

Weekly Publication of



**Cotton  
Association  
of India**

# COTTON STATISTICS & NEWS

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## Impediments In Branding Indian Cotton And Its Possible Solutions

(Contd. from Issue No.6)

### 3. Sampling methods:

The sampling method of lint cotton is based on 2% of bales i.e. samples to be taken from two bales out of a lot of 100 bales, with the bales not having bar codes nor the back tracking references. This practice of 2% sample does not create enough trust in the mind of the buyer wherein he can offer a price based on fibre parameter report. Thus the prices are not based on such sampling and cannot be standardized, but vary on every purchase, which puts a great strain on the purchase process of cotton by spinning mills and others.

### 4. Purchase practices through brokers:

Majority of the purchases of cotton are through brokers, where the spinning mills inform the broker their quantity requirement and basic fibre parameters like length, mic and strength. However no specific instructions are given for grade, leaf, trash percentage, moisture percentage and contamination levels. The broker in turn, floats the enquiry on behalf of several spinning mills to buy specific quantity to various ginnerers at a pre-suggested price (so called market price) irrespective of any variation in the trash, moisture

and contamination contents. Thus, every ginner wants to maintain maximum permissible trash and moisture content, rather than putting in efforts for reducing the trash, moisture and contamination.

### 5. Absence of certifying agency:

There is no certifying agency (like USDA in USA) notified/appointed by the Govt. of India for controlling and maintaining the database about quality, based on which the buyer can buy the cotton, confident about its quality. In the absence of data monitoring and control, the best practices for producing quality cotton are not being followed nor is the back traceability of cotton bales, in case of complaints, always easily available.

### 6. Pricing method for cotton bales by spinning mills:

The Indian spinning mills and cotton buyers in India base the prices on standard parameters of cotton i.e. at 4.5% to 5% trash when they buy from Indian ginnerers or traders. However when they buy from overseas like USA, Australia, etc. they are considering the price based on average price considering lower trash contents i.e. below 2% therefore agree to pay extra premium to them.



**GUEST COLUMN**

*Dr. M. K. Sharma*  
Director & CEO

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Business Executive

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## 7. Inadequate control over quality of cotton by government:

In the absence of a notified quality control agency by the Govt. of India, the quality parameters are always required to be checked on each sales lot, which makes the process cumbersome and time consuming and requiring the personal presence of the buyer or its representative. This certainly leaves room for malpractices about trash, moisture, and contamination contents.

## 8. Un-even size/weight of cotton bales:

In India, some ginners make bales of 160 kgs., while others make of 170 kgs. of different density as per the age old practice. This was probably due to manual handling of bales and truck sizes available in India which could accommodate the current Indian bale size. The bale presses in India were also designed accordingly. But the spinning mills use the Indian bale of 170 kgs as well as imported bale of 227 kgs as per the world Cotton Bale Standard ISO 8115 without any issue.

## 9. Improper packing/covering material of cotton bales.

The packing and covering material used for cotton bales is far from satisfactory in India. Most of the cotton bales are seen with torn covers and part of the bale is naked, which allows dust to enter and spoils the cotton; apart from bad looks, which causes an impediment in the branding.

## Possible solutions

The following practices/actions, may improve the level of trash and contamination in Indian cotton and facilitate the branding of Indian cotton

### 1. Payment of hand-picking charges based on dual parameters of weight and impurities:

The payment method to the labour doing hand-picking of cotton should be based on double parameters instead of only on weight basis and the proportionate deduction should be made if the trash content for the cotton picked by the particular person is found to be on the higher side. The standard trash percentage should be made at 2% trash for normal varieties and if the trash content is found above the 2% level, the proportionate deduction should be made in their wages.

### 2. Compulsory bagging at field level by hand-picking labour

After hand-picking seed cotton, it should be made compulsory/mandatory that the seed cotton be put in a designed cloth bag of reasonable

standard size such as 25 kg. capacity, fitted with zip or islets and cotton thread, which will eliminate any further addition of trash and contamination due to wind. This practice will also save the seed cotton from contamination when stored in the farmer's/middle man's house. These bags should be transported by any suitable transportation facility to ginning factories where they should be emptied in a fully covered storage area for proper grading and the bags should immediately be returned to the farmer/ middleman to reuse for the next lot of cotton picking. Subsequently, seed cotton should be shifted to a feeding mechanism such as a Cotton Dispensing System with the help of tractor attachments or suction systems from the floor of covered storage which will save it from any further addition of contamination. Additionally, the labour working for storage and unloading should be properly trained.

### 3. Using dryers for cotton with higher moisture level

Every ginning factory should be equipped with proper capacity dryers to bring the moisture level of seed cotton to 8%, which will make the use of pre-cleaners effective and it will be easier to separate the trash and partial contamination at the pre-cleaning stage.

### 4. Control over addition of water

It should be made mandatory for the prices of seed cotton to be based on 8% moisture and proportionate deduction should be made from the prices if moisture contents are found above 8%. The ginners should have the obligation to implement this rule and if this rule is violated, then there should be penalties to act as a deterrent. To get good quality, these controls are necessary and they should be imposed by the government for the overall interest of the country. The seed cotton brought to ginning factories with less than 8% i.e. 4%, 5%, 6% etc., the average reading should be calculated out of 10 random samples and the premium of proportionate amount, deducting the cost of moisture addition, if any, for maintaining the moisture level at 8% or as decided otherwise, should be paid extra by the purchasing ginning factory to the seller of seed cotton.

### 5. Proper pre-cleaning

The appropriate levels of pre-cleaners must be used mandatorily and any by-passing should be discouraged. The degree of pre-cleaning can be reduced or increased as per the requirement for the trash content present in incoming cotton and only the excess equipments should be by-passed as these are normally sequentially installed in the ginning factory.

## 6. Setting up of centralised cotton testing and quality control institution by the Government

It is necessary to have controls over quality parameters of any commodity or product if branding needs to be done. It would be worthwhile if the Government of India either creates a separate institution similar to USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) labs for cotton. The smaller samples from 100% bales should be cut with a sample cutter which may be fixed on all the cotton baling presses, for which the ginners may be asked to add the provision for samples from each bale. The total quantity of the big samples, right now being cut, weigh about 2-3 kgs. from 2 bales out of each lot of 100 bales, i.e. total quantity of sample about 4-6 kgs. per 100 bales will be more or less equal if a sample of about 40 to 50 grams is taken from each bale for a lot of 100 bales. These small samples should be packed in properly labelled small bags and sent to nearest testing center of the centralised cotton testing and quality control institution, which will be obliged to publish the report within a specified time frame.

## 7. Bar-coding the bales

If bar-coding is made mandatory on each baling press, the same will make the controls even easier and the bales could then be related to test results quickly, and the buyers would be able to buy the cotton based on published reports by the centralised agency, rather than arrangement of personal sampling and resultant effects in the buying process.

## 8. Standard sizes of bales as per ISO 8115:

In view of availability of mechanical lifting/loading devices, such as tractor attachments/forklifts and introduction of big size trucks and containers in place of earlier smaller trucks, India should also now adopt the international standard for cotton bales, as per ISO 8115 and should start making bales of 227 kgs. for which the presses are easily available in India. This will save the packing cost and standardise the bale sizes to match the international sizes, which will also facilitate the extra quantity of export.

## 9. Proper packing/covering material of cotton bales

It is necessary that strong material should be used for the cotton bale packing and the coverage of the bale should be complete. Apart from this, proper standards should be fixed for labeling.

### Conclusion:

If the picking practices, water addition practices, storage practices, pre-cleaning, contamination removal methods are improved at the respective stages and necessary actions are taken on the probable solutions mentioned above, it will be very easy to brand Indian cotton worldwide. This will finally result in better realisation and higher profits for the complete value chain of Indian cotton.

*Courtesy : Cotton India 2016-17*

*(The views expressed in this column are of the author and not that of Cotton Association of India)*

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# Excerpts from India Meteorological Department's Weather Report of May 11, 2017

## Southwest Monsoon

As on 11th May, Forecast synoptic conditions from dynamical models and present large scale features indicate that conditions are becoming favourable for the likely advance of the southwest monsoon over south Andaman Sea and Nicobar Islands and parts of southeast Bay of Bengal by around 15th May 2017.

## Heat Wave and Maximum Temperatures:

During 1st week (11 to 17 May), the average maximum temperatures for week as a whole are very likely to be more than 40°C over central parts of country and adjoining south Peninsular India with possibility of maximum temperature more than 42°C over Vidarbha & adjoining areas of south Madhya Pradesh. These are very likely to be near

normal over above mentioned regions and likely to be above normal by 2-4°C over most parts of east coast and Western Himalayan region. Overall, there is very less possibility of heat wave over any part of country during next one week.

During 2nd week, there would be gradual rise in average maximum temperatures over most parts of the country. These are very likely to be more than 42°C over most parts of central parts of country and more than 40°C over the adjoining areas. The maximum temperatures likely to be near normal over the country outside east & west coast, Chhattisgarh, where they are likely to be above normal by 2-4°C. Thus there is a probability of heat wave conditions over isolated pockets of Chhattisgarh & Interior Odisha during 2nd week.

### Rainfall/snowfall:

During 1st week, fairly widespread to widespread rainfall is very likely to occur over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Sub- Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim and northeastern states during the week with increase in intensity towards end of the week.

Heavy rainfall is very likely at isolated places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during second half of the 1st week.

Heavy to very heavy rainfall activity is likely to occur over Assam & Meghalaya and Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura during second half of the 1st week. Isolated light to moderate rainfall activity is likely over east India during the week with thundersquall/hail at isolated pockets during first half of the 1st week.

Under the influence of westerly system, Western Himalayan region is likely to receive

### Annexure II

METEOROLOGICAL SUB-DIVISIONWISE WEEKLY RAINFALL FORECAST & Wx. WARNINGS-2017								
Sr.No	MET.SUB-DIVISIONS	11 MAY	12 MAY	13 MAY	14 MAY	15 MAY	16 MAY	17 MAY
1	ANDAMAN & NICO.ISLANDS	SCT	FWS	FWS	WS*	WS*	WS*	WS
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	SCT	SCT	FWS	FWS	WS	WS*	WS
3	ASSAM & MEGHALAYA	SCT <sup>TS</sup>	FWS <sup>STS</sup>	WS <sup>™</sup>	WS <sup>™</sup>	WS <sup>™</sup>	WS*	WS
4	NAGA.MANI.MIZO.& TRIPURA	SCT <sup>TS</sup>	FWS	WS <sup>™</sup>	WS <sup>™</sup>	WS <sup>™</sup>	WS*	WS
5	SUB-HIM.W. BENG. & SIKKIM	WS <sup>TS</sup>	FWS	FWS <sup>STS</sup>	FWS	FWS	WS*	WS
6	GANGETIC WEST BENGAL	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	SCT
7	ODISHA	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	DRY	DRY	ISOL	ISOL
8	JHARKHAND	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY	ISOL	ISOL
9	BIHAR	ISOL <sup>STS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	SCT
10	EAST UTTAR PRADESH	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	DRY	ISOL	ISOL
11	WEST UTTAR PRADESH	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY	ISOL
12	UTTARAKHAND	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	SCT
13	HARYANA CHD. & DELHI	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	DRY	DRY	ISOL	DRY	ISOL
14	PUNJAB	ISOL	ISOL	DRY	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
15	HIMACHAL PRADESH	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	FWS
16	JAMMU & KASHMIR	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	FWS
17	WEST RAJASTHAN	ISOL <sup>TS</sup> †	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	ISOL
18	EAST RAJASTHAN	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
19	WEST MADHYA PRADESH	ISOL	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
20	EAST MADHYA PRADESH	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
21	GUJARAT REGION D.D. & N.H.	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
22	SAURASTRA KUTCH & DIU	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
23	KONKAN & GOA	DRY	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	DRY
24	MADHYA MAHARASHTRA	ISOL	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY
25	MARATHAWADA	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY
26	VIDARBHA	ISOL	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
27	CHHATTISGARH	ISOL <sup>TS</sup>	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
28	COASTAL ANDHRA PRADESH	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL <sup>STS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	DRY
29	TELANGANA	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	DRY
30	RAYALASEEMA	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
31	TAMILNADU & PUDUCHERRY	SCT <sup>STS*</sup>	SCT <sup>STS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	SCT
32	COASTAL KARNATAKA	FWS <sup>STS</sup>	SCT <sup>STS</sup>	SCT	SCT	SCT	SCT	SCT
DRY	NORTH INT.KARNATAKA	FWS <sup>STS</sup>	SCT <sup>STS</sup>	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
34	SOUTH INT.KARNATAKA	FWS <sup>STS</sup>	SCT <sup>STS</sup>	SCT	FWS <sup>STS</sup>	FWS <sup>STS</sup>	FWS	FWS
35	KERALA	WS <sup>STS*</sup>	WS <sup>STS*</sup>	SCT	SCT	FWS	FWS	FWS
36	LAKSHADWEEP	FWS	SCT	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	SCT	SCT

