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Cotton Exchange Building, 2nd Floor, Cotton Green, Mumbai - 400 033
Telephone: 8657442944/45/46/47/48 Email: cai@caionline.in
www.caionline.in

Price Policy for Kharif Crops (including cotton and major edible oilseeds) for Marketing Season 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26, based on analysis of Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices: (CACP)

EXPERT'S COLUMN

Shri. A.K. Chowdhury
Secretary, All India Cottonseed Crushers' Association

He worked in Tariff Commission/ Bureau of Industrial Cost & Prices (BICP), then as Deputy Director (Cost) at Ministry of Industry/Ministry of Finance from 1980 to 1988. Later. He was appointed Director (Economics)/ Financial Survey in the Office of Textile Commissioner (Ministry of Textiles), and retired as Joint Textile Commissioner (Economics). He was also a Consultant in Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) from 1997-2010. Since 2014, he is working as Secretary, AICOSCA (All India Cottonseed Crushers' Association).

Government has set up a Commission viz. Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, under Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, presently headed by Professor Vijay Paul Sharma, as its Chairman, to recommend Minimum Support Price for mandated kharif crops namely Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Ragi, Maize, Tur, Moong, Urad, Groundnut, Sunflower, Soybean, Sesamum and particularly 'Cotton', (Medium Staple) and (Long Staple), which is the basic raw material for the textile industry. The purpose of recommending such prices is to incentivise farmers to adopt new technologies and practices to ensure remunerative price and improve competiveness of Indian Agriculture.

In recommending such prices, the Commission analyses the demand-supply scenario of such crops, price trend and procurement operations. The Commission also considers the crop yield trends, yield gap analysis and drivers of productivity. Examining performance of trade and domestic and world prices and reviewing agricultural trade policy, costs and returns and cost projections for Kharif Marketting Season of the particular crops also form part of consideration of the Commission.

Commission's Recommendations for Price Policy:

While recommending the Price Policy for the mandated crops for the three years i.e. 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26, the Commission has considered the cost of production, demand-supply and price situation in domestic and world market, inter-crop Price parity, terms of trade between agriculture and non-agriculture sector, utilization of land, water and other production resources, the likely impact of price policy on the rest of the economy, and a minimum of 50 percent as margin over the cost of production while recommending Minimum Support Price (MSP).

After carefully considering all the relevant factors (mentioned above), and consultations with major stake holders, the Commission recommended the following Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of the mandated kharif crops for the kharif marketing seasons, 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26, as given the Table.

Even though the mandated kharif crops are 17 in Number, this Association that is 'All India Cottonseed Crushers' Association' (AICOSCA) has considered in our analysis, MSPs for Cotton (Medium Staple) and Cotton (Long Staple) and Minimum Support Price for the four relevant oilseeds (Viz. Groundnut, Sunflower seed, Soyabean and Seasmum (all Oilseeds), since this Association is concerned with Cotton, Cottonseed and major edible oils. (including Cottonseed oil)

TABLE
MSPs recommend for kharif Marketting Season (KMS)

(Showing increase with reference to previous years i.e. 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25)

(In. Rs./Qtl.)

Crops	MSP for KMS	Recommended MSP for KMS		Recommended MSP for KMS		Recommended MSP for KMS	
Cotton	2022-23	2023-24	% increase in MSP over the Previous Year i.e. 2022-23	2024-25	% increase in MSP over the Previous Year i.e. 2023-24	2025-26	% increase in MSP over the Previous Year i.e. 2024-25
Cotton(Medium staple)	6080	6620	3.9	7121	7.6	7710	8.27
Cotton (Long Staple)	6380	7020	10.0	7521	7.1	8110	7.83
Oilseeds							
Groundnut	5850	6377	9.0	6783	6.4	7263	7.08
Sunflower	6400	6760	5.6	7280	7.7	7435	9.0
Soybean	4300	4600	7.0	4892	6.3	5328	8.91
Seasmum	7830	8635	10.3	9267	7.3	9846	6.25

Cotton :

With regard to Cotton, the following needs further mention :

Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) undertakes price support operations on behalf of farmers whenever the market price of Cotton (Kapas), falls below the MSP, without any quantitative limit through more than 400 Cotton procurement Centres in all major cotton growing States of India. The operations of CCI cover all the cotton growing states of India (3 in Northern Zone) (4 in Central Zone) (5 in Southern Zone).

Procurement of Cotton by CCI in the years

(In Lakh bales)

2023-24	2024-25
32.84 Lakh bales	100 Lakh bales (Till July, 2025)

Marketting year 2025-26 :

CCI sets up550 Procurement Centres for MSP operations in 2025-26 Marketing season, beginning in October

According to a News Item, appearing in Business Line dated 4th September,2025, the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has set up a record 550 procurement centres across major cotton producing States for the 2025-26 Kharif marketting season, beginning October.

As per official statement from CCI, procurement of cotton under the minimum support price (MSP) will commence from October 1 in the North, October 15 in the Central States and from October 22 in the Southern States.

As shown in the Table on the previous page, Government has announced MSP of Rs.7710 per quintal for the medium staple, and Rs.8110 per Quintal for Long Staple cotton this year.

It is further reported in the above Newspaper(Business Line) that the Union Textile Minister Shri Giriraj Singh chaired a high level review meeting on Tuesday to assess the preparedness for the Cotton MSP operations in 2025-26.

Reiterating the Governments commitment to the welfare of cotton farmers, Shri Singh said all Kapas arriving under MSP guidelines will be procured without disruption with a focus on timely transparent and farmer centre service delivery. He reaffirmed the governments vision to protect the interest of farmers by ensuring a remunerative price for their produce and accelerate the shift towards a digitally empowered ecosystem.

Non-Price Policy Recommendation of the Commission:

Push Towards Oilseeds

Among the Non-Price Policy recommendations, relevant for this Association, the above needs mention:

In view of India's high dependence on imports of edible oils, the Commission has recommended that steps should be taken to increase area and productivity of oilseeds as well as technology upgradation and modernization of oilseeds processing units. Government of India has already taken initiative in this direction and launched National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) with special focus on major oilseeds such as rapeseed and mustard, groundnut, soybean, sunflower seeds, etc. to reduce import dependency and achieve self-sufficiency in edible oils.

Comments on fixing of MSP for the 2025-26 Season:

The Government has recently announced Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for 14 Kharif crops for the 2025-26 season, linking it with the earlier arrival of south-west monsoon. The MSPs have been increased by about 7 percent, on an average, over last year's level, as may be seen from the data presented on the Table in previous page.

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

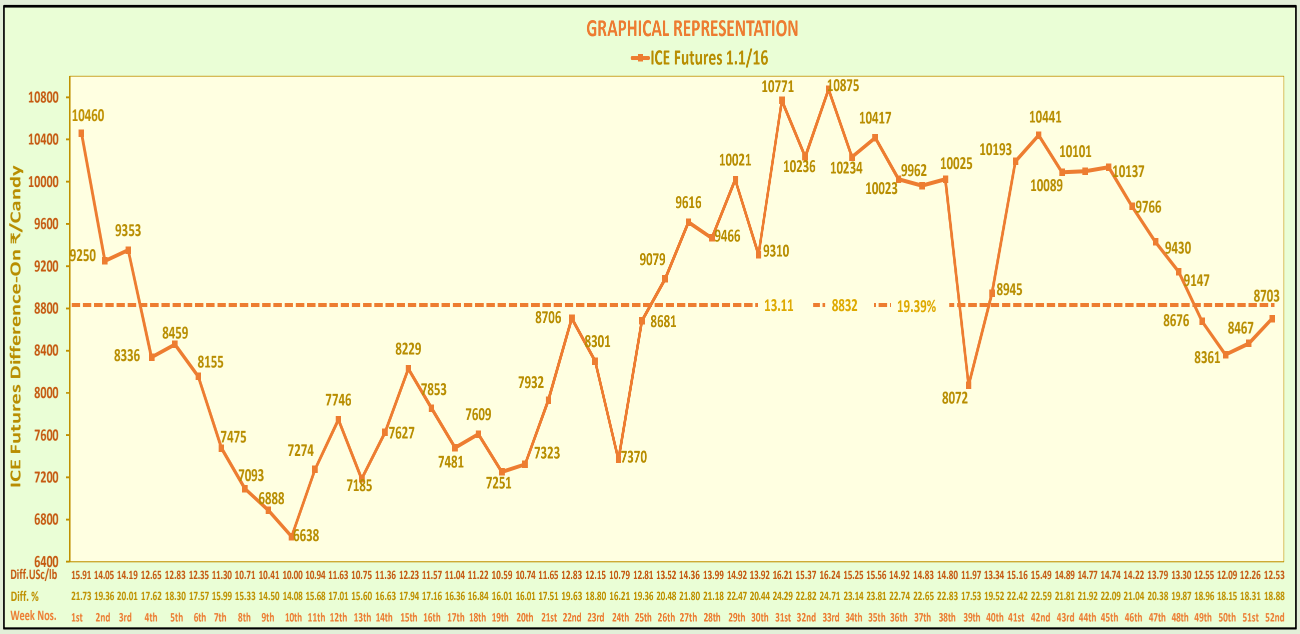
Delegation from Argentina visited the Cotton Association of India (CAI), Mumbai on 25th September 2025

