female wear :

The functional trimmings are an integral part of the garment structure and serve specific purpose in the garment performance and their aesthetic contributions are optional while decorative trimmings are selected and applied to enhance the aesthetic appeal of a garment but are not essential to garment function and performance and have maximum scope of designing (Diamond and Diamond, 2008). The data in Fig. 3 revealed the types of trimmings used on different type of female wears by the consumers. The piping as functional trimming was used by majority of consumers (97%) for casual wears followed by formal wears (96%) and night wears (80.0%). Majority of consumers (92.0%) used facing for formal and night wears followed by 80.0 per cent







consumers used facing for casual wears. Laces were used as decorative trimmings by majority of consumers for formal wears (97.00%) followed by casual wears (92.0%) and night wears (63.3%). Borders used by a large majority of consumers (80%) for formal wears and only 10 per cent consumers used borders for casuals wears. A few *i.e.* 3.3 per cent consumers used borders for night wears also. Ready to use patches were used by 76.0 per cent consumers for formal wears, casual wears (26.0%) and night wears (16.7%). The tassels as decorative trimmings were also used by majority of consumers (96.0%) for formal female wears followed by casual wears (23.3%) and night wears (10.0%). The braids were used for casual wears by 20 per cent consumers followed by 16.7 per cent consumers used braids for formal wears. Ten per cents consumers used braids for female night wears also. The equal number of consumers (10%) used cords for casual wears and formal wears while 13.3 per cent consumers used cords for night wears. It was concluded that piping and facing as functional trimmings and laces and borders as decorative trimmings were used by majority of consumers for casual, formal and night female wears. The laces, borders and tassels as decorative trimmings were the trimmings which were mainly used for formal female wears. Dhindsa (2009) found that Machine embroidery ornamented with beads and sequins separately was the highly prevalent embellishment techniques.

### **Conclusion :**

Trimmings are an ornamental addition used on apparels and home furnishings. It is purposeful and adds a detailed finish to garment. Anonymous (2015) stated that trimming can be transform a basic garment into one special appeal. Majority of respondents preferred surface embellishments for female wears and readymade decorative trimmings were the most preferred types of surface embellishments used for female apparels followed by embroideries and fabric painting. Sharma and Rawat (2006) found that surface enrichment with pipe work, bead work, patch work and *Naka tikki* were appreciated by the female respondents. Majority of consumers preferred piping and facing as functional trimmings and laces and borders as decorative trimmings for formal, casual and night female wears. Most of consumers preferred laces, borders and tassels, as decorative trimmings for female formal wears.

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