

# President's Speech on the Occasion of the CAI Members' Annual Gala Dinner on 25th December 2021

Good evening my dear cotton friends, respected invitees, CAI members and my colleagues on CAI Board,

It is my great pleasure and an honour to welcome each one of you to this 'CAI Members' Annual Gala Dinner 2021'.

I also specially welcome Shri. Suresh Bhai Kotak, our past CAI President and Bhishma Pitamah of our cotton trade. I also welcome Shri. Manoj Kumar Patodiaji, the Chairman of TEXPROCIL, Shri. S. K. Panigrahi, CGM (Marketing) of CCI, Shri. Sharad Kumar Saraf ji, Chairman of BTRA and Shri. Bhupendra Singh Rajpal, our Vice President.

For CAI, this is an important yearly event in our cotton calendar. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, we could not host the CAI Members Annual Gala Dinner 2020. However, this year, we have resumed our tradition and hosted today's Gala Dinner. I am indeed delighted with the overwhelming response to this event. Also, I am sorry for the members who could not get registered for this event due to government restrictions for the number of guests.

As I have informed previously, CAI has completed 100 years of its useful services to the cotton trade and textile industry on 19.10.21. Our hard-working Event Committee members have planned to celebrate this occasion in a grand and befitting manner. Soon, we shall come out with the details of such events. From this platform I request all of you to lend your support and actively participate in all such events.



Friends, today we are here to celebrate the Annual Dinner and I will not take much of your time in giving the details of CAI activities or cotton related news. All I can say is that after two very successful MSP years, 2021-22 season has brought a positivity in the market and the entire stakeholders from farmers to the spinning mills are all happy



and getting good profits. In short, our entire textile value chain is in a win-win situation from last one year. I hope this win-win situation will continue in coming years as well.

Friends, I want to say that if the Covid situation improves, CAI is planning to host two Conferences this year - one International Conference and another Domestic Conference. Once our Event Committee will take necessary decision, you all will hear more details from CAI regarding these events very soon.

Dear Members, lastly, I am glad to inform you all that our Association is working hard to resolve the cotton related issues with the government. Also, all our testing laboratories are performing well and our Association is running in good profit. Reserve funds of our association have crossed Rs.40 crores and I want to assure you all members that everything is going on smoothly and CAI is performing very well.

Thank you, Thank you very much to all.

I also wish everybody a Merry Christmas and greetings for the New Year 2022.

Please enjoy the evening. Thanks once again.

### Glimpses of CAI's Annual Gala Dinner



















# Threats from Emerging and New Diseases in Indian Cotton with Required Pest Risk Analysis

Contd. from Issue No. 38, dated 21st December 2021

Dr. Dilip Monga is a Plant Pathologist by profession. He has worked as Head of Regional Station, Sirsa, Haryana of ICAR-CICR for more than two decades till 2020. He also worked as Principal Investigator of Plant Pathology India under All Coordinated Research Project Cotton for over a decade. He



**Dr. Dilip Monga**Ex-Head ICAR-CICR,
Regional Station,
Sirsa, Haryana

**Dr. Satish Kumar Sain**Principal Scientist & Principal
Investigator, ICAR-CICR,
Sirsa, Haryana

Dr. Sain, Plant Pathologist by profession is presently working as a Principal Scientist & Principal Investigator at ICAR-CICR, Sirsa, Haryana. He has worked as Assistant Director at National Institute Plant Health Management. He was Visiting Scientist & Project Coordinator at The World Vegetable

Center- Regional Center for South Asia at Hyderabad. He has over 20 years of experience in R&D promotion and capacity-building activities.

Cotton Blue Disease

the North zone.

Cotton blue disease caused by Cotton Leaf Roll Dwarf Virus (CLRDV) was reported from Nagpur, Maharashtra in India. This positive-sense single-stranded RNA virus genus Polerovirus (Family: Luteoviridae) is transmitted by Aphid (Aphis gossypii) in a circulative persistent manner. CLRDV is very close to chickpea stunt disease-associated virus (CpSDaV). It can be transmitted from cotton to chickpea. Studies indicate that CpSDaV and CLRDV in India are possibly two different strains of the same virus (Mukherjee et al. 2012; 2016). Cotton plants affected by this disease show stunting, leaf rolling, intense green foliage, vein yellowing, brittleness of leaves, reduced flower and boll size sometimes resulting in sterility of plants (Fig 5). CLRDV, which is prevalent in Argentina and Brazil, was also detected in USA in 2017 from two Alabama counties. One year later, the virus spread to 21 Alabama counties as well as cotton fields in Florida,

has contributed significantly to strengthening the

research and development network for cotton crop in



Fig.5. Symptoms of Cotton Leaf Roll Dwarf Virus disease (A-B).

