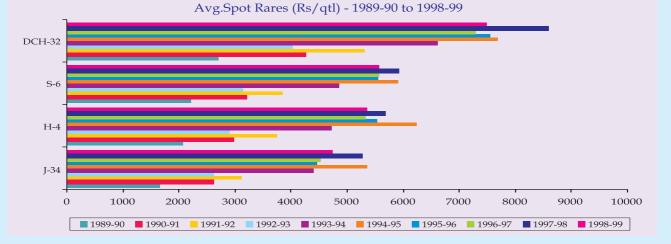


Cotton Prices Nearly Quadruple in Two Decades

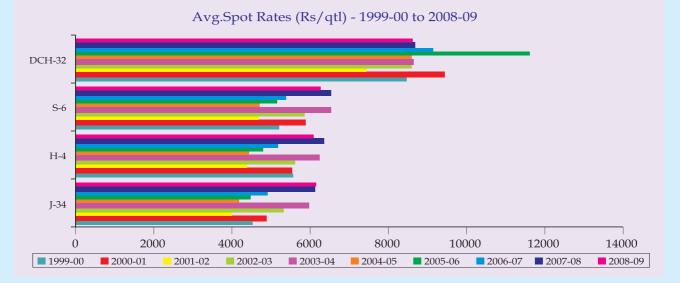
A study of the data relating to cotton prices during the last two decades throws up several interesting facts. For instance, the current cotton prices are about three to four times of those prevailing during twenty years ago. The detailed year-wise data pertaining to four representative varieties as also on the country's cotton production are given below :

| Av. Spot Rate (Rs./Qtl.) | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|--------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Year | J-34 | H-4 | S-6 | DCH-32 | Cotton Production (lakh bales) | | | | |
| 1989-90 | 1667 | 2073 | 2222 | 2716 | 136 | | | | |
| 1990-91 | 2638 | 2980 | 3222 | 4269 | 117 | | | | |
| 1991-92 | 3114 | 3747 | 3854 | 5309 | 119 | | | | |
| 1992-93 | 2621 | 2913 | 3149 | 4033 | 138 | | | | |
| 1993-94 | 4398 | 4720 | 4854 | 6623 | 122 | | | | |
| 1994-95 | 5350 | 6247 | 5904 | 7691 | 139 | | | | |
| 1995-96 | 4469 | 5542 | 5554 | 7558 | 171 | | | | |
| 1996-97 | 4523 | 5341 | 5575 | 7294 | 178 | | | | |
| 1997-98 | 5284 | 5696 | 5927 | 8595 | 158 | | | | |
| 1998-99 | 4735 | 5365 | 5572 | 7490 | 165 | | | | |
| Average | 3880 | 4462 | 4583 | 6158 | 144 | | | | |
| % Increase | 184 | 158 | 151 | 176 | 21 | | | | |
| % Difference between Highest+Lowest Value | 221 | 201 | 167 | 216 | 52 | | | | |



During the decade commencing from 1989-90, prices of different varieties increased by 151 per cent to 184 per cent. During that decade, the percentage difference between the highest and lowest prices ranged from 167 to 221 per cent. In other words, the intra-variety variation was so much that prices more than trebled in some cases. This was apparently because of the chronic shortage of cotton prevailing then and large scale imports were the order of the day. Therefore, even a slight fall in production had immediate repercussion on price movement pushing it up. Similarly, if the production was somewhat higher, prices eased significantly.

| Av. Spot Rate (Rs./Qtl.) | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|--------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Year | J-34 | H-4 | S-6 | DCH-32 | Cotton Production (lakh bales) | | | | |
| 1999-00 | 4538 | 5562 | 5192 | 8469 | 156 | | | | |
| 2000-01 | 4897 | 5531 | 5868 | 9430 | 140 | | | | |
| 2001-02 | 3994 | 4376 | 4669 | 7438 | 158 | | | | |
| 2002-03 | 5326 | 5615 | 5845 | 8583 | 136 | | | | |
| 2003-04 | 5959 | 6226 | 6544 | 8651 | 179 | | | | |
| 2004-05 | 4190 | 4446 | 4708 | 8596 | 243 | | | | |
| 2005-06 | 4473 | 4786 | 5144 | 11619 | 241 | | | | |
| 2006-07 | 4903 | 5179 | 5370 | 9149 | 280 | | | | |
| 2007-08 | 6104 | 6353 | 6541 | 8681 | 307 | | | | |
| 2008-09 | 6158 | 6074 | 6252 | 8631 | 290 | | | | |
| Average | 5054 | 5415 | 5613 | 8925 | 213 | | | | |
| % Increase | 36 | 9 | 20 | 2 | 9 | | | | |
| % Difference between | | | | | | | | | |
| Highest+Lowest Value | 54 | 45 | 40 | 56 | 126 | | | | |
| % Increase in 20 years | 270 | 193 | 181 | 218 | 113 | | | | |



