

Domestic Fundamentals:**Market Outlook:**

The Rajkot mandi price for variety Shankar 6 stood Rs.37,750/per candy (64.21 cents/lb). ICE cotton futures plunged to their lowest level in more than 10 years on Thursday. Cotton contracts for May settled down 1.71 cent, or 3.02%, at 54.93 cents per lb.

News: Global trade of cotton has been impacted due to coronavirus outbreak. As a result, global prices have plummeted by around 10-11% from 63.48 cents/lbs to 56.64 cents/lbs only in last 15 days. Prices in India also got weaker by around 3% to 65.86 cents/lbs but due to intervention by CCI the prices remained slightly stable unlikely the global prices. Price parity between India and Global cotton is currently negative (which means Indian cotton cannot be profitably exported, as of now). Once CCI stops procurement, prices in India can fall sharply.

CCI is likely to continue the procurement from farmers at MSP so as to stabilize the falling domestic cotton prices (plunged from Rs. 38,000 per candy to Rs. 38,500 per candy for good quality cotton) against the continuous fall of prices in the international prices due to the effects of coronavirus. However, some farmers are holding their stock in the expectation of increase in price. Also, farmers are directed to avoid crowds by the district collectors. Most of the APMCs are working normally but the impact of coronavirus is majorly seen in urban areas. The arrivals have declined gradually since last month reached to around 1.3 lakh bales from 2-2.5 lakh bales in the previous month. Around 60% of the cotton have already arrived in the market out of which 80 lakh bales are procured by CCI so far till mid Mar'20.

CAI has estimated cotton consumption during the months of October 2019 to February 2020 at 133 lakh bales with the opening stock of 32 lakh bales in the beginning of the season. While the export shipment of cotton estimated by the CAI upto 29th Feb'20 is 27.50 lakh bales and the total imports till 29th Feb'20 reached around 12 lakh bales. Till 29th Feb'20, the consumption is estimated around 133 lakh bales and the stock with CCI, MNCs & Ginners is expected around 97.93 lakh bales so far.

As per the latest report, total stock with Government organization (CCI) has crossed 90 lakh bales as CCI procured around 75 lakh bales from the current season (2019-20) along with around 11 lakh bales procured by Maharashtra federation. Also, CCI is having the stock of around 9 lakh bales procured in the previous season (2018-19). Around 35% of the total arrival have been procured by CCI. The arrivals in Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan likely to finish in the end of March. Although the arrivals declined compared to the previous month across India.

According to the latest report released by USDA, the cotton forecast for 2019-20 showed lower production which reduced by 3,00,000 bales to 19.8 million bales of production in US. While the consumption and exports remained the same and ending stocks are lowered to 5.1 million bales. The global cotton production is up by 2.6 lakh bales as larger crop expected from Brazil. While the production estimates from other states remained unchanged compared to the previous month's estimates reported by USDA. Due to the outbreak of coronavirus in China, the trade has been disrupted and the imports of around 2.5 lakh bales are lowered so far following in the reduction in demand by 1 million bales in the February estimates. While Turkey likely to import more cotton to 4.3 million bales up by 8 lakh bales from year on year comparison.

The total cotton production in India reached around 254 lakh bales till 29th Feb'20 i.e., around 72% of the cotton have arrived in the market against the target. The maximum arrivals are reported in Gujarat producing 58.5 lakh bales followed by 55 lakh bales in Maharashtra and 45.38 lakh bales in Telangana. Agriwatch estimates the total cotton production of 351.8 lakh bales this year with an average yield of 466.62 kg/ha up by 4% year on year basis. Whereas, Cotton Association of India projected the cotton production same of around 354 lakh bales. The production is expected to decline in Andhra Pradesh due to decline in yield from 4-5q/ha to 2-3q/ha in Guntur district majorly where so far 12 lakh bales of cotton has arrived. Overall 10-12% increase in production is expected this year in India.

According to the trade sources, the Indian cotton exports for the January'20 were reported higher at 9.86 lakh bales against 5.36 lakh bales in the previous month. In January'20 also, China was the largest importer, importing 4.4 lakh bales

with an average FOB of 1.61 \$/Kg followed by Bangladesh at an average FOB \$1.67/kg for 3.96 lakh bales, Indonesia importing 77,394 bales at 1.51 \$/Kg and Vietnam (32,690 bales at an average FOB \$1.57/kg). China has started importing cotton from India and the quantity of purchasing is increasing gradually while the scenario is likely to reverse due to the halted export contracts in February month due to the outbreak of coronavirus. Vietnam, Mauritius, Iran, Philippines, Turkey & Thailand also imported raw cotton from India in January contributing to the Indian exports of around 69,570 bales at an average FOB between 1.48 and 1.72\$/kg.

CCI purchased around 70 lakh bales this year till last week of Feb'20 along with CCI purchased 10,000 bales of cotton under commercial operations due to lower market prices. Last year, CCI purchased cotton under commercial operations in the March end. The agency has floated a tender to purchase cotton at Rs. 39,400-39,500 per candy from the open market through an electronic auction. Nearly 65% of the cotton arrivals have come into the market. P. Alli rani said CCI could even buy up to 96 lakh bales subject to market conditions under MSP. CCI is having 9 lakh bales of stock of previous year and 70 lakh bales of cotton procured this season so far. Nearly 53% of cotton procured so far this season is from Telangana.

CCI launched its own new cotton brand 'Hira' in Mumbai. The launch of this new premium quality of cotton aims to provide a good and reliable quality input for spinning and further value addition