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The Quality of Indian Cotton and its Marketing

Dr. P. K. Mandhyan was Principal Scientist (Technical Textiles) and Head Quality Evaluation and Improvement Division, ICAR-CICR, Mumbai. He has more than 35 years of experience in evaluation of textile fibres, yarns and fabrics and development of various value-added products from various natural fibres. He has contributed many research articles in national and international journals, popular articles, training manuals, reports, etc.



Dr. P. K. Mandhyan
Retired Head Mechanical Processing Division, ICAR-CIRCOT

The partition of the country in 1947, led to a serious imbalance between demand and supply of cotton, which resulted in massive imports of cotton for several years. The Indian textile industry faced an unprecedented shortage of raw materials of good quality and foreign cotton had to be imported each year around 1 million bales out of total consumption of 3 to 4 million bales. Whereas now, India has become a net exporter of cotton and number one in cotton production.

The country produced hardly 15 % of the total production in 1947-48. Cotton above 22 mm

EXPERT'S Column

Shri. Pankaj Mepani, CEO, Shree Corporation, has more than four decades of rich and varied experience in the cotton industry, having worked in both trading and textile companies.



Shri. P. D. Mepani
CEO, Shree Corporation

Currently, he is a Director of Cotton Association of India. He is also a Chairman of the Value Difference Committee and Daily Rates Committee, Cotton Association of India.

staple length and the percentage of cotton above 24 mm was negligible in those years. When the country became independent, the proportion better quality of hirsutum cotton in the total production was hardly 3 % and the rest of the production was under arboreum or herbaceum with inferior fibre attributes.

By collaborating with different cotton research institutions and universities and continuous endeavour, many varieties/hybrids were released with improved fibre staple length and other fibre attributes by CIRCOT. This

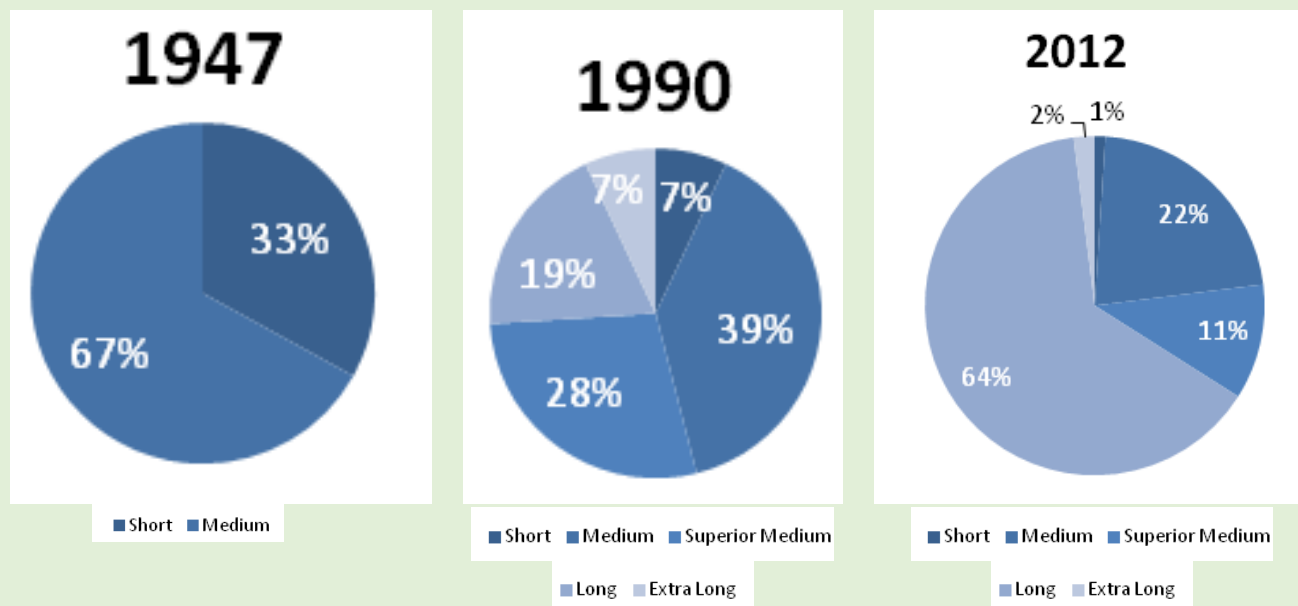
includes the Long and Extra Long-staple cotton. Presently most of the cotton produced is in the long-staple category and hardly any production is there in the short category of cotton. Under CIRCOT's intervention in terms of quality testing, the world's first commercial cotton hybrid-4 (H-4) was introduced in 1970. Also many improved varieties/hybrids were developed under different categories of fibre length mainly MCU5, DCH 32, H4, Varalaxmi, J34, Mech, etc. Out of that, the most successful ELS Suvin was developed by crossing the Egyptian cotton variety "Sujata" with "St Vincent" from West Indies where we contributed for fibre testing.