Georgia, Mississippi and Texas. Yield losses upto 80% from susceptible cultivars have been reported in South America. A constant vigil on the occurrence of this disease in cotton-growing areas of the country is very important.

#### **Pest Risk Analysis**

Pest risk analysis concerning international trade is an important application that needs to be applied rigorously to avert the introduction of new diseases, their vectors and the alternate/collateral hosts. National surveillance programs, eradication programs and also those supporting export of commodities to other countries also need strengthening in view of enhanced threats from new and emerging diseases. New tools of surveillance and diagnostics need to be incorporated to fortify our programs. The risk of new pathogens affecting large areas becomes significant due to large-scale cultivation of a single susceptible variety and favourable environmental factors. The sudden upsurge of the CLCuV disease in Pakistan in 1990's due to the large-scale cultivation of variety S 12 is a classic example.

Intergovernmental organizations responsible for cooperation in plant health like CABI-Crop Protection compendium, European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), WTO and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) are regularly monitoring, updating the information and standards on quarantine and invasive species of crop insect pests. are. Apart from these organizations, International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) are adopted by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), which is the governing body of the IPPC. As of July 2021, there are 45 adopted ISPMs (ISPM 30 being revoked), 29 Diagnostic

Protocols and 39 Phytosanitary Treatments. These international standards protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security, protect the environment, forests and biodiversity and facilitate economic and trade development.

In India, the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage (DPPQ&S) is governing the agricultural commodity protection under plant quarantine order and 24 national standards on phytosanitary measures (NSPM). Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 regulates import and prohibition of import of plants and plant products into India. The plant quarantine order has 15 clauses describing various aspects and conditions of the import of agricultural articles (plants and plant products) into India. There are 16 forms for various plant quarantine regulatory functions. The Order has 12 schedules and cotton and its quarantine pests are highlighted under Plant Quarantine Restriction Section Schedule-V and VI. Schedule-V includes the planting material and raw cotton for industries that are not completely prohibited. The plants/plant materials restricted import is permissible only with the recommendation of authorized institutions with additional declarations and special conditions. Schedule-VI includes plants/plant materials permitted to be imported with additional declarations and special conditions to be imported with additional declarations and special conditions.

As per Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 a total of 94 entry points including 46 seaports, 24 airports and 24 land custom stations are notified points of entry for import of plants and plant material. Besides, 77 Inland Container Depot/Container Freight Station, 11 Foreign Post Offices have also been notified for the entry of plants/plant material under the PQ Order, 2003 in India.

**Schedule-V** dictates that Cotton (*Gossypium spp.*) Seeds for sowing with respect to plant diseases must be

- (i) Free from: (a) Witches' broom (Collectotrichum gossypii var. cephalosporioides) (b) Bacterial blight (Xanthomonas campestris pv. malvacearum (African strain)
- (ii) The seed shall be given acid delinting treatment at the country of origin prior to shipment
- (iii) The seed shall be fumigated with suitable fumigant at the country of origin and treatment to be endorsed on a phytosanitary certificate.
- (iv) Subject to the recommendation, supervision, monitoring and testing by Director, Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur, (Maharashtra).

**Schedule - VI** dictates that raw cotton bales for industrial use and other plants/plant materials permitted to be imported with additional declarations and special conditions. It also dictates that plants/plant materials permitted to be imported with additional declarations and special conditions like crops/ plant/ planting material for propagation should be free from *Bemisia tabaci* (B biotype) (Silverleaf whitefly), *Frankliniella occidentalis* (western flower thrips)

In addition to the PPQ schedules, the plants/planting material/vectors which are possible means of carrying begomoviral species especially Cotton Leaf Curl Gezira virus (CLCuGeV), Cotton Leaf Crumple virus (CLCrV), Hypervirulent races of bacterial blight which are extremely infectious or damaging, Phymatotrichopsis root rot (also known as cotton root rot, *Phymatotrichum* root rot, Texas root rot and *Ozonium* root rot), must also be restricted, as these diseases/ strains/ species are not present or widespread in India and can cause huge loss to the crop if introduced.

