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COTTON STATISTICS & NEWS

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Sustainable Agriculture for Benefitting Environment, Economy and Industry Part 2 ELS Cotton: Golden Opportunity for India

continued from Issue No. 6 dated : May 11, 2021

Popularly known as "COTTONGURU", Shri Manish Daga is 4th generation from COTTONGURU® Group which has been in the cotton business since the last 115 years. He is the one and only registered "Chartered Cotton Valuer" in India. Shri. Daga has been a Speaker in more than 25 International and Domestic Textile Conferences across five countries. He is an expert advisor and trainer for farmers, ginners and mills for marketing of Indian cotton. He has organised



GUEST COLUMN

Shri. Manish Daga
Managing Director, COTTONGURU

over 40 farmer training workshops, visiting more than 600 villages and personally meeting more than 20,000 cotton farmers. Shri. Daga is the promoter of "Swachha Cotton Abhiyan (Clean Cotton Mission)" and has created many "Pradarshan Khet (evidence-demonstration farm)" projects with the aim of doubling farmers' income and ensuring uninterrupted supply of contamination free cotton for the textile industry. He is also a prolific writer. He is currently a Director of CAI.

It's a fact that India is the largest producer of cotton. It's also a fact that we are amongst the top three exporter of cotton and also that for quite a few years now India has remained a 'cotton surplus' top consumer of cotton. It's also quite likely, that India may have its highest carry over stock this year.

Notwithstanding the accuracy of all the facts mentioned above, it's also a fact that there is shortage of cotton in India. To be specific, India is facing an acute shortage of two types of cotton,

because we have failed to realise the actual requirements of India's textile industry.

These two types of cotton are:

1. Organic cotton
2. ELS cotton

Facts and figures justifying the need to grow more organic cotton were mentioned in Part 1, published in this newsletter on May 11, 2021. The current article highlights the need to incentivise and enhance the production of required quality of ELS cotton so as to meet the burning need of

the textile industry and increase the income of cotton farmers.

ELS Cotton

In India, the cotton consumption has increased from 15.4 million bales during 2002-03 to around 32 million bales (weighing 170 kg. each) during 2020-21. The growth rate is increasing lately at much faster rate as compared to that of 10 years ago. The production of cotton has stagnated to a great extent in recent years and is expected to be around 35 to 36 million bales during 2020-21. Despite having a surplus domestic cotton production, Indian mills need to import cotton from different countries.

The main reason behind this fact is non-availability of enough extra-long staple cotton commonly known as ELS cotton in India.

Technically, the cotton fibre whose 2.5% span length is more than 32.5 mm is considered as ELS cotton. As per general trade definition, the cotton fibres whose staple length is equal to or longer than 1 3/8 inches i.e. 34.9 mm are considered to be ELS cotton.

