

VEGOIL

April 24-29, 2006

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

- Soybean, Oil and Meal: USDA Weekly Export Sales Highlights
- SGS estimates: April Malaysian Palm Oil Exports Up
- Intertek Agri Services: April Malaysian Palm Oil export Up
- GOI: Revised Base Import Prices on Edible Oils
- Weekly Weather Report
- Port Wise: Weekly Import of Vegoil

DOMESTIC & INTERNATIONAL NEWS

USDA: Weekly Export Sales Highlights

Weekly Export Sales Highlights of US Department of Agriculture is released on Thursday i.e. April 27, 2006. This summary is based on reports from exporters (for the period of April 14-20, 2006).

Soybeans Net sales of 111,400 MT--a marketing-year low--were 43 percent under the week earlier and 60 percent below the prior 4-week average. Major increases for Japan (52,400 MT), Taiwan (31,100 MT), Mexico (27,100 MT), and Turkey (12,500 MT) were partially offset by decreases for unknown destinations (14,000 MT). Exports of 272,700 MT were 6 percent below the week earlier and one-third under the prior 4-week average. The primary destinations were Mexico (109,400 MT), Japan (80,700 MT), Cuba (23,800 MT), Costa Rica (16,100 MT), Taiwan (14,500 MT), and Turkey (14,500 MT).

Soybean Cake and Meal: Net sales of 18,400 MT--a marketing-year low--were 87 percent below the week

earlier and 83 percent under the prior 4-week average. Major increases for Canada (27,000 MT), Japan (11,100 MT), and Turkey (8,100 MT), including 7,500 MT switched from unknown destinations) were partially offset by decreases for Egypt (15,000 MT) and Mexico (14,000 MT). Exports of 64,400 MT were 57 percent below the previous week and 48 percent under the prior 4-week average. Canada (25,000 MT), Mexico (15,500 MT), Turkey (8,100 MT), and Guatemala (7,100 MT) were the primary destinations).

Soybean Oil: Net sales of 8,500 MT were primarily for Canada (4,400 MT), Mexico (3,100 MT), and Nicaragua (500 MT). Exports of 14,300 MT were mainly for Cuba (8,200 MT), Canada (2,900 MT), Nicaragua (2,000 MT), and Mexico (1,000 MT).

Source: USDA

GOI: Revised Base Import Prices on Edible Oils

April 28: Government of India revised higher base import prices on palm oil on Friday, 2006. Govt. of India increased base import prices on Crude Palm Oil at \$ 427 /ton (+\$7/ton) from \$ 420/ton, RDB Palm Oil at \$ 442/ton (+7) from \$ 435/ton, Crude Palm Olein at \$ 449/ton (+7) from \$ 442/ton, Other Palm Oil 435 (+7) from \$428/ton, RBD

Palmolein 452 (+7) from \$445/MT, Other Palmolein 451 (+7) from \$444/ton. Crude Soybean Oil at \$ 518/ton (0) from \$ 518/ton, Base import prices are used by the government of India to calculate import duties regardless of the actual market prices of the commodities. Revised tariff values of various edible oils as shown in the table below.

Table: GOI has revised base import prices

Commodities	Unit (US \$/Ton)		
	Current Tariff Rate	Previous Tariff Rate	Change (US \$)
Crude Soybean Oils	518	518	0
CPO	427	420	+7
RBD Palm Oil	442	435	+7
Crude Palm Olein	449	442	+7
RBD Palm Olein	452	445	+7
Other Palm Oil	435	428	+7
Other Palmolein	451	444	+7

Source: Ministry of Finance, GOI.

Roll Back The Classification - SOPA Urges Rail Minister

The Hon'ble Minister of Railways, while presenting the railway budget in the parliament in February this year mentioned that there was no tariff revision in the case of goods movement by railways. Later on the Ministry of Railways however, announced adjustments in the freight rates effective from 1st April 2006 - vide Railway Circular No. 20 of 2006 (No. TCR/1078/2006/3 New Delhi dated 10th March 2006). This rate circular has affected the soybean trade trifold as follows: Revision in the classification of soy meal from 100 to 110 for rake load and 110 to 150 in wagon load; Surcharge of 5% of commodities in class 160 and below; A busy route surcharge of 20% for exports to Bangladesh and Pakistan. The revision in classification has imposed a direct burden of approx. 10% on the movement of soy meal from places in Madhya Pradesh which are hinterland and exporters are required to move cargoes from hinterland to the ports. This along with the surcharge would add at least Rs. 200/MT to the cost of movement of DOC by railways, making it uncompetitive in the international market. Such an export unfriendly step would hit the export of DOC which earn

EU Biodiesel Capacity Could Reach 6 Mln Ton in 2007

European Union's biodiesel capacity could jump 50% in 2007, according to Pascal Cogels, chairman of the European vegetable oil producers and processors federation Fediol. Biodiesel production capacity is expected to reach 4-4.5 million tonnes at the end of this year and 6 million tonnes by the end of 2007. Production capacity of

India Announces New GM Import Policy

India has implemented new rules governing the import of genetically modified products. As part of its new foreign trade policy, the Indian government said that imports of genetically modified products will be allowed only with the

Argentina Expects Record Soy Crop In 2005-06

Argentina will produce a record 40 million tonnes of soybeans in 2005-06, the Agriculture Secretariat said last week. In 2004-05 Argentina produced a record 38.3 million tonnes of soybeans, according to the Secretariat. USDA has forecast Argentina's 2005-06 soybean output at 40.5 million tonnes. The Secretariat estimates planted area for soybeans at 15.2 million hectares, up 5.6% from the 14.4 million hectares planted a year ago. The increased planted

Biodiesel: Expected to Rise In EU

Europe is heading towards expected bio-diesel boom in coming years. The European Union decided to substitute their petroleum products with bio-diesel by 5% at the end of 2010 thereby reducing the green house gas and reducing the dependency over petroleum products. The European Bio-diesel Board reveal bio-diesel production in the EU at

Malaysia: April Palm Oil Exports Up 14.88%

A cargo surveyor SGS (Malaysia) Bhd. released its export sales estimates on Tuesday i.e. April 25, 2006. Malaysian palm oil exports in April 1-25, 2006 totaled 980876 metric tonnes, up 14.88% from 127038 metric tonnes in March 1-25, 2006.

Details of major items, which is estimated by SGS are as follows: Table 1 shows that Export of RBD Palm Olein, Oil

almost 3000 crores worth of Foreign Exchange for the country and contributes a similar amount by way of edible oil to the domestic edible oil pools as import substitution. The soybean industry which is an agro based, export oriented industry, earns valuable foreign exchange for the country every year using the produce of lacs of farmers. It also provides direct and indirect employment to thousands of skilled and semi skilled workers. Already the railways are charging about 10 to 12% extra freight on account of minimum loading charges as it is impossible for any one to load the minimum prescribed weight as soy meal being lighter in weight and therefore occupies more volume. In order to provide a competitive edge to the soy meal exporters, SOPA would urge the Hon'ble Minister to "ROLLBACK" the classification to the earlier one and "ABOLISH" the surcharge imposed. If the increase in freight charges due to change in classification is not restored and new surcharge imposed is not removed. Soybean Industry will be severally hit and even the soybean farmer will also suffer.

biodiesel in 2005 was 2.6 million tonnes. Cogels said soyoil had the potential to make up to 25% of EU's biodiesel production. Currently, about 80% of all biodiesel output is based on rapeseed oil because of its availability and quality. Source: ASA-IMWeekly

approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC). GM products will also have to carry a "declaration" on their genetic status Malaysia: Source: ASA-IM Weekly

area stems from dry weather that prevented many farmers from planting corn or wheat and those fields were planted with soybeans. Farmers also were encouraged to plant more soybeans because of its higher price compared with other crops, the Secretariat said.

Source: ASA-IMWeekly

3.2 million tonnes in 2005 which is up 65% from the last year. Capacity for bio-diesel production during 2006 is expected to rise to 6.07 million tonnes. Major crops utilized for the production of bio-diesel are canola and soybean oil combined with few non-edible oil groups.

and Stearin increased by 25.56, 63.47 and 22.53 per cent respectively in April 1-25, 2006 as against of March 1-25, 2006. However, export sales of Crude Palm Oil declined by 2.56 per cent during the same period.

Table1: Shows the details of the major items in SGS estimate**(Unit: MT)**

Items	April 1-25, 2006	March 1-25, 2006	Change %
RBD Palm Olein	400382	316351	+26.56
RBD Palm Oil	112071	68556	+63.47
RBD Palm Stearin	95610	78027	+22.53
Crude Palm Oil	171156	175659	-2.56

Source: SGS (Malaysia) Bhd.**Major Importers of Malaysia's Palm Oil**

Estimates of export data released by Cargo Surveyor SGS on Tuesday i.e. April 25, for the period of April 1-25, 2006.

The major importers of Malaysian palm oil were as follows:

1. European Union 2. China 3. USA 4. India and 5. Pakistan

Country wise brief highlights of imports are as follows: Table 2 shows that import of Malaysia's palm oil from EU, India and Pakistan declined by 23.73, 57.48, and 28.84 percent respectively in April 1-25, as compared to March 1-

25, 2006. On the other hand, Import of Malaysia's palm oil from China and USA increased to 48.17 and 39.36 per cent respectively during the same period.

Table 2: Shows the major import destination of Malaysian palm oil:**(Unit: MT)**

Countries/Continents	April 1-25, 2006	March 1-25, 2006	Change %
European Union	190681	250003	-23.73
China	219083	147861	+48.17
United States	77702	55757	+39.36
India	17700	41625	-57.48
Pakistan	42200	59300	-28.84

Source: SGS (Malaysia) Bhd.**Malaysia: April Palm Oil Export Up 19.86%**

A cargo surveyor "Intertek Agri Services" released its export estimates on Tuesday i.e. April 25, 2006. It said in its estimates that the Malaysian palm oil exports in April 1-25,

Source: Intertek Agri Services, Malaysia.

totalled 1016434 metric tonnes, up 19.86% from 848005 metric tonnes in March 1-25.

DOMESTIC MARKET ANALYSIS**Palm Oil**

Palm oil prices on domestic spot market range bound with positive sentiments in most markets amid biodiesel concern. Palm oil market improved slightly in an anticipation of higher demand of biodiesel from palm oil may reduce the stock. However, market could not surge sharply on account of biodiesel demands owing stronger Malaysian Ringgit against US Dollar. A stronger ringgit is unfavorable for the palm oil industry, as it reduces earnings from exports of the commodity. The ringgit's rise came in the wake of a surprise move by the central bank to raise its overnight policy rate by 25 basis points to 3.50%. The benchmark July CPO contract settled at MYR1,473 a metric ton, unchanged from previous trading day. A cargo

surveyor SGS (Malaysia) Bhd. released its export sales estimates on Tuesday i.e. April 25, 2006. Malaysia's palm oil exports in April 1-25, 2006 totalled 980876 metric tonnes, up 14.88 % from 127038 metric tonnes in March 1-25, 2006. Details of major items, which is estimated by SGS are as follows: The Export of RBD Palm Olein, Oil and Stearin increased by 25.56, 63.47 and 22.53 per cent respectively in April 1-25, 2006 as against of March 1-25, 2006. However, export sales of Crude Palm Oil declined by 2.56 per cent during the same period. India imported totalled 17700 metric ton in April 1-25, down 57.48 per cent from 41625 metric ton in March 1-25.

Weekly prices for CPO**(Rs/ 10 kg)**

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Kandla	370.00	370.00	369.00	369.00	370.00	373.00

Weekly prices for RBD Palmolein**(Rs/ 10 kg)**

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Kandla	384.00	384.00	384.00	385.00	385.00	390.00
Mumbai	388.00	389.00	388.00	390.00	391.00	400.00
Chennai	400.00	400.00	400.00	402.00	404.00	403.00
Kakinada	380.00	381.00	380.00	384.00	384.00	390.00
Hyderabad	400.00	400.00	400.00	402.00	404.00	406.00

Weekly prices for FOB (Kandla)**(US \$ / MT)**

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
CPO	397.50	395.00	395.00	392.50	395.00	Closed
RBD Palmolein	425.00	427.50	425.00	422.50	425.00	Closed

Refined Soy Oil

Refined soy oil prices on domestic physical markets improved in most markets amid positive sentiments on GMO concern. Daily arrivals of soybeans were in range of 45,000-55,000 bags (bags=85 kg) in major markets during the week. Refined soy oil prices on domestic spot markets were traded in a range of Rs 391-410 in Mumbai, Rs 388-408 in Indore, Rs 388-400 in Hyderabad, Rs 385-405 in Kota, Rs 388-405 per 10 kg excluding VAT in Jaipur

market. CIF (Cost, Insurance and Freight) charges for soy oil (April Shipment) at Kandla port were in a range of \$522/MT to \$540/MT and prices for soy degum (High-Seas) at Kandla were quoted in range of Rs 369 to 375 per 10 kg. during the week. Soy oil prices are expected to improve in coming days on account of depleting soybean stock and increasing demands of biodiesel from soy oil in European countries.

Prices for Soy (Ref) during the week**(Rs/ 10 kg)**

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Mumbai	391.00	394.00	394.00	405.00	407.00	410.00
Indore	389.00	388.00	386.00	402.00	404.00	408.00
Kota	388.00	385.00	385.00	395.00	400.00	405.00
Jaipur	390.00	388.00	388.00	400.00	402.00	405.00
Hyderabad	388.00	385.00	388.00	390.00	395.00	400.00
Chennai	395.00	395.00	395.00	395.00	398.00	400.00
Rajkot	381.00	380.00	380.00	385.00	390.00	390.00

Prices for Soy Degum (High Sea) during the week**(Rs/ 10 kg)**

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Mumbai	372.00	370.00	370.00	369.00	372.00	375.00

Prices for CIF Soya during the week**(US \$/ MT)**

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Kandla & Mumbai	530.00	522.00	530.00	528.00	535.00	540.00

Rape/Mustard Oil

Mustard oil prices on domestic spot market range bound amid positive sentiments in most markets amid higher prices of soy oil during April 24-27. Daily arrivals of mustard seeds were in range of 3,25,000-4,00,000 bags in Rajasthan, 80,000-90,000 bags in Madhya Pradesh and

about 5.50 lakh bags (bags= 85 kg) in India. Mustard harvesting is on peak in Rajasthan and it is expected to decline slightly day by day. Mustard oil prices are expected to improve in coming days due to lower supply and higher prices of soy oil.

Prices for Rape Expeller Oil**(Rs/ 10 kg)**

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Mumbai	385.00	386.00	385.00	383.00	382.00	386.00
Kota	365.00	365.00	366.00	368.00	370.00	375.00
Jaipur	370.00	370.00	371.00	372.00	372.00	378.00
Delhi	391.00	391.00	391.00	391.00	393.00	400.00

Groundnut oil

Groundnut oil prices on domestic spot markets were steady to weak sentiments amid lower demand at retail ends in most markets during April 24-27. Groundnut oil prices declined slightly to Rs 473 from Rs 476 in Mumbai, Rs 467 from Rs 470 per 10 kg in Rajkot markets. Rabi production in Gujarat is expected higher as compared to last year is

brought negative impact on its prices. However, prices improved at the end of this week on higher soy oil prices on spot markets and strong future markets. Groundnut oil prices are expected to move range bound with positive sentiments higher prices of other edible oil.

Prices for groundnut oil during the week

(Rs/10 kg)

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Mumbai+VAT	476.00	477.00	474.00	473.00	472.00	477.00
Rajkot+VAT	470.00	468.00	466.00	467.00	468.00	470.00
Andhra Region	480.00	480.00	480.00	480.00	480.00	480.00
Chennai+VAT	450.00	450.00	445.00	450.00	445.00	450.00
Delhi	510.00	510.00	510.00	510.00	510.00	510.00

Sunflower Oil

Domestic spot market prices of sunflower oil were range bound with positive sentiments in most of the markets. Refined SFO prices moved in range of Rs. 448 to 450 in Chennai, Rs 438-446 in Mumbai and Rs 438-448 in Hyderabad market per 10 kg during this week. Crude SFO

prices were quoted in a wide range of Rs 405-415 per 10 kg in Kandla and Mumbai during this week. CIF on sunflowers were in range of \$ 658/metric ton to \$ 643/ metric ton during this week. Sunflower oil prices are expected to move range bound.

Prices for Refined Sunflower Oil during this week

(Rs/10Kg)

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Chennai	449.00	448.00	448.00	450.00	448.00	448.00
Mumbai	438.00	440.00	440.00	438.00	440.00	446.00
Hyderabad	440.00	435.00	438.00	442.00	445.00	448.00

Prices for Crude Sunflower Oil during the week

(US \$/ MT)

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Kandla & Mumbai	405.00	410.00	410.00	410.00	410.00	415.00

Prices for CIF Sunflower during the week

(US \$/ MT)

Center	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Kandla & Mumbai	658.00	652.00	640.00	640.00	640.00	643.00

Cotton Refine Oil

Cotton oil prices on physical market improved at the end of this week amid positive sentiments in most markets. Cotton oil prices climbed behind soy oil prices. Cotton oil prices moved in range Rs 398-406 in Mumbai, Rs 390-408 in

Hyderabad and Rs 388-399 in Rajkot per 10 kg during this week. Cotton oil prices are expected to move range bound with positive sentiments in next week due to lower supply in major markets and higher prices of soy oil.

Prices for Refined Cotton Oil during this week

Markets	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
Mumbai +VAT	398.00	403.00	399.00	400.00	400.00	406.00
Hyderabad +VAT	390.00	390.00	390.00	395.00	405.00	408.00
Rajkot +VAT	390.00	388.00	388.00	390.00	395.00	399.00
Delhi	410.00	405.00	405.00	400.00	405.00	405.00

INTERNATIONAL MARKET WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Palm oil Market Malaysia

Crude palm oil futures at Bursa Malaysia Derivatives settled higher on Friday on account of gains in CBOT soyoil futures. The benchmark July CPO contract settled at MYR1,481 a metric ton, up MYR8 from Thursday. July soyoil on the Chicago Board of Trade settled 45 points higher overnight at 25.65 cents a pound. Malaysia observes a national holiday for Labor Day Monday. The traders were waiting for exports figure for Malaysian palm oil for the month of April, which are due to issue on May 2 by cargo surveyors SGS (Malaysia) Bhd and Intertek Agri Services. The expected figure of 1.2 million tons represents an improvement over the volume of 1.06 million tons in March.

Official production figures are due to be issued on May 10 by the Malaysian Palm Oil Board. There is talk in the market production of palm oil may increase by 15 % at the end of April. Malaysia's CPO production totaled 1.24 million tons in March. Overall, both production and exports can be expected to go up in April. With this kind of fairly balanced supply and demand situation, stocks won't change much. The Ringgit rose to its highest level since April 1998 this week, following a surprise move by the central bank to raise interest rates. Strengthening of the currency would be a bearish factor for the palm oil industry.

Soybean Market United States

July Soybeans settled up 10.50 cent at \$6.01/bushel, 13 cent off the high and 12 cent up from the low. November Soybeans settled up 11.25 cent at \$6.2075/bushel, which was 11.75 cent up from the low and 8.25 cent off the high. July Soymeal settled up \$1.8 at \$173.7/ton that was \$0.2 up from the low and \$3.3 off the high. July Soybean Oil closed up 0.07 cent at 25.72 cent/pound, 0.85 cent off the high and 0.17 cent up from the low. Gap higher opening and strength then after in soybean oil helped to boost the prices of the other soy complex amid short covering rally.

Strength in bullions and other commodity markets gives additional support to soybean. Fund buyers dominated the session and were noted buyers of at least 10,000 contracts into the mid-session. Commitment-of-Traders report with reveals a record net short position from speculators for the first week of April and therefore it is expected that short covering is expected at this stage. Heavy rains are likely to over western corn belt in coming days which may halt down the corn plantings. Bio-diesel demand is expected to increase in coming days, which supported the soybean oil.

Futures Markets (Vayda Bazaar)

Weekly settlement prices for soy oil at NBOT

Contracts	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
May, 2006	415.80	411.90	409.10	414.40	419.30	422.50
June, 2006	422.90	419.60	417.10	423.00	428.80	434.00

NCDEX Soy Futures Markets

NCDEX (May'06) Refined soy oil contract prices moved down slightly on speculative selling pressure and short covering on April 25-26 after gaining on April 24 and surged again on April 27 owing to GMO declarations and increasing demands of biodiesel due to rise in crude oil.

The prices moved in a range of Rs 411.90-421.00. The prices moved in a wide range of Rs 401.00 to Rs 426.50 during April 24-29. Soy oil prices are expected to move range bound with positive sentiments on increasing demands of bio diesel and depleting stock of soybeans.

Weekly settlement prices for soy oil at NCDEX

Contracts	24.04.06	25.04.06	26.04.06	27.04.06	28.04.06	29.04.06
May, 2006	416.40	413.45	409.60	414.80	419.65	424.10
June, 2006	422.50	420.60	418.00	423.70	428.55	434.00

CBOT Soy Futures Markets

May soybean oil futures prices on Chicago Board of Trade revealed mixed sentiments during the April 24-27. Traders were optimistic about bio diesel in lieu of higher crude oil prices and pessimistic on record high stock of soy oil and sowing acreage increased in USA. May CBOT soy oil contract prices moved in range of 22.34 -25.35 cents per pounds during April 24-27. May Soybean Oil closed up 0.40 cent on Thursday at 25.17 cent/pound, 0.30 cent off the high and 0.65 cent up from the low. Soybean oil got support from the talk of increased bio-diesel usage to supplement the energy demand combined with the bullish news from crush report helped to surge in the prices. Soybean oil performed well and remains at 8,500 metric tonnes as

compared to trade expectations between 0-10,000. Census crush for the month of March remain marginally higher at 150.4 million bushels as compared to trade expectations between 148.5-149.5 million bushels. Oil stocks remain at 2.686 billion pounds than 2.765 billion pounds expected. USDA weekly export sales data released on Thursday for the period of April 14-20, 2006, which revealed that the net sales of soybean oil of 8,500 MT were primarily for Canada (4,400 MT), Mexico (3,100 MT), and Nicaragua (500 MT). Exports of 14,300 MT were mainly for Cuba (8,200 MT), Canada (2,900 MT), Nicaragua (2,000 MT), and Mexico (1,000 MT).

WEEKLY WEATHER WATCH

Weather During the Week Ending On 26th April, 2006

Meteorological Analysis

Last week's upper air cyclonic circulation over central Pakistan & adjoining west Rajasthan extending upto 2.1 km a.s.l persisted on 20th and became less marked on 21st.

A western disturbance as an upper air system moved across Western Himalayan region during first half of the week. Under its influence, an induced cyclonic circulation has formed over central Pakistan and adjoining West Rajasthan extending upto 2.1 km a.s.l. on 23rd. It persisted on 24th and became less marked on 25th.