#### **Conclusions**

A continuous watch on the changing disease scenario at the National and International level with efforts to contain the emerging diseases and check the entry of new pathogens into the country is needed. The task is becoming even more challenging with rapid globalization and enhanced trade activities. At the same time, we have to gear up new identifications and update information/records with new diagnostic and eradication tools. Climate change is likely to play a significant role in the emergence of new diseases and has to be looked into in proper perspective to protect our agriculture from these threats.

#### Acknowledgements

The photographs of *cotton virescence* disease provided by Dr. Krishna Prasad, Olam International and *cotton leaf crumple virus* by Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Chief Scientist, ICAC are thankfully acknowledged.

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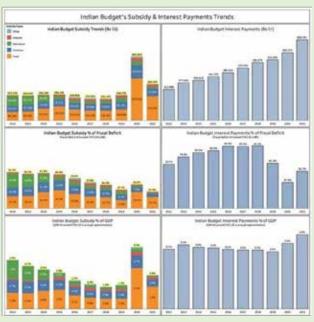
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(The views expressed in this column are of the author and not that of Cotton Association of India)

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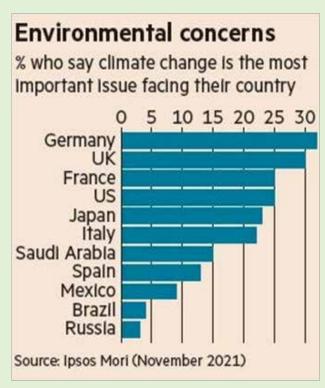
# The Month That Was - Snippets for December 2021

# Indian Budget -Non-Productive Expenditure Trends



One can see that subsidies and interest payments together contribute to most of the fiscal deficit, so much so that in the earlier years interest payments contributed to almost 90% of the FD. In this context, the farmer's demand for guaranteed MSP-based procurement seems impossible unless the government can increase its revenue. But from where?

# How Important Is the Environment?



The environment ranks ninth in a list of concerns from citizens of countries surveyed by Ipsos Mori, with 16 per cent on average saying it is the most important issue. The survey shows Germans are most worried about climate.

# No Clarity on India's Policy on Crytocurrency



India considers calling time on crypto boom. Nascent startup scene fuelled by foreign capital braces for regulation as Delhi weighs merits of following Beijing's lead. For India's millions of cricket fans, televised matches this year have been punctuated by adverts for cryptocurrency. Featuring Bollywood stars and offering free bitcoins, the ads largely gloss over the risks and legal ambiguities of trading the digital coins. Now CoinSwitch Kuber and other exchanges are bracing for a regulatory backlash as the government considers following China by banning cryptocurrencies.

### **Price Surge in Pakistan**

#### Prices have surged in Pakistan, in particular for poorer communities

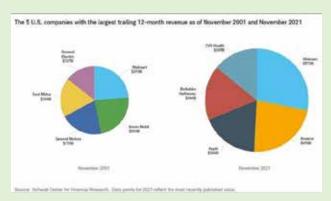
Sensitive price indicator\* (2015-16=100)



Sources: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics; Refinitiv

Pakistan inflation surge leaves PM Khan vulnerable to challenge. The rupee has also lost 15 per cent of its value against the dollar in six months. Officials fear a rising import bill will deplete foreign currency reserves and further destabilise the economy. This poses a growing challenge to Imran Khan, prime minister. His Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party won power in 2018 on a vow to end cycles of economic instability, where high debt and low foreign currency reserves forced repeated bailouts. But Khan has found himself trapped in this same vicious rhythm, and rival parties have sought to take advantage to weaken or oust him before he serves the remaining two years of his term.

# **Changes in US Economy** in 20 Years



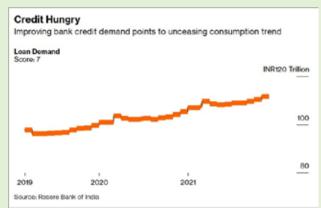
A simplistic comparison, but it tells you a lot about the remarkable ways in which the US economy has changed over the past 20 years.