On September 25, 2025, an official delegation from Argentina, led by Mr. Mariano Beheran, Honorable Minister Agriculture Attaché, visited the Cotton Association of India (CAI) in Mumbai. The delegation, including representatives from Argentina's Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and the Rosario Board of Trade, engaged in discussions with CAI's President, Shri Atul S. Ganatra, and the Board of Directors to strengthen cotton trade collaboration and explore broader cooperation between Argentina and India.

Basis Comparison of ICS 105 with ICE Futures - 29th September 2025

SEASON 2024-2025 Comparison M/M(P) ICS-105, Grade Fine, Staple 29mm, Mic. 3.7-4.9, Trash 3.5%, Str./GPT 28 with ICE Futures CAI Price for September Compared with ICE December Settlement Futures							
Date	CAI (₹ /Candy)	Conversion Rate (US$ = ₹)	CAI (USc/lb.)	ICE Settlement Futures 1.1/16" Front Mth. Dec.'25 (USc/lb.)	Difference-ON/OFF ICE Futures		
					USc/lb.	₹ /Candy	%
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Cotton Year Week No-52nd							
22nd Sep	54800	88.31	79.15	66.22	12.93	8952	19.53
23rd Sep	54800	88.75	78.76	66.64	12.12	8433	18.19
24th Sep	54800	88.69	78.81	66.17	12.64	8789	19.10
25th Sep	54800	88.67	78.83	66.28	12.55	8724	18.93
26th Sep	54800	88.72	78.79	66.40	12.39	8618	18.66
Weekly Avg.	**54800**	**88.63**	**78.87**	**66.34**	**12.53**	**8703**	**18.88**
Total Avg. From 1st Oct 2024	**54484**	**85.95**	**80.88**	**67.77**	**13.11**	**8832**	**19.39**

Note:- Weeks taken as per Cotton Year (October To September).



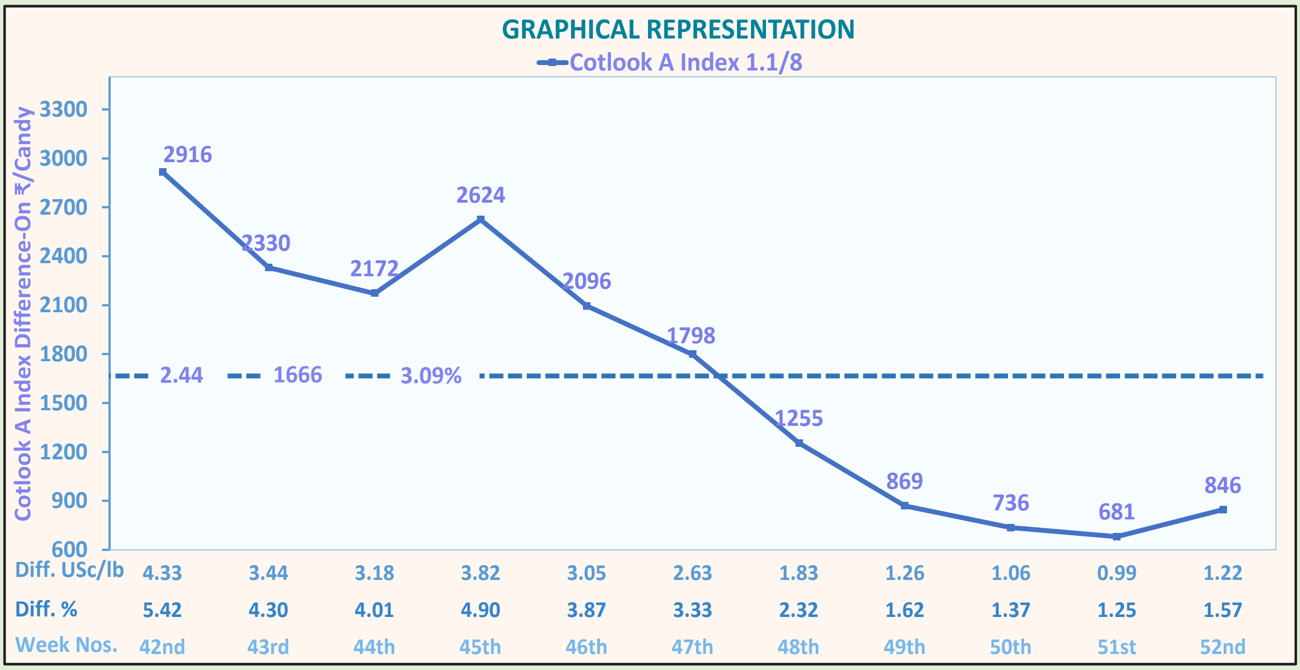
Basis Comparison of ICS 105 with Cotlook A Index - 29th September 2025