During the subsequent decade commencing from 1999-2000, prices of different varieties escalated only to a small extent from 2 per cent to 36 per cent, much less than in the previous decade. The percentage difference between the highest and lowest price of a given variety was also much less at 40 to 56 per cent. This is obviously a reflection of the relatively more comfortable and more stable cotton situation with production surpassing the requirement by sizable margins. In fact, from a net importing country in the earlier decade, India turned into a net exporting country during this decade and in 2007-08 India emerged as the world's second largest exporter, a far cry from the earlier decade.

'Ram Navami' Festival Celebrated at Cotton Green

The Trustees of Shree Ramchandraji Temple Trust organised 'Shree Ram Navami Utsav' on 24th March 2010 at Cotton Green with great spiritual fervor. Thousands of people took part in the sacred rituals performed all through the day.

Devotees from all over the place performed elaborate pujas and chant the name of Rama. Temple of Rama had special services and bhajan sessions through the day. Stories from the Ramayana are



Glimpses of Ram Navami Utsav at Cotton Green





| CONSUMPTION OF COTTON BY TEXTILE MILLS (COTTON YEAR – WISE) (lakh bales) | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| Months | 2000-01 | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09(P) |
| NON SSI | | | | | | | | | |
| October | 12.00 | 11.83 | 12.45 | 10.92 | 12.97 | 13.97 | 15.74 | 16.40 | 14.93 |
| November | 12.45 | 11.48 | 11.69 | 11.90 | 12.49 | 13.60 | 16.15 | 15.20 | 15.26 |
| December | 12.93 | 12.54 | 12.62 | 12.97 | 13.83 | 14.75 | 16.74 | 16.91 | 16.23 |
| January | 12.58 | 12.54 | 12.38 | 12.95 | 13.16 | 14.84 | 16.52 | 16.69 | 15.43 |
| February | 11.74 | 11.71 | 11.41 | 12.44 | 12.77 | 13.80 | 15.41 | 16.33 | 14.66 |
| March | 12.90 | 12.37 | 12.21 | 13.04 | 13.75 | 15.49 | 16.56 | 16.59 | 15.74 |
| April | 12.41 | 12.25 | 11.71 | 12.52 | 13.60 | 14.87 | 16.29 | 16.18 | 15.45 |
| May | 12.64 | 12.32 | 12.37 | 12.75 | 14.05 | 15.30 | 16.08 | 17.05 | 16.12 |
| June | 12.50 | 12.16 | 11.40 | 12.61 | 13.89 | 15.17 | 16.07 | 16.66 | 16.27 |
| July | 12.76 | 12.76 | 11.80 | 12.94 | 14.04 | 15.78 | 16.52 | 16.63 | 17.26 |
| August | 12.40 | 12.65 | 11.31 | 12.86 | 15.73 | 16.30 | 16.70 | 15.88 | 16.91 |
| September | 12.05 | 12.39 | 11.07 | 12.49 | 13.70 | 16.23 | 16.13 | 15.15 | |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | | | |
| (Oct-Sept) | 149.36 | 147.00 | 142.42 | 150.39 | 163.98 | 180.10 | 194.91 | 195.67 | 174.26 (180.52) |
| SSI Units | 10.97* | 11.70 | 11.63 | 12.99 | 16.57 | 18.85 | 21.27 | 22.08 | 10.02 |
| Non - SSI | | | | | | | | | |
| Mill Cons. | 12.70 | 13.06 | 14.78 | 10.00 | 14.00@ | 15.00@ | | | |
| Total Cons. | 173.03 | 171.76 | 168.83 | 173.38 | 194.44 | | | | |
| Cotton | | | | | | | | | |
| Production | 140.00 | 158.00 | 136.00 | 179.00 | 243.00 | 241.00 | 280.00 | 315.00 | 290.00 |
| Note : Figures in the bracket indicate the corresponding figure of the previous year | | | | | | | | | |

Note : Figures in the bracket indicate the corresponding figure of the previous year P = Provisional @ - as per CAB

Source: Office of the Textile Commissioner -January 2010

read out in joyous public gatherings. The "prasad" was distributed among all the people who have gathered for worship.