A low pressure area formed over southeast Bay of Bengal on 24th. It intensified into a depression on 25th morning with its centre near lat.8.5°N/long.91.0°E. It rapidly intensified into a deep depression at 1430 hrs. IST and further into a cyclonic storm at 1730 hrs. IST of the same day, with its centre near lat.10.0°N/ long.89.5°E. Moving slowly northwestwards, it lay centred near lat.10.5°N and long.89.0°E at 0830 hrs. IST of 26th. It then moved in a north-northeasterly direction and lay centred at 1730 hrs. IST of 26th near lat.11.5°N/ long.90.0°E.

An upper air cyclonic circulation extending upto 0.9 km a.s.l lay over Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh on 21st. It persisted upto 23rd and was seen over East Uttar Pradesh and Bihar on 24th & 25th.

A wind discontinuity/trough was seen running from north Madhya Maharashtra to South Tamil Nadu during first half of the week and from Vidarbha to south Tamil Nadu during 2nd half of the week.

Rainfall

Under the influence of above systems:

Light to moderate rain/thundershowers occurred at a few places over plains of northwest India on many days of the week and over western Himalayan region on 23rd & 24th.

Rain/thundershowers also occurred at a few places accompanied with isolated squalls over northeastern states, West Bengal & Sikkim during the week. It was isolated over coastal Orissa, East Uttar Pradesh and Coastal Andhra Pradesh on 1 to 2 days of the week.

Rain/thundershowers occurred at many places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during the week with isolated heavy rainfall on some days.

It also occurred at a few places over Kerala and south Tamil Nadu during first half of the week.

Dry weather prevailed in the rest regions of the country

Temperatures

Temperatures remained 2-3° C below normal over east Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal & Sikkim during the entire week and over Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Telangana during first half of the week.

They were generally 1-2° C above normal over northwest & adjoining central India during first half of the week and gradually increased over northwest, central & Peninsular India during 2nd half of the week.

Heat wave conditions developed over parts of northwest India on last 2 days of the week, when temperatures were 4-6° C above normal.

They remained near normal over rest parts of the country.

Highest maximum temperature of 45.0°C was recorded at Sriganganagar (Rajasthan) on 25th April.

Rainfall During The Week ending on 26th April 2006

Rainfall was excess/normal in 3, deficient/scanty in 26, and no rain in 7 out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions (Actual: 2.6 mm, Normal: 9.4 mm and Departure: -72%).

Cumulative Seasonal Rainfall (1st March to 26^h April, 2006)

Rainfall was excess/normal in 24, deficient/scanty in 12 out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions. (Actual: 63.0 mm, Normal: 64.6 mm and Departure: -3%).

Outlook For The Week Ending On May 03, 2006

The cyclonic storm over southeast Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify further and move in a northeasterly direction and cross Arakan coast by night of 29th April.

Temperatures likely to increase further over northwest, central and Peninsular India during first half of the week with possibility of heat wave conditions over parts of northwest and central India and coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Isolated to scattered rain/thundershowers activity accompanied with squall likely over east India and northeastern States.

A western disturbance is likely to affect northwest India during 2nd half of the week with possibility of rain /thundershowers over Western Himalayan region and duststorm/thunderstorm over the plains of northwest India.

Source: IMD, GOI.

PORT WATCH

Port updates of edible oils in India (April 24-29, 2006)

(Unit: Metric Tonnes)

Particulars	Expected	Arrived	Total
SBO	68850	68600	137450
Palm oil	13700	14004	27004
CPO	29500	39000	68500
Total	112050	121604	233654

Source: ANAS

Forex Rates

Country/ Continent	Currency	Value in Rs
USA	Dollar	44.97
European Union	Euro	56.82
Japan	100 Yen	39.50
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	82.10
Malaysia	Ringgit	12.42

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