SEASON 2024-2025

Comparison M/M(P) ICS-105, Grade Fine, Staple 29mm, Mic. 3.7-4.9, Trash 3.5%, Str./GPT 28 with Cotlook A Index

Date	CAI (₹ /Candy)	Conversion Rate (US$ = ₹)	*CAI (USc/lb.)	Cotlook A Index M-1.1/8" C & F FE Ports	Difference-ON/OFF Cotlook A Index		
					USc/lb.	₹/Candy	%
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Cotton Year Week No-52nd							
22nd Sep	54800	88.31	79.35	77.85	1.50	1039	1.93
23rd Sep	54800	88.75	78.96	77.85	1.11	772	1.43
24th Sep	54800	88.69	79.01	78.15	0.86	598	1.10
25th Sep	54800	88.67	79.03	77.70	1.33	925	1.71
26th Sep	54800	88.72	78.99	77.70	1.29	897	1.66
Weekly Avg.	**54800**	**88.63**	**79.07**	**77.85**	**1.22**	**846**	**1.57**
Total Avg. From Week No.42nd	**55520**	**87.55**	**81.11**	**78.67**	**2.44**	**1666**	**3.09**

Note:- Weeks taken as per Cotton Year (October To September).
***Converted to C & F FE Ports by adding 20c/lb. to CAI spot rates.**



UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES

(₹\Quintal)