S N I P P E T S

As per the study by a Global Strategic Business Report on Organic Cotton, India, Syria and Turkey account for more than 85 percent of global organic cotton production. India is a leading producer of Organic cotton and in the next few years is expected to seize a sizable stake in the organic textile sector across the globe. The United States represents the leading consumer of organic cotton and eco-textiles. The US accounts for 40 percent of the organic cotton consumption in apparel products.

The study analyses organic cotton market data for the US, India, China, Syria, Turkey, Tanzania, Uganda and other producers around the world.

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Growth of the six core sector industries, viz. crude oil production, refining, coal, electricity, finished steel and cement dropped to a moderate 4.5 per cent in February after posting a robust growth of 9.4 per cent in January, as per reports. The growth during February last year was, however, only a meagre 1.9 per cent. The core sector industries had been posting a healthy growth of 6 per cent during November, 6.4 per cent in December and 9.4 per cent in January before it moderated in February. Since these industries have a significant weight of 26.7 per cent in the index of industrial production (IIP), economists are said to be of the view that the industrial output in February may not maintain the momentum of December and January of over 16 per cent.

Postponement of Third CAB Meeting to 8.04.2010

As reported earlier, the third meeting of the cotton advisory board for the cotton season 2009-10 fixed on 6th April, 2010 has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances as per the communication received from the office of the Textile Commissioner. The same will now be held on 8.4.2010 (Thursday). The time and venue remains unchanged.

| | | UPCO | DUNTR | Y S | POT I | RATES | | | (Rs./ | <i>(Candy)</i> |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|---------|-----|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Official quotations for standard descriptions with basic grade and staple in Millimetres based on | | | | | SPOT RATES (UPCOUNTRY) 2009-10 CROP March - April 2010 | | | | | |
| | | under By-law | | (4) | 27th | 29th | 30th | 31st | 1st | 2nd |
| 01. ICS-10 | 1 Below 22mm | Bengal Deshi (RG) | 5.0-7.0 | 15 | Н | 20300 | 20300 | 20400 | 20400 | М |
| 02. ICS-20 | 1 Below 22mm | Bengal Deshi (SG) | 5.0-7.0 | 15 | 0 | 21000 | 21000 | 21100 | 21100 | A R |
| 03. ICS-10 | 2 22mm | V-797 | 4.5-5.9 | 19 | | 20700 | 20700 | 20700 | 20900 | Κ |
| 04. ICS-10 | 3 23mm | Jayadhar | 4.0-5 | 19 | | 22500 | 22500 | 22600 | 22800 | Е |
| 05. ICS-10 | 4 24mm | Y-1 | 4.0-5.5 | 20 | L | 24700 | 24700 | 24700 | 24700 | Т |
| 06. ICS-20 | 2 25mm | J-34 | 3.5-4.9 | 23 | | 26700 | 26700 | 26800 | 27100 | |
| 07. ICS-10 | 5 25mm | NHH-44 | 3.5-4.9 | 22 | | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | С |
| 08. ICS-10 | 5 27mm | LRA-5166 | 3.5-4.9 | 24 | Ι | 26600 | 26600 | 26800 | 27000 | L |
| 09. ICS-10 | 5 28mm | H-4/ MECH-1 | 3.5-4.9 | 25 | | 27000 | 27000 | 27200 | 27400 | O S |
| 10. ICS-10 | 5 29mm | S-6 | 3.5-4.9 | 26 | D | 28400 | 28400 | 28400 | 28500 | Е |
| 11. ICS-10 | 5 31mm | Bunny⁄ Brahma | 3.5-4.9 | 27 | | 28400 | 28400 | 28400 | 28600 | D |
| 12. ICS-10 | 6 33mm | MCU-5/ Surabhi | 3.3-4.5 | 28 | А | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | |
| 13. ICS-10 | 7 35mm | DCH-32 | 2.8-3.6 | 31 | | 41500 | 41500 | 41500 | 41500 | |
| 14. ICS-30 | 1 26mm | ICC | 3.7-4.3 | 25 | Y | 27000 | 27000 | 27200 | 27200 | |