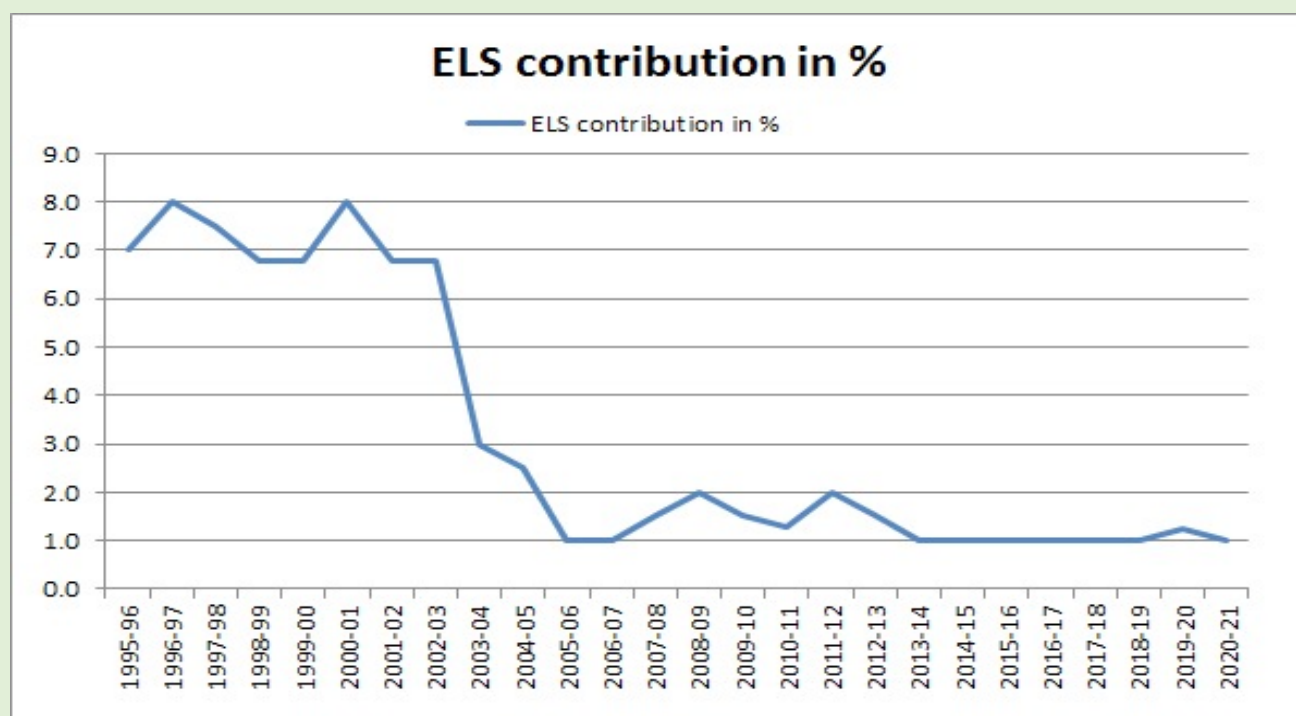
In India, varieties such as Suvin, DCH 32 and minor amount of MCU 5 (super fine) can be categorised as ELS cottons. Although ELS cotton represents only one per cent of India's cotton production, it is the fastest growing segment of the cotton market during 2020-21.

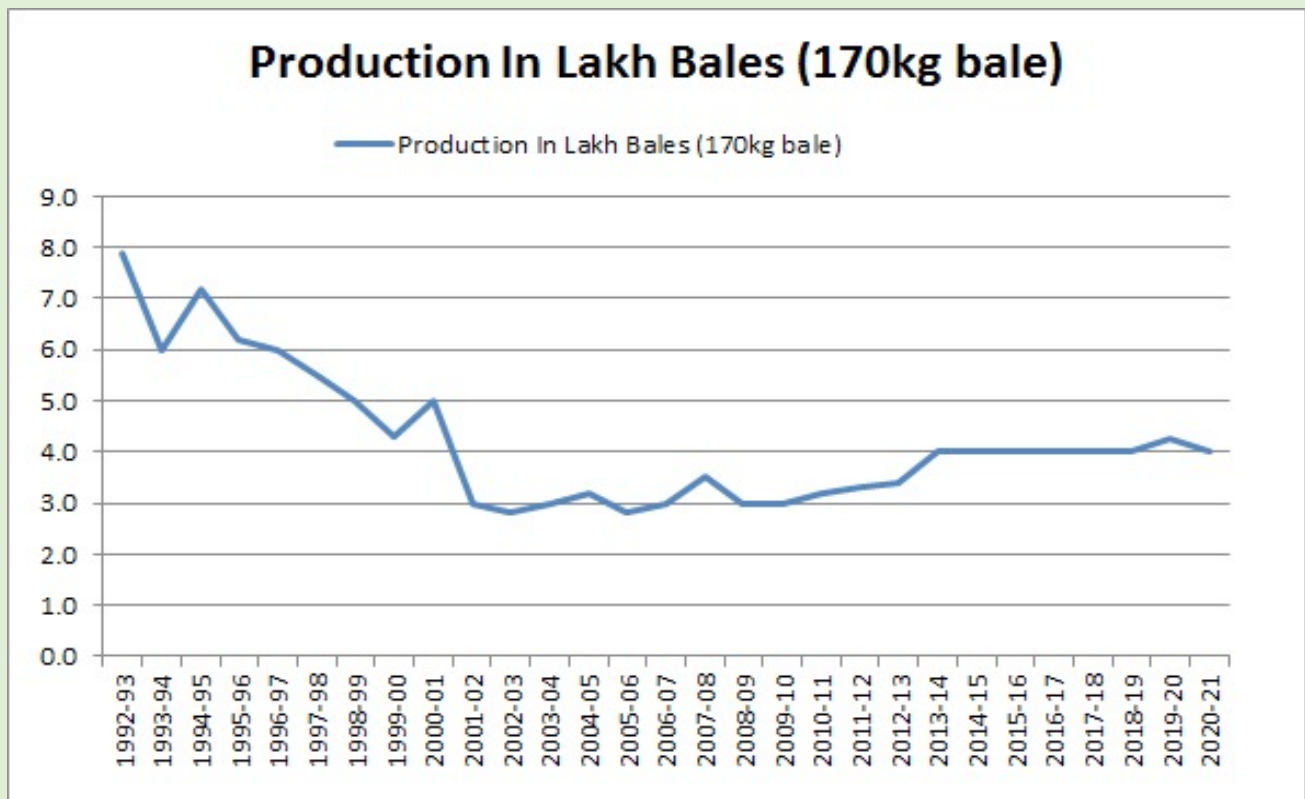
Huge mismatch in production and consumption of ELS cotton

ELS production has come down from 24.5 lakh bales in 1983-84 to a mere 4 lakh bales in 2020-21. The estimated production of 4 lakh bales consists of mainly DCH32 which comes from Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka. Production of Suvin, grown only in Tamil Nadu, is very negligible (less than 1500 bales).

The requirement of ELS cotton is over 1 million bales with the potential to grow to 2 million bales. India regularly imports 0.5-0.6 million bales of ELS to meet its requirement of higher quality yarn for fabrics and ready-mades. Buyers and importers of ELS cotton lament that India is lagging in ELS cotton, while countries such as the U.S. and Egypt have done considerable research to improve ELS cotton varieties like Pima and Giza. Better fibre properties like 2.5 per cent span length, higher tensile strength and micronaire, and above all, absence of contamination, makes imported ELS more attractive.

The Government and textile industry needs to take special efforts to increase both the acreage and productivity of ELS cotton so as to reduce the dependence on imported cotton. Agriculture scientists must develop new cotton varieties, which are extra-long and have good maturity values, strength and elongation. BT varieties of ELS cottons may be useful in increasing the productivity.





In short, there is an urgent need to boost ELS production as Indian mills are exposed to the risk of huge premiums and a considerable amount of foreign exchange is spent on importing it.

Challenges in ELS Cotton Production

1. Low availability of quality seeds that can assure better germination and crop purity
2. ELS is a very long duration crop (182-210 days)
3. Yields are very low (less than 6 quintals cotton per acre).
4. Ginning out-turn is 26-30 % as against 34-40 % for other cottons.

If we fail to provide the right impetus to

farmers growing ELS cotton, we may well have to import our entire requirement of ELS cotton in the near future.

Cottonguru® Suggestions

- ❖ Government must draft the new National Fibre Policy so as to encourage farmers to produce more quantity of ELS cotton with special emphasis on DCH-32 and Suvin.
- ❖ Research Institutions and seed companies must be incentivised to ensure best quality of seeds for increasing strength, yield and ginning out-turn of ELS cotton
- ❖ Farmers who grow the extra-long staple cotton must be incentivised in terms of price by increasing the MSP



Solution

We need to build a robust and traceable supply chain for conventional and organic ELS cotton. COVID19 pandemic is an opportunity in disguise for stake holders to build their “very own ELS cotton supply chain” as there is huge economic potential for the textile industry and farmers are also more open to adaptation.