September 2025

2024-25 Crop

Growth	P/H/R	GUJ	M/M(P)	P/H/ R(U)	P/H/ R(U)	M/M(P)/ SA/ TL/G	M/M(P)/ SA/TL	P/H/ R(U)	M/M(P)	SA/ TL/K	GUJ	R(L)	R(L)	M/M(P)	SA/ TL/K	GUJ	M/M(P)	SA/ TL/K/O	M/M(P)	SA/ TL/K/ TN/O	SA/ TL/ K/ TN/O	M/M(P)	K/TN	M/M(P)	K/TN
Grade Standard	ICS-101	ICS-102	ICS-104	ICS-202 (SG)	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-105	ICS-105	ICS-106	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
Staple	Below 22 mm	22 mm	23 mm	27 mm	27 mm	27 mm	27 mm	28 mm	28 mm	28 mm	28 mm	28 mm	29 mm	29 mm	29 mm	29 mm	30 mm	30 mm	31 mm	31 mm	32 mm	34 mm	34 mm	35 mm	35 mm
Micronaire	5.0-7.0	4.0-6.0	4.5-7.0	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.0-3.4	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.7-4.9	3.5-4.9	2.8-3.7	2.8-3.7	2.8-3.7	2.8-3.7
Gravimetric Trash	4%	13%	4%	4.5%	4%	4%	3.5%	4%	3.5%	3.5%	3%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	3.5%	4%	3.5%
Strength/GPT	15	20	22	26	26	25	26	27	27	27	27	27	28	28	28	28	29	29	30	30	31	33	34	35	35
1	13498	10657	13076	14819	14988	12373	14454	15466	14988	14875	15213	15185	15269	15353	15157	15522	15550	15325	15860	15607	N.A.	21259	22355	21737	23199
2	13498	10657	13076	14819	14988	12373	14426	15466	14960	14847	15185	15129	15269	15325	15129	15494	15550	15325	15860	15607	N.A.	21343	22355	21821	23199
3	13498	10629	13048	14819	14988	12317	14397	15466	14932	14791	15157	15129	15269	15297	15072	15466	15550	15325	15860	15607	N.A.	21343	22496	21821	23199
4	13498	10629	13048	14819	14988	12317	14397	15438	14932	14819	15129	15100	15241	15297	15100	15438	15550	15325	15860	15607	N.A.	21343	22496	21821	23199
5	13498	10601	13048	14819	14988	12317	14369	15438	14904	14763	15129	15100	15241	15269	15044	15438	15494	15269	15832	15578	N.A.	21202	22496	21680	23199
6		H				O				L				I				D			A			Y	
8	13498	10657	13048	14791	14960	12317	14369	15438	14904	14763	15157	15157	15241	15269	15044	15466	15494	15269	15832	15578	N.A.	21202	22496	21680	23199
9	13498	10686	13048	14763	14932	12317	14397	15438	14932	14735	15185	15157	15241	15297	15016	15494	15494	15269	15832	15578	N.A.	21202	22496	21680	23199
10	13469	10742	13048	14735	14904	12317	14397	15410	14932	14735	15185	15129	15213	15297	15016	15494	15494	15269	15832	15578	N.A.	21202	22496	21680	23199
11	13441	10770	13048	14679	14847	12317	14397	15353	15044	14735	15297	15185	15269	15325	15016	15522	15494	15269	15832	15578	N.A.	21343	22074	21821	22777
12	13441	10770	13048	14679	14847	12317	14397	15353	15044	14763	15325	15185	15269	15325	15044	15550	15522	15297	15888	15578	N.A.	21343	21793	21821	22496
13		H				O				L				I				D			A			Y	
15	13441	10826	13048	14707	14875	12317	14397	15353	15072	14763	15353	15213	15297	15353	15044	15578	15550	15325	15888	15578	N.A.	21343	21793	21821	22496
16	13385	10882	13048	14679	14847	12317	14397	15325	15072	14763	15382	15241	15325	15353	15044	15607	15550	15325	15888	15578	N.A.	21343	21793	21821	22496
17	13385	10967	13104	14679	14847	12317	14397	15325	15129	14791	15438	15269	15382	15410	15072	15663	15578	15325	15888	15578	N.A.	21343	21793	21821	22496
18	13357	10967	13076	14650	14819	12288	14397	15269	15129	14791	15410	15269	15382	15410	15072	15635	15578	15325	15888	15578	N.A.	21343	21793	21821	22496
19	13357	10995	13076	14622	14791	12260	14397	15269	15129	14791	15382	15269	15382	15410	15072	15635	15578	15325	15888	15578	N.A.	21343	21793	21821	22496
20	13357	10995	13076	14594	14763	12232	14397	15269	15129	14791	15353	15241	15382	15410	15072	15635	15578	15325	15832	15522	N.A.	21343	21793	21821	22496
22	13244	10995	13076	14482	14650	12232	14397	15100	15044	14707	15269	15129	15269	15410	15016	15607	15578	15325	15832	15522	N.A.	21062	21512	21540	22215
23	13244	10967	13076	14369	14538	12232	14397	14932	15044	14679	15213	15129	15269	15410	14988	15550	15607	15325	15860	15522	N.A.	21062	21512	21540	22215
24	13104	10939	13076	14257	14426	12232	14397	14763	15044	14594	15213	14988	15129	15410	14904	15550	15607	15466	15860	15663	N.A.	21034	21484	21512	22187
25	13104	10911	13076	14257	14426	12232	14397	14679	15044	14650	15129	14904	15044	15410	14960	15466	15607	15466	15860	15663	N.A.	21034	21343	21512	22046
26	13244	10882	13076	14257	14426	12232	14397	14679	15044	14707	15129	14904	15044	15410	15016	15466	15635	15522	15860	15719	N.A.	21090	21399	21568	22102
27		H				O				L				I				D			A			Y	
29	13385	10967	13076	14257	14426	12232	14397	14679	15044	14763	15072	14904	15044	15410	15072	15410	15578	15466	15803	15719	N.A.	21090	21399	21568	22102
30	13385	10967	13076	14229	14397	12232	14397	14650	15016	14763	15044	14904	15044	15382	15072	15382	15578	15466	15803	15719	N.A.	20809	21090	21259	21821
H	**13498**	**10995**	**13104**	**14819**	**14988**	**12373**	**14454**	**15466**	**15129**	**14875**	**15438**	**15269**	**15382**	**15410**	**15157**	**15663**	**15635**	**15522**	**15888**	**15719**	**-**	**21343**	**22496**	**21821**	**23199**
L	**13104**	**10601**	**13048**	**14229**	**14397**	**12232**	**14369**	**14650**	**14904**	**14594**	**15044**	**14904**	**15044**	**15269**	**14904**	**15382**	**15494**	**15269**	**15803**	**15522**	**-**	**20809**	**21090**	**21259**	**21821**
A	**13384**	**10829**	**13065**	**14599**	**14768**	**12289**	**14398**	**15198**	**15022**	**14756**	**15233**	**15123**	**15240**	**15358**	**15045**	**15525**	**15556**	**15345**	**15854**	**15602**	**-**	**21218**	**21915**	**21695**	**22632**