Currently, CIRCOT is also working on quality evaluation for cottonseed varieties, which are developed through private and public

Present Status of Marketing of Indian Cotton:

Cotton is produced in India in over 12.7 million hectares of land in widely distributed cotton belts. Further, cotton is cultivated by and large in small land holdings which is harvested by small farmers and transported. The pricing of cotton presently is not based on the instrumental grading of cotton. In order to help the small farmer to assess his produce and to negotiate for better price, a suitable mechanism to assess the quality of produce at farm level is missing.

There are various channels exists for cotton marketing viz - farmer-ginner-consumer, farmer-trader-ginner-consumer, farmer-village merchant-commission agent-consumer. One



sector industries for release. Even now, these names of the varieties/hybrids are being used by the trade as an indication of the corresponding fibre quality of Bt. cotton as well.

It is noteworthy that fibre length and other quality attributes mainly govern the price of cotton. With the availability of the quality raw material, presently India produces a comprehensive range of yarns for every conveyable end-use - non-spun or open-end; combed or carded, basic, compact, mélange or fancy. The spinning mills produce them all for requirements ranging from a fine 80s count to a coarse 2s count.

way of measuring market efficiency is measuring the farmer's share in the consumer's price. Currently, the farmer's share in consumer price is in the range of 85% and this comes down if the marketing channel is lengthy.

Hence it is proposed to develop an online cotton fibre quality information system and mobile laboratory for evaluating the quality of cotton. This will not only empower the small farmers to negotiate for quality-based pricing, but at the same time will also herald a quality-based cotton pricing system all over the country and will also improve the farmer's share in consumer price.

Summary

The research output of the proposed programmes namely i) Establishing online cotton fibre quality information system and improving instrumental grading of cotton and marketing and ii) Establishing a Model Cotton Classing Centre will enable the farmers and traders to get remunerative price to their produce and textile

industry to get quality raw material for their factory.

Cotton Ever Be With Us!

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

USDINR Monthly Report: December 2023

Shri. Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury, Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP, has a rich experience of Banking and Foreign Exchange for the past 36 years. He was a Chief Dealer with an associate bank of SBI

EXPERT'S Column



Shri. Anil Kumar Bhansali
Head of Treasury,
Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP

USDINR is expected to trade within the range of 82.65-83.75 for December 2023. Softer US dollar amid Fed keeping a cautious tone but with market expecting rate cuts in the first half of next year by US, RBI protecting upper curve near to 83.40, easing oil prices and inflows in the equities should lead to a downside in USDINR. While continuous dollars buying by oil companies amid shadow of dollar shortage in the market is expected to limit the fall in the pair. Immediate support zone lies at 83.20 below which doors will be open for 83.00-82.80. Breach of crucial resistance of 83.50 will lead upside move towards 83.75+ levels.

Key Triggers

FOMC Policy: Next meeting is on 12-13th December 2023 and it is anticipated that the Fed will keep interest rates unchanged. Rate cuts being expected by the first half of 2024.

MPC Policy: Next meeting is on 6-8th December 2023 and it is anticipated that the RBI will keep interest rates unchanged. The central bank is not expected to hike its key policy rate anytime soon and instead start cutting in Q2 or Q3 of 2024.

Brent Oil Prices: Traders remained on an edge over a delay on OPEC + meeting, although expectations of a production cut puts price on course to break a four week long losing streak. OPEC+ meeting is set to be conducted on November 30. While OPEC members Saudi Arabia and Russia have already pledged output cuts, concerns over demand from China, the world's largest energy consumer, may dampen the sentiment.

India's Trade Deficit: According to experts the record-high trade deficit in October is unlikely to affect the full-year current account deficit target, which is estimated at 1.3 to 2.0% of GDP. In the first quarter, CAD went up to \$9.2 bn - seven times higher than it had been in the previous quarter - mainly due to weak exports and higher trade deficit.

FII Flows: Easing oil prices and drop in US yields may attract FPIs back to the Indian equities in coming days. Moreover stable economic growth in India as compared to other emerging markets (EMs) will also help FPI's to make India a wise choice to invest. US Federal Pension Funds (FRTIB) has made a switch in its benchmark for International and Stock Investment which could lead to \$ 3.6 billion inflows in to the country.

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

Glimpses of Sneh Sammelan held at CAI on November 20th, 2023.



UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES

November 2023

2022-23 Crop

(₹/Quintal)

Growth	P/H/R	P/H/R (SG)	GUJ	KAR	M/MP)	P/H/R(U)	M/MP/SA/TL	M/MP/SA/TL	P/H/R(U)	M/MP)	SA/TL/K	GUJ	R(L)	M/MP)	SM/TL/K	GUJ	M/MP)	SA/TL/K/O	M/MP)	M/MP)	SA/TL/K/TN/O	SA/TL/K/TN/O	M/MP)	K/TN	M/MP)	K/TN
Grade Standard	ICS-201	ICS-202	ICS-102	ICS-103	ICS-104	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-106	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-107	ICS-107	ICS-107	ICS-107
Grade	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine
Staple	Below 22mm	Below 22mm	22 mm	22 mm	23 mm	27 mm	27 mm	27 mm	28 mm	28 mm	28 mm	28 mm	29 mm	29 mm	29 mm	29 mm	29 mm	30 mm	30 mm	31 mm	31 mm	31 mm	34 mm	34 mm	34 mm	35 mm
Microaire	5.0-7.0	5.0-7.0	4.0-6.0	4.5-6.0	4.5-7.0	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9
Gravimetric/Insh	4%	4.5%	13%	6%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3.5%	3.5%	3%	3.5%	3.5%	3%	3%	3.5%	3%	3.5%	3%	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%	3.5%
Strength/GPT	15	15	20	21	22	26	25	26	26	26	25	27	27	28	28	27	27	29	29	30	30	33	34	33	34	35
1			13273	14566	15691	-	14622	15382	-	15775	15775	16000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20668	20949	20949	21231	
2			13273	14566	15691	-	14622	15382	-	15747	15747	15832	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20809	21090	21090	21371	
3			13273	14426	15691	-	14622	15466	-	15803	15860	15916	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20809	21090	21090	21371	
4			13301	14454	15719	-	14679	15522	-	15860	15916	15972	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20865	21146	21146	21427	
6			13244	14566	15607	-	14622	15466	-	15747	15803	15860	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20696	21090	20977	21371	
7			13244	14426	15466	-	14538	15382	-	15663	15719	15719	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20528	21006	20809	21287	
8			13216	14369	15382	-	14482	15325	-	15578	15635	15607	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20528	21006	20809	21287	
9			13188	14341	15325	-	14397	15241	-	15494	15550	15494	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20387	20837	20668	21118	
10			13244	14397	15382	-	14482	15297	-	15550	15607	15550	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20387	20837	20668	21118	
11			13273	14426	15410	-	14566	15382	-	15607	15663	15635	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20387	20837	20668	21118	
13			13244	14397	15382	-	14622	15325	-	15607	15663	15663	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20387	20837	20668	21118	
14			H			O	L					Y				D					A		Y			
15			H			O	L					Y				D					A		Y			
16			13329	14454	15466	-	14763	15382	-	15663	15719	15747	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20387	20837	20668	21118	
17			13329	14454	15466	-	14847	15382	-	15663	15719	15747	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20387	20837	20668	21118	
18			13301	14426	15438	-	14904	15382	-	15663	15719	15719	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20387	20837	20668	21118	
20			13273	14397	15410	-	14875	15353	-	15635	15691	15691	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20387	20837	20668	21118	
21			13216	14341	15325	-	14763	15213	-	15522	15578	15550	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20303	20752	20584	21034	
22			13216	14341	15325	-	14763	15213	-	15522	15578	15578	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20303	20752	20584	21034	
23			13188	14341	15325	-	14763	15213	-	15522	15578	15578	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20303	20752	20584	21034	
24			13132	14285	15269	-	14763	15213	-	15522	15578	15578	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20443	20893	20724	21174	
25			13076	14229	15185	-	14679	15129	-	15438	15494	15494	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20528	20949	20809	21231	
27			13076	14229	15185	-	14538	15044	-	15382	15438	15466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20528	-	20809	-	
28			13076	14229	15185	-	14397	15044	-	15382	15438	15466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20809	-	21090	-	
29			13076	14341	15325	-	14397	15100	-	15438	15494	15494	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20809	-	21090	-	
30			13076	14341	15325	-	14397	15100	-	15438	15494	15494	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20809	-	21090	-	
H			13329	14566	15719	-	14904	15522	-	15860	15916	16000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20865	21146	21146	21427	
L			13076	14229	15185	-	14397	15044	-	15382	15438	15466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20303	20752	20584	21034	
A			13214	14389	15416	-	14629	15289	-	15593	15644	15660	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20535	20909	20816	21190	

H = Highest L = Lowest A = Average N.A. = Not Available

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) 2022-23 Crop November - December 2023					
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	27th	28th	29th	30th	1st	2nd
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	4%	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	P/H/R (SG)	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	4.5%	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	13%	20	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	22mm	4.5 – 6.0	6%	21	14229 (50600)	14229 (50600)	14341 (51000)	14341 (51000)	14341 (51000)	14341 (51000)
5	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine	23mm	4.5 – 7.0	4%	22	15185 (54000)	15185 (54000)	15325 (54500)	15325 (54500)	-	-
6	P/H/R(U) (SG)	ICS-202	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4.5%	26	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)
8	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	26	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	M/M(P)/SA/TL/G	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	14538 (51700)	14397 (51200)	14397 (51200)	14397 (51200)	-	-
10	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	3.5%	26	15044 (53500)	15044 (53500)	15100 (53700)	15100 (53700)	-	-
11	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	27	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	27	15382 (54700)	15382 (54700)	15438 (54900)	15438 (54900)	-	-
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	27	15438 (54900)	15438 (54900)	15494 (55100)	15494 (55100)	-	-
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	27	15466 (55000)	15466 (55000)	15494 (55100)	15494 (55100)	-	-
15	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	28	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	28	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	28	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	28	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	29	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	29	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	30	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	30	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 – 4.2	3%	31	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	20528 (73000)	20809 (74000)	20809 (74000)	20809 (74000)	-	-
25	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	20809 (74000)	21090 (75000)	21090 (75000)	21090 (75000)	-	-
27	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

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) 2023-24Crop November - December 2023					
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	27th	28th	29th	30th	1st	2nd
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4%	15	14341 (51000)	14229 (50600)	14341 (51000)	14341 (51000)	14341 (51000)	14341 (51000)
2	P/H/R (SG)	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4.5%	15	14482 (51500)	14369 (51100)	14482 (51500)	14482 (51500)	14482 (51500)	14482 (51500)
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 - 6.0	13%	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	22mm	4.5 - 6.0	6%	21	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine	23mm	4.5 - 7.0	4%	22	-	-	-	-	15325 (54500)	15325 (54500)
6	P/H/R(U) (SG)	ICS-202	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4.5%	26	14172 (50400)	14004 (49800)	14116 (50200)	14116 (50200)	14116 (50200)	14172 (50400)
7	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4%	26	14313 (50900)	14144 (50300)	14257 (50700)	14257 (50700)	14257 (50700)	14313 (50900)
9	M/M(P)/SA/TL/G	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	-	-	-	-	14397 (51200)	14397 (51200)
10	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	3.5%	26	-	-	-	-	15100 (53700)	15100 (53700)
11	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 - 4.9	4%	27	14482 (51500)	14313 (50900)	14426 (51300)	14426 (51300)	14426 (51300)	14482 (51500)
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	-	-	-	-	15438 (54900)	15438 (54900)
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	-	-	-	-	15494 (55100)	15494 (55100)
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	27	-	-	-	-	15494 (55100)	15494 (55100)
15	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	28	15297 (54400)	15157 (53900)	15269 (54300)	15269 (54300)	15269 (54300)	15269 (54300)
16	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	28	15635 (55600)	15578 (55400)	15635 (55600)	15635 (55600)	15578 (55400)	15578 (55400)
17	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	28	15691 (55800)	15635 (55600)	15691 (55800)	15691 (55800)	15635 (55600)	15635 (55600)
18	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	28	15747 (56000)	15663 (55700)	15691 (55800)	15691 (55800)	15691 (55800)	15691 (55800)
19	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	29	15832 (56300)	15775 (56100)	15832 (56300)	15832 (56300)	15775 (56100)	15775 (56100)
20	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	29	15888 (56500)	15832 (56300)	15888 (56500)	15888 (56500)	15832 (56300)	15832 (56300)
21	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	30	16113 (57300)	16113 (57300)	16113 (57300)	16113 (57300)	16028 (57000)	16028 (57000)
22	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	30	16169 (57500)	16169 (57500)	16169 (57500)	16169 (57500)	16085 (57200)	16085 (57200)
23	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 - 4.2	3%	31	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)
24	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	-	-	-	-	20949 (74500)	20949 (74500)
25	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	20949 (74500)	21231 (75500)	21231 (75500)	21231 (75500)	21231 (75500)	21231 (75500)
26	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	-	-	-	-	21371 (76000)	21371 (76000)
27	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	21231 (75500)	21512 (76500)	21512 (76500)	21512 (76500)	21512 (76500)	21512 (76500)

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