**LEGENDS:**

WS	WIDE SPREAD / MOST PLACES (76-100%)	FWS	FAIRLY WIDE SPREAD / MANY PLACES (51% to 75%)
SCT	SCATTERED / FEW PLACES (26% to 50%)	ISOL	ISOLATED (up to 25%)
DRY	NO STATION REPORTED RAINFALL		
* Heavy Rainfall (64.5-115.5 mm)	* Heavy to Very Heavy Rainfall (115.6-204.4 mm)		* Extremely Heavy Rainfall (204.5 mm or more)
☁ FOG	* SNOWFALL	# HAILSTORM	🔥 HEAT WAVE
⚡ THUNDER SQUALL	DS/TS DUST/THUNDERSTORM	❄ COLD WAVE	🔥 SEVERE HEAT WAVE
			❄ SEVERE COLD WAVE

isolated to scattered light precipitation during the week. South Peninsular India very likely to receive scattered rainfall activity during the week with thundersquall/hail at isolated pockets during first half of the 1st week. Detail is given in Annexure II.

Overall precipitation activity is likely to be above normal over parts of northeastern states and Kerala and near normal over the rest parts of the country during 1st week (Annexure III).

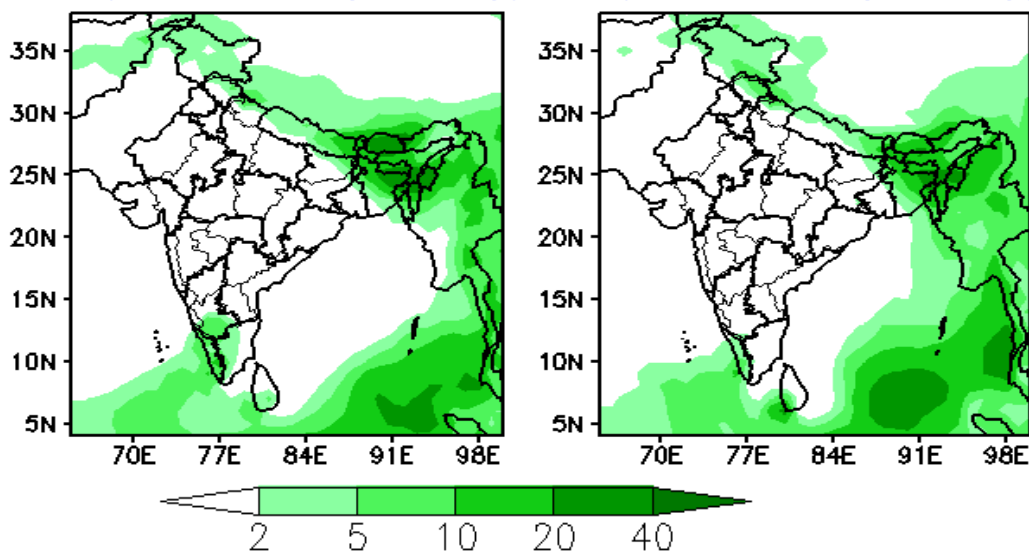
During 2nd week, fairly widespread to widespread rainfall with isolated heavy rainfall and thundersquall/hailstorm activity is likely to occur over northeastern states. Light scattered precipitation activity is also likely to occur over Western Himalayan region and isolated rain/thundershower over Kerala. Overall precipitation activity is likely to be above normal over parts of northeastern states and some parts of Western Himalayan region and near normal over the rest parts of the country during 2nd week (Annexure III).

Annexure III

**Actual Rainfall (mm/day)**

(Week1: 12May–18May)

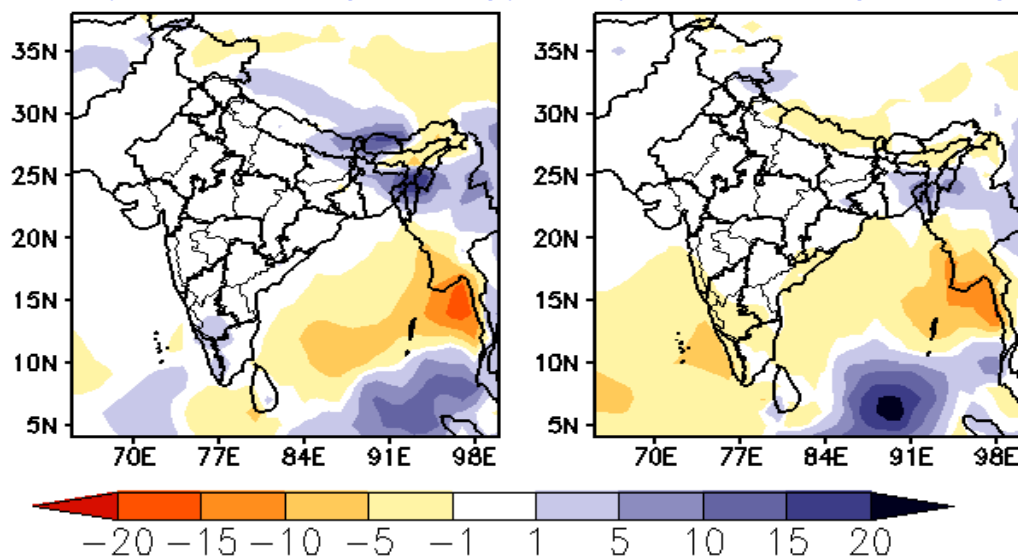
(Week2: 19May–25May)



**Rainfall Anomaly (mm/day)**

(Week1: 12May–18May)

(Week2: 19May–25May)



## High Prices in 2016/17 Encourages Cotton Area Expansion in 2017/18

High cotton prices have prevailed in 2016/17, which are expected to encourage farmers to expand the area under cotton by 5% to 30.8 million hectares in 2017/18. India's cotton area is forecast to increase by 7% to 11.3 million hectares in 2017/18 as farmers are encouraged by better returns due to high cotton prices and improved yields in 2016/17. Assuming yield is similar to the five-year average, production could increase by 3% to just under six million tons. After contracting in the last five seasons, China's cotton area may expand by 3% to 2.9 million hectares due to the stable cotton policy and high cotton prices. Production in China is expected to rise by 1% to 4.8 million tons, the first increase in five seasons. Farmers in the United States are forecast to expand harvested cotton area by 12% to 4.3 million hectares, and assuming a yield of 938 kg/ha, production could grow by 8% to 4 million tons. Unlike the other top cotton producers, area in Uzbekistan is expected to contract by 4% to 1.2 million hectares in accordance with government plans to reduce areas where yields are low, and use them for other agricultural products. However, plentiful soil moisture may improve the average yield by 1% to 638 kg/ha, which will limit the loss in output. Uzbekistan's cotton production is projected to decline by 2% to 770,000 tons. Anticipating falling cotton prices in early 2017/18, cotton area expansion may be more limited for producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere. Cotton area in Brazil and Australia is forecast to increase by 2% to 950,000 hectares and 3% to 574,000 hectares, respectively. Production in Brazil is projected to reach 1.4 million tons while Australia's production is forecast to rise by 4% to 1 million tons.

World cotton mill use is expected to surpass world production for the third consecutive season

in 2017/18. World consumption is projected to increase by 2% to 24.6 million tons as world economic growth recovers in 2017 and 2018. Mill use in China is forecast to increase by 1% to 7.7 million tons, accounting for 30% of world cotton consumption. After decreasing by 3% to 5.1 million tons in 2016/17, India's consumption is forecast to recover by 2% to 5.2 million tons due to competitive prices for its cotton yarn products, expanding capacity and the resolution of the consequences of demonetization. Mill use in Pakistan may grow by 1% to 2.3 million tons due to new incentives for textile exports offered by the government. Bangladesh's cotton consumption is projected to expand by 5% to 1.5 million tons, making it the fourth largest in 2017/18.



ICAC

World cotton trade is projected up by 5% to 7.9 million tons in 2016/17, after declines during the previous three seasons. Imports by Bangladesh are forecast to rise by 3% to 1.4 million tons in 2016/17, while imports by Vietnam should increase by 16% to 1.2 million tons. Imports by China, now the world's third largest cotton importer, are expected to increase by 3% to 987,000 tons. Exports from the United States are projected to increase by 53% to 3 million tons and are likely to account for 38% of world exports in 2016/17. India's exports are projected to decrease by 30% to 886,000 tons.

Sales from China's reserve in April 2017 reached 404,000 tons, which is slightly lower than the total volume sold in March 2017 of 466,000 tons. At the end of 2016/17, China's total stocks are projected to have fallen by 17% to 9.3 million tons. World ending stocks in 2016/17, are expected to decline by 7% to 17.4 million tons, and in 2017/18, by 5% to 16.4 million tons.

Source ICAC Press Release, May 1, 2017

## Supply and Distribution of Cotton

May 2, 2017

Seasons begin on August 1

Million Metric Tons

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
		Est.	Est.	Est.	Proj.	Proj.
<b>BEGINNING STOCKS</b>						
<b>WORLD TOTAL</b>	<b>15.241</b>	<b>18.278</b>	<b>20.260</b>	<b>21.922</b>	<b>18.74</b>	<b>17.37</b>
China	6.181	9.607	12.109	12.917	11.16	9.27
USA	0.729	0.827	0.512	0.795	0.83	0.81
<b>PRODUCTION</b>						
<b>WORLD TOTAL</b>	<b>26.774</b>	<b>26.170</b>	<b>26.185</b>	<b>21.064</b>	<b>22.76</b>	<b>23.58</b>
India	6.290	6.766	6.562	5.746	5.80	5.96
China	7.300	6.950	6.500	4.753	4.74	4.81
USA	3.770	2.811	3.553	2.806	3.75	4.04
Pakistan	2.002	2.076	2.305	1.537	1.66	1.88
Brazil	1.310	1.734	1.563	1.289	1.47	1.44
Uzbekistan	1.000	0.910	0.885	0.832	0.79	0.77
Others	5.102	4.923	4.817	4.101	4.54	4.68
<b>CONSUMPTION</b>						
<b>WORLD TOTAL</b>	<b>23.813</b>	<b>24.032</b>	<b>24.555</b>	<b>24.153</b>	<b>24.11</b>	<b>24.55</b>
China	8.290	7.517	7.479	7.442	7.59	7.67
India	4.762	5.087	5.377	5.296	5.14	5.24
Pakistan	2.216	2.470	2.492	2.256	2.23	2.26
Europe & Turkey	1.560	1.611	1.692	1.687	1.63	1.61
Bangladesh	1.023	1.146	1.204	1.324	1.40	1.47
Vietnam	0.492	0.673	0.875	1.007	1.14	1.22
USA	0.762	0.773	0.778	0.751	0.72	0.75
Brazil	0.910	0.862	0.797	0.733	0.72	0.73
Others	3.798	3.893	3.860	3.658	3.54	3.60
<b>EXPORTS</b>						
<b>WORLD TOTAL</b>	<b>10.051</b>	<b>9.028</b>	<b>7.704</b>	<b>7.590</b>	<b>7.95</b>	<b>8.09</b>
USA	2.836	2.293	2.449	1.993	3.05	3.07
India	1.690	2.015	0.914	1.258	0.89	0.84
CFA Zone	0.825	0.973	0.893	0.962	0.98	1.08
Brazil	0.938	0.485	0.851	0.939	0.61	0.72
Uzbekistan	0.690	0.615	0.550	0.543	0.45	0.45
Australia	1.343	1.057	0.520	0.616	0.80	0.80
<b>IMPORTS</b>						
<b>WORLD TOTAL</b>	<b>10.203</b>	<b>8.936</b>	<b>7.783</b>	<b>7.538</b>	<b>7.95</b>	<b>8.09</b>
Bangladesh	1.044	1.190	1.177	1.355	1.40	1.50
Vietnam	0.517	0.687	0.934	1.001	1.16	1.26
China	4.426	3.075	1.804	0.959	0.99	1.09
Turkey	0.803	0.924	0.800	0.918	0.83	0.87
Indonesia	0.686	0.651	0.728	0.640	0.69	0.68
<b>TRADE IMBALANCE 1/</b>	<b>0.152</b>	<b>-0.092</b>	<b>0.079</b>	<b>-0.052</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>STOCKS ADJUSTMENT 2/</b>	<b>-0.075</b>	<b>-0.063</b>	<b>-0.047</b>	<b>-0.042</b>	<b>-0.01</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>ENDING STOCKS</b>						
<b>WORLD TOTAL</b>	<b>18.278</b>	<b>20.260</b>	<b>21.922</b>	<b>18.739</b>	<b>17.37</b>	<b>16.41</b>
China	9.607	12.109	12.917	11.160	9.27	7.48
USA	0.827	0.512	0.795	0.827	0.81	1.04
<b>ENDING STOCKS/MILL USE (%)</b>						
<b>WORLD-LESS-CHINA 3/</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>CHINA 4/</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>COTLOOK A INDEX 5/</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>70</b>		

1/ The inclusion of linters and waste, changes in weight during transit, differences in reporting periods and measurement error account for differences between world imports and exports.

2/ Difference between calculated stocks and actual; amounts for forward seasons are anticipated.

3/ World-less-China's ending stocks divided by World-less-China's mill use, multiplied by 100.

4/ China's ending stocks divided by China's mill use, multiplied by 100.

5/ U.S. Cents per pound

(Source : Cotton This Week, ICAC, May 2, 2017)

UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES							(Rs./Qtl)					
Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple in Millimetres based on Upper Half Mean Length [ By law 66 (A) (a) (4) ]							Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2016-17 Crop MAY 2017					
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Strength /GPT	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0-7.0	15	9701 (34500)	9645 (34300)	9645 (34300)	9645 (34300)	9758 (34700)	9786 (34800)
2	P/H/R	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0-7.0	15	9983 (35500)	9926 (35300)	9926 (35300)	9926 (35300)	10039 (35700)	10067 (35800)
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0-6.0	20	7902 (28100)	7902 (28100)	7902 (28100)	7958 (28300)	8014 (28500)	8014 (28500)
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0-5.5	21	9195 (32700)	9195 (32700)	9195 (32700)	9195 (32700)	9251 (32900)	9251 (32900)
5	M/M	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0-5.0	23	10376 (36900)	10376 (36900)	10376 (36900)	10376 (36900)	10432 (37100)	10432 (37100)
6	P/H/R	ICS-202	Fine	26mm	3.5-4.9	26	12120 (43100)	12007 (42700)	12063 (42900)	12063 (42900)	12148 (43200)	12232 (43500)
7	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0-3.4	25	9251 (32900)	9251 (32900)	9251 (32900)	9251 (32900)	9167 (32600)	9251 (32900)
8	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.5-4.9	25	9814 (34900)	9814 (34900)	9814 (34900)	9814 (34900)	9729 (34600)	9814 (34900)
9	P/H/R	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5-4.9	26	12288 (43700)	12176 (43300)	12232 (43500)	12232 (43500)	12317 (43800)	12401 (44100)
10	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0-3.4	26	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9926 (35300)
11	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5-4.9	26	10179 (36200)	10179 (36200)	10179 (36200)	10264 (36500)	10404 (37000)	10489 (37300)
12	P/H/R	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5-4.9	27	12373 (44000)	12232 (43500)	12282 (43700)	12282 (43700)	12373 (44000)	12457 (44300)
13	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5-4.9	27	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)	11360 (40400)	11417 (40600)
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5-4.9	27	11360 (40400)	11360 (40400)	11360 (40400)	11360 (40400)	11445 (40700)	11501 (40900)
15	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5-4.9	28	11614 (41300)	11614 (41300)	11614 (41300)	11614 (41300)	11698 (41600)	11782 (41900)
16	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5-4.9	28	11754 (41800)	11754 (41800)	11754 (41800)	11754 (41800)	11838 (42100)	11895 (42300)
17	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.5-4.9	29	11923 (42400)	11923 (42400)	11923 (42400)	11923 (42400)	12063 (42900)	12120 (43100)
18	M/M/A/K/T/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.5-4.9	30	12288 (43700)	12288 (43700)	12288 (43700)	12288 (43700)	12373 (44000)	12429 (44200)
19	A/K/T/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5-4.9	31	12935 (46000)	12935 (46000)	12935 (46000)	12935 (46000)	12935 (46000)	12963 (46100)
20	M(P)/K/T	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	3.0-3.8	33	16169 (57500)	16169 (57500)	16169 (57500)	16169 (57500)	16310 (58000)	16028 (57000)

(Note: Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./Candy)