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

UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES

(Rs./Qtl)

Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple in Millimeters based on Upper Half Mean Length As per CAI By-laws								Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2024-25 Crop September 2025					
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	4%	15	13244 (47100)	13244 (47100)	13104 (46600)	13104 (46600)	13244 (47100)	
2	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	13%	20	10995 (39100)	10967 (39000)	10939 (38900)	10911 (38800)	10882 (38700)	H
3	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine	23mm	4.5 – 7.0	4%	22	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	
4	P/H/R (U)	ICS-202 (SG)	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4.5%	26	14482 (51500)	14369 (51100)	14257 (50700)	14257 (50700)	14257 (50700)	
5	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	26	14650 (52100)	14538 (51700)	14426 (51300)	14426 (51300)	14426 (51300)	
6	M/M(P)/ SA/TL/GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	12232 (43500)	12232 (43500)	12232 (43500)	12232 (43500)	12232 (43500)	O
7	M/M(P)/ SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	3.5%	26	14397 (51200)	14397 (51200)	14397 (51200)	14397 (51200)	14397 (51200)	
8	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	27	15100 (53700)	14932 (53100)	14763 (52500)	14679 (52200)	14679 (52200)	
9	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	15044 (53500)	15044 (53500)	15044 (53500)	15044 (53500)	15044 (53500)	L
10	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	14707 (52300)	14679 (52200)	14594 (51900)	14650 (52100)	14707 (52300)	
11	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	27	15269 (54300)	15213 (54100)	15213 (54100)	15129 (53800)	15129 (53800)	
12	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	27	15129 (53800)	15129 (53800)	14988 (53300)	14904 (53000)	14904 (53000)	
13	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	28	15269 (54300)	15269 (54300)	15129 (53800)	15044 (53500)	15044 (53500)	I
14	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3.5%	28	15410 (54800)	15410 (54800)	15410 (54800)	15410 (54800)	15410 (54800)	
15	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	15016 (53400)	14988 (53300)	14904 (53000)	14960 (53200)	15016 (53400)	
16	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	28	15607 (55500)	15550 (55300)	15550 (55300)	15466 (55000)	15466 (55000)	D
17	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	15578 (55400)	15607 (55500)	15607 (55500)	15607 (55500)	15635 (55600)	
18	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	29	15325 (54500)	15325 (54500)	15466 (55000)	15466 (55000)	15522 (55200)	
19	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	15832 (56300)	15860 (56400)	15860 (56400)	15860 (56400)	15860 (56400)	
20	SA/TL/K/ TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.9	3%	30	15522 (55200)	15522 (55200)	15663 (55700)	15663 (55700)	15719 (55900)	A
21	SA/TL/K / TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 – 4.9	3%	31	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	
22	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	21062 (74900)	21062 (74900)	21034 (74800)	21034 (74800)	21090 (75000)	
23	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	21512 (76500)	21512 (76500)	21484 (76400)	21343 (75900)	21399 (76100)	Y
24	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	21540 (76600)	21540 (76600)	21512 (76500)	21512 (76500)	21568 (76700)	
25	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	22215 (79000)	22215 (79000)	22187 (78900)	22046 (78400)	22102 (78600)	

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