### A Global Currency Debasement Problem



emerging and developed market currencies have devalued significantly relative to the United States dollar in 2021 despite the Federal Reserve's aggressive monetary policy. Furthermore, emerging economies that have benefitted from rising commodity prices have also seen their currencies weaken despite strong exports. As such, inflation in developing economies is much higher than the already elevated figures posted in the United States and the euro-zone. The main reason behind this is a global currency debasement problem that is making citizens poorer. Most central banks globally are implementing the same expansionary policies of the European Central Bank and the Federal Reserve System but the results are disproportionately hurting the poor as inflation rises, particularly in essential goods and services, while fiscal and monetary imbalances are increasing.

# Momentum in Consumption Trends



Passenger car sales fell for a third straight month, as the global chip shortage hit production. That hiccup apart, RBI data showed demand for bank credit grew 7% in November from a year earlier, reflecting momentum in consumption trends. Liquidity conditions still showed a surplus last month, implying easy credit availability.

### **Magazine Cover Indicator**



Is the magazine indicator a bad omen for 2022? Whenever a corporate icon graced the cover of TIME as Person of the Year, the Nasdaq fell the following year.

# India's GDP Growth Forecast Raised Amid Fewer Virus Restrictions

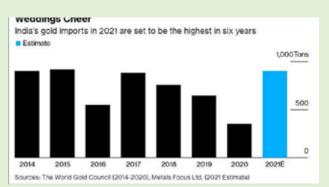


India's economy is seen expanding a notch quicker than previously forecast in the current fiscal year ending March, according to a Bloomberg survey. Gross domestic product will likely expand 9.4% this fiscal, according to the median estimates of the latest survey. That's faster than 9.3% forecast last month and is mainly due to an upward revision to the third- and fourth-quarter estimates to 6% and 5.8% from 5.8% and 5.3%, respectively. That coincides with economic activity picking up in Asia's third-largest economy, which has shrugged off most curbs put in place to stem a deadly second wave of coronavirus infections. While there are no new strict restrictions in place to check the omicron variant, policy makers have retained an accommodative stance to support the recovery.

### How India's Economy Grew Steadily — Before Omicron Hit



# Wedding Rush Sends India's Gold Imports Surging to Six-Year High



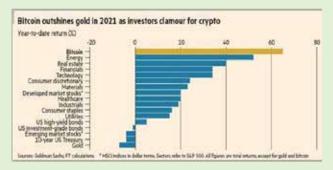
Following a lifting of some virus curb and as the government eased some restrictions around gatherings, about 2.5 million weddings ceremonies are estimated to have taken place since mid-November, around a quarter of this year's expected annual total,. It's a stark turnaround for India's jewellers, who have seen demand hammered for almost two years as the coronavirus led to the postponement of many weddings - a key source of demand for the nation that considers buying and gifting of gold as auspicious - while broader financial hardship further curbed purchases. The bumper festival season may help push India's gold imports to as much as 900 tons this year, the highest in six years, Metals Focus Ltd said. That's up from about 350 tons last year, according to World Gold Council figures.

#### China's Shein Storms US Fast Fashion



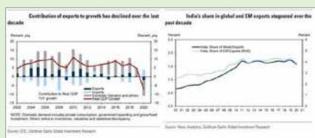
The brand has become the biggest in the American market by being cheaper and faster than rivals such as Zara. Its use of algorithms and TikTok for promotion appeals to Gen-Z, but is its model sustainable? Time did not seem to be on Chris Xu's side when he threw himself into the cutthroat world of Chinese entrepreneurship. He quit his job in marketing and set up an online fashion retailer just as the 2008 global financial crisis struck. Yet after little more than a dozen years, Shein, the company he founded, has seized over a quarter of the US fastfashion market and its rapid growth threatens to disrupt established global players such as Spain's Inditex and Sweden's H&M. The business is built around the fast-fashion model pioneered by others, including Inditex's Zara. But through use of automation, artificial intelligence and a well-drilled supply chain, Shein has found a way to do it both cheaper and faster.

#### **Bitcoin Outshines Gold**



Gold is among the worst-performing asset classes of 2021 despite accelerating inflation, as the precious metal's lustre has faded next to what some see as its digital equivalent, bitcoin. The precious metal, often hailed as an inflation hedge, has dropped 5 per cent this year, despite investors looking for protection as consumer prices soar across the globe. Bitcoin, in contrast, has posted a big, if not also volatile, rally in 2021, with a 65 per cent appreciation in the year to date

### India's Struggling Exports Story



Exports contributing 27% on average to India's growth in 2006-2010, fell to 23% in 2011-2015, & further fell to 15% in 2016-2019. India's share of global and EM exports at a mere 1.5% & 3.8% respectively, is now lower compared to 10 years back.

Compiled by Shri. Kunal Thakkar

					UPCOUI	NTRY SP	OT RAT	TES .				(R	s./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 December 2021							
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th		
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 - 6.0	13%	20	10461 (37200)	10601 (37700)	10657 (37900)	10686 (38000)	10770 (38300)			
										Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2021-22 Crop					
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4%	15	12626 (44900)	12626 (44900)	12626 (44900)	12626 (44900)	12682 (45100)	Н		
	P/H/R (SG)	ICS-201	Fine	22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4.5%	15	12795 (45500)	12795 (45500)	12795 (45500)	12795 (45500)	12851 (45700)			
	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine		4.0 - 6.0	13%	20	-	- -	- -	- -	-			
	KAR	ICS-103	Fine		4.0 - 5.5	4.5%	21	- -	-	-	-	-			
	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine		4.0 - 5.5	4%	23	14313 (50900)	14341 (51000)	14397 (51200)		14538 (51700)	0		
	P/H/R (U) (SG)					4.5%	26	17125 (60900)	17238 (61300)	17378 (61800)	17462 (62100)	17603 (62600)			
	M/M(P)/ SA/TL	ICS 105	Fine		3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	170//	17270	- 17510	17(02	- 17744			
	P/H/R(U)	ICS 105			3.5 - 4.9	4%	26	17266 (61400)	17378 (61800)	17519 (62300)	17603 (62600)	17744 (63100)	L		
	M/M(P)/ SA/TL/G	ICS-105 ICS-105	Fine Fine		3.5 - 4.9	3.5%	25					<u>-</u>			
	M/M(P)/ SA/TL						26 27	17575	- - 17716	17856	17969	18109			
	P/H/R(U) M/M(P)	ICS-105 ICS-105	Fine Fine		3.5 - 4.9	3.5%	27	(62500)	(63000)	(63500)	(63900)	(64400)	I		
	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine		3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27		-	-	-	-			
	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine		3.7 - 4.5	3.5 %	27	-	-	-	-	-			
	R(L)	ICS-105			3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	28	17631	17800	17940	18025	18165			
	M/M(P)				3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	28			(63800) 18559			D		
	SA/TL/K	ICS-105				3%	28	(65500) 18475	(65800) 18559	(66000) 18615	(66200) 18672	(66500) 18756			
	GUI	ICS-105				3%	28	(65700) 18503	(66000) 18503	(66200) 18559	(66400) 18643	(66700) 18756			
	M/M(P)				3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	29	(65800) 18812	(65800) 18897	(66000) 18897	(66300) 18981	(66700) 19122	A		
		ICS-105				3%	29	(66900) 18897	(67200) 19037	(67200) 19037	(67500) 19122	(68000) 19262			
	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	30	(67200) 19290	(67700) 19403	(67700) 19403	(68000) 19487	(68500) 19571			
	SA/TL/	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	30	(68600) 19375	(69000) 19487	(69000) 19487	(69300) 19571	(69600) 19656			
23	K / TN/O SA/TL/K/	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 - 4.2	3%	31	(68900) N.A.	(69300) N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	(69900) N.A.	Y		
	TN/O M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	(N.A.) 31213	(N.A.) 31213	(N.A.) 31213	(N.A.) 31354	(N.A.) 31494			
25	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	(111000) (31494	31494	31494	31635	31775			
26	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	(112000) (32057	32197	32197	32338	32478			
27	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	(114000) (32900)	33181 (118000)	33181	33463	33603			

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