Cottonguru® is assisting many such textile corporates and brands to build robust, sustainable, traceable, and profitable supply chains. Cottonguru® assists in projects for organic and conventional ELS cotton and contamination-controlled cotton based on professional turnkey basis backed by its expertise and experience of over 100 years and strong network of over 100,000 cotton farmers across India.

Conclusion

- While India tops the world in cotton production and exports, there is little to celebrate in terms of ELS cotton.
- ELS Production presently is just over 1% of the total Indian cotton crop.
- Huge dependence of textile industry on imported cotton to meet its requirements
- The market for long staple and extra-long staple cotton is likely to grow substantially in India due to growing demands of finer high value textile for both domestic and export markets.



About the organisation (Cottonguru®)

Cottonguru® is the leader in agriculture and textile advisory services across the country. It has strived hard to reach this leading position. It has vast experience of working with the smallest of farmers and topmost consumers. Cottonguru® Group has survived for over 100 years uninterrupted by overcoming all challenges. With a unique blend of tradition and technology, we have reached the coveted stage of “Think Cotton – Think Cottonguru®”

Core Purpose and Mission

The company runs on a clear mission to assist farmers in improving yield and quality. It strives to help cotton users in locating regular sources of sustainable and contamination-free cotton at nominal prices. It aims to prevent the arbitrary use of plastic and paper objects and replace it with cotton-based products which are ‘natural, eco-friendly renewable resource’.

Vision

Unlocking the socio-economic potential of agriculture for global prosperity.

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

All India Weather Summary and Forecast

Weather Forecast for next 5 days

♦ Meteorological sub-division wise detailed 5 days precipitation forecast is given in Table-1.

♦ Maximum temperature likely to rise by 3-5°C over most parts of Northwest India during next 3-4 days.

Table-1
5 Day Rainfall Forecast (MORNING)
07-June-2021

Met-Sub-Division	07-Jun Today	08Jun Tue	09Jun Wed	10Jun Thu	11Jun Fri
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	WS	WS	WS	WS	WS
2. Arunachal Pradesh	WS	WS	FWS	FWS	FWS
3. Assam & Meghalaya	WS	WS	WS	FWS	FWS
4. N. M. M. & T.	WS	WS	WS	FWS	FWS
5. S.H. West Bengal & Sikkim	WS	WS	WS	WS	WS
6. Gangetic West Bengal	ISOL	SCT	FWS	WS	WS
7. Odisha	ISOL	SCT	FWS	WS	WS
8. Jharkhand	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	SCT	SCT
9. Bihar	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	SCT
10. East Uttar Pradesh	ISOL	DRY	ISOL	SCT	SCT
11. West Uttar Pradesh	ISOL	DRY	DRY	ISOL	ISOL
12. Uttarakhand	ISOL	DRY	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
13. Haryana, Chd & Delhi	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
14. Punjab	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
15. Himachal Pradesh	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
16. J & K and Ladakh	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
17. West Rajsthan	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY
18. East Rajasthan	ISOL	ISOL	DRY	DRY	DRY
19. West Madhya Pradesh	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
20. East Madhya Pradesh	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	SCT	SCT
21. Gujarat Region	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
22. Saurashtra & Kutch	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
23. Konkan & Goa	FWS	FWS	FWS	WS	WS
24. Madhya Maharashtra	SCT	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
25. Marathawada	SCT	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	SCT
26. Vidharbha	SCT	SCT	SCT	SCT	SCT
27. Chhattisgarh	SCT	SCT	FWS	FWS	FWS
28. Coastal A. P. & Yanam	SCT	ISOL	SCT	FWS	FWS
29. Telangana	SCT	ISOL	ISOL	SCT	SCT
30. Rayalaseema	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
31. T.N., Puducherry & Karaikal	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
32. Coastal Karnataka	FWS	FWS	FWS	WS	WS
33. North Interior Karnataka	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL	ISOL
34. South Interior Karnataka	SCT	SCT	SCT	FWS	FWS
35. Kerala & Mahe	FWS	WS	WS	FWS	FWS
36. Lakshadweep	FWS	WS	WS	FWS	FWS

% Station Reporting Rainfall

% Stations	Category	% Stations	Category
76-100	Widespread (WS/Most Places)	26-50	Scattered (SCT/ A Few Places)
51-75	Fairly Widespread (FWS/ Many Places)	1-25	Isolated (ISOL)
No Rain	Dry		

- ◆ No significant change in maximum temperature over most parts of East India during next 3 days and fall by 2-4°C thereafter.

- ◆ No significant change in maximum temperature over rest parts of the country during next 4-5 days.

Weather Outlook for subsequent 2 days from 12th June 2021 to 14th June 2021

- ◆ Fairly widespread to widespread rainfall/thunderstorms with heavy rainfall at isolated places likely over East & Northeast India, Islands and along West coast.

- ◆ Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall activity likely over parts of Central and Northwest India.

- ◆ Isolated to scattered rainfall/thunderstorms likely over interior parts of Peninsular India and West India.

- ◆ Weather likely to be dry over remaining parts of the country.

Extended range Model Guidance

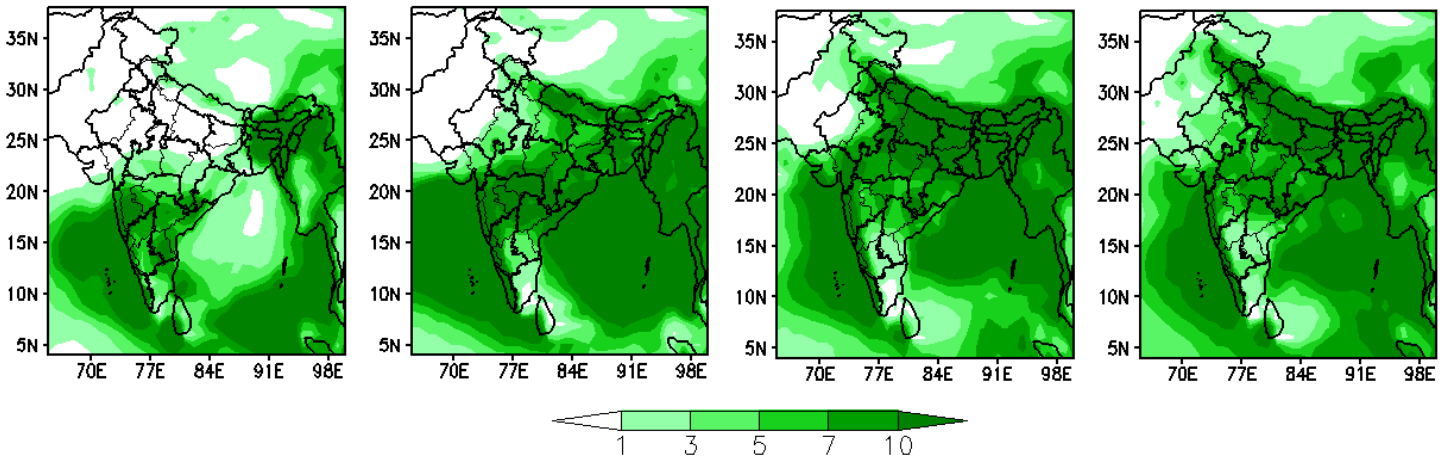
Forecast Rainfall (mm/day)

(Week1: 04Jun-10Jun)

(Week2: 11Jun-17Jun)

(Week3: 18Jun-24Jun)

(Week4: 25Jun-01Jul)



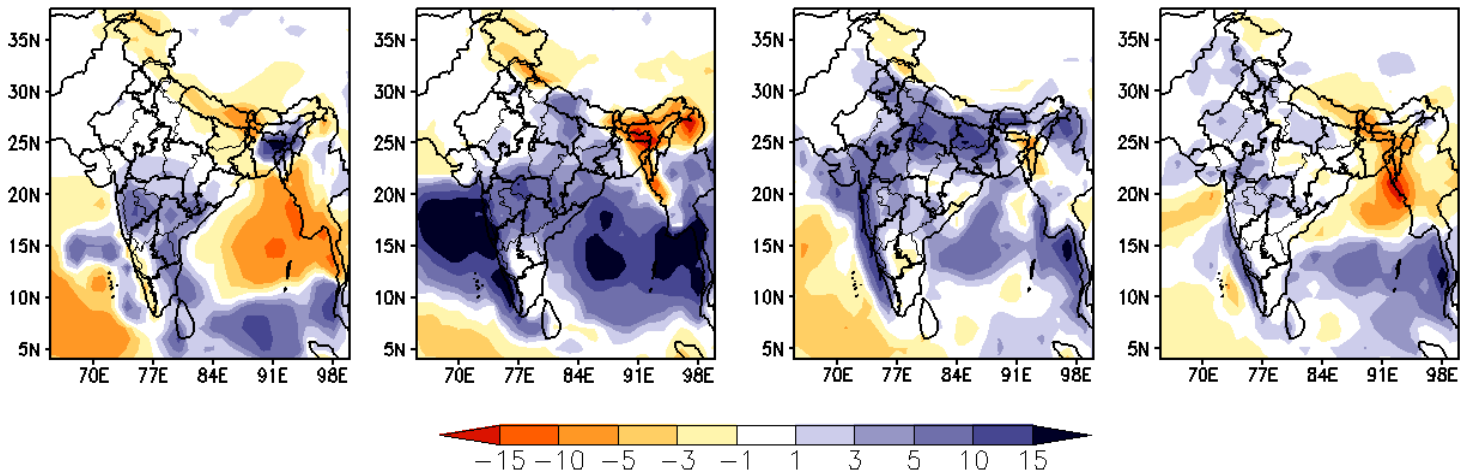
Forecast Rainfall Anomaly (mm/day)

(Week1: 04Jun-10Jun)

(Week2: 11Jun-17Jun)

(Week3: 18Jun-24Jun)

(Week4: 25Jun-01Jul)





Since 1921, we are dedicated to the cause of Indian cotton.

Just one of the reasons, you should use our Laboratory Testing Services.

The Cotton Association of India (CAI) is respected as the chief trade body in the hierarchy of the Indian cotton economy. Since its origin in 1921, CAI's contribution has been unparalleled in the development of cotton across India.

The CAI is setting benchmarks across a wide spectrum of services targeting the entire cotton value chain. These range from research and development at the grass root level to education, providing an arbitration mechanism, maintaining Indian cotton grade standards, issuing Certificates of Origin to collecting and disseminating statistics and information. Moreover, CAI is an autonomous organization portraying professionalism and reliability in cotton testing.

The CAI's network of independent cotton testing & research laboratories are strategically spread across major cotton centres in India and are equipped with:

- 🔧 State-of-the-art technology & world-class Premier and MAG cotton testing machines
- 🔬 HVI test mode with trash% tested gravimetrically

LABORATORY LOCATIONS

Current locations : • **Maharashtra :** Mumbai; Yavatmal; Aurangabad; Jalgaon • **Gujarat :** Rajkot; Ahmedabad • **Andhra Pradesh :** Adoni
• **Madhya Pradesh :** Khargone • **Karnataka :** Hubli • **Punjab :** Bathinda • **Telangana:** Warangal, Adilabad



COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

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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) 2020-21 Crop May - June 2021					
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	31st	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4%	15	11135 (39600)	11135 (39600)	11135 (39600)	11135 (39600)	11135 (39600)	11135 (39600)
2	P/H/R (SG)	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4.5%	15	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 - 6.0	13%	20	9083 (32300)	9167 (32600)	9251 (32900)	9392 (33400)	9392 (33400)	9392 (33400)
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 - 5.5	4.5%	21	9645 (34300)	9645 (34300)	9729 (34600)	9814 (34900)	9814 (34900)	9814 (34900)
5	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 - 5.5	4%	23	11389 (40500)	11417 (40600)	11501 (40900)	11585 (41200)	11585 (41200)	11585 (41200)
6	P/H/R(U) (SG)	ICS-202	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4.5%	26	12710 (45200)	12795 (45500)	12851 (45700)	12935 (46000)	12907 (45900)	12907 (45900)
7	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	11304 (40200)	11332 (40300)	11473 (40800)	11557 (41100)	11557 (41100)	11557 (41100)
8	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4%	26	12907 (45900)	12991 (46200)	13048 (46400)	13132 (46700)	13104 (46600)	13104 (46600)
9	M/M(P)/SA/TL/G	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	11585 (41200)	11614 (41300)	11754 (41800)	11838 (42100)	11838 (42100)	11838 (42100)
10	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	3.5%	26	12345 (43900)	12373 (44000)	12513 (44500)	12598 (44800)	12598 (44800)	12598 (44800)
11	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 - 4.9	4%	27	13020 (46300)	13104 (46600)	13160 (46800)	13244 (47100)	13216 (47000)	13216 (47000)
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	13160 (46800)	13188 (46900)	13329 (47400)	13413 (47700)	13413 (47700)	13413 (47700)
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	13188 (46900)	13216 (47000)	13357 (47500)	13441 (47800)	13441 (47800)	13441 (47800)
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	27	13244 (47100)	13273 (47200)	13357 (47500)	13498 (48000)	13498 (48000)	13498 (48000)
15	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	28	13357 (47500)	13441 (47800)	13498 (48000)	13638 (48500)	13638 (48500)	13638 (48500)
16	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	28	13554 (48200)	13582 (48300)	13723 (48800)	13779 (49000)	13779 (49000)	13779 (49000)
17	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	28	13582 (48300)	13610 (48400)	13751 (48900)	13807 (49100)	13807 (49100)	13807 (49100)
18	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	28	13666 (48600)	13694 (48700)	13779 (49000)	13919 (49500)	13919 (49500)	13919 (49500)
19	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	29	14060 (50000)	14088 (50100)	14229 (50600)	14313 (50900)	14313 (50900)	14313 (50900)
20	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	29	14088 (50100)	14116 (50200)	14257 (50700)	14341 (51000)	14341 (51000)	14341 (51000)
21	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	30	14285 (50800)	14313 (50900)	14454 (51400)	14538 (51700)	14538 (51700)	14538 (51700)
22	SA/TL/K / TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	30	14313 (50900)	14341 (51000)	14482 (51500)	14566 (51800)	14566 (51800)	14566 (51800)
23	SA/TL/K/ TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 - 4.2	3%	31	14369 (51100)	14397 (51200)	14538 (51700)	14622 (52000)	14622 (52000)	14622 (52000)
24	*M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	4%	33	22074 (78500)	22074 (78500)	22215 (79000)	22215 (79000)	22215 (79000)	22215 (79000)
25	*K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	3.5%	34	22637 (80500)	22637 (80500)	22777 (81000)	22777 (81000)	22777 (81000)	22777 (81000)
26	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	-	22637 (80500)	22777 (81000)	22777 (81000)	22777 (81000)	22777 (81000)
27	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	-	23199 (82500)	23340 (83000)	23340 (83000)	23340 (83000)	23340 (83000)

* Micronaire has been changed from 3.0 to 3.8 to 2.8 to 3.7 from 1st June 2021.
(Note: Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./Candy)