INTRODUCTION TO TEXTILES

The word "textile" originally applied only to woven fabrics, now generally applied to fibres, yarns, or fabrics or products made of fibres, yarns or fabrics. The term textile originates from the latin verb texere – to weave – but, as the Textile Institute's Terms and Definitions Glossary explains, it is now "a general term applied to any manufacture from fibres, filaments or yarns characterized by flexibility, fineness and high ratio of length to thickness".

Textiles, especially fabric is the fundamental component of a readymade garment, because it is the basic raw material of a garment. So it is important to know the manufacturing sequence of fabric from fibre. The quality product is the main goal at present time. Without knowledge of Textile manufacturing i.e. fibre, yarn and fabrics it is impossible to maintain the quality of a garment. Before elaborating on whole process of grey fabric manufacturing let us look on what is textile fibre, yarn and fabric and what are the process flow chart of Textile Manufacturing can be described.

- **Textile:**

  A term originally applied only to woven fabrics, but the terms textile and the plural textiles are now also applied to fibres, filaments and yarns, natural and manufactured, and most products for which these are a principal raw material.

- **Textile Fibre:**

  Any substance, natural or manufactured, with a high length to width ratio and with suitable characteristics for being processed into fabric; the smallest component, hair like in nature, that can be separated from a fabric.

- **Yarn:**

  An assemblage of fibres that is twisted or laid together so as to form a continuous strand that can be made into a textile fabric. So a yarn is a strand of natural or man made fibres or filaments that have been twisted or grouped together for use in weaving, knitting, or other methods of constructing textile fabrics. The type of yarn to be manufactured will depend on the fibres selected; the texture, or hand, of the fabric to be made; and qualities such as warmth, resiliency, softness, and durability required in the fabric's end uses.

- **Fabric:**

Fabric is a flexible planar substance constructed from solutions, fibres, yarns, or fabrics, in any combination. Textile fabrics can be produced directly from webs of fibres by bonding, fusing or interlocking to make non-woven fabrics and felts, but their physical properties tend to restrict their potential end-usage. The mechanical manipulation of yarn into fabric is the most versatile method of manufacturing textile fabrics for a wide range of end-uses.

Flow chart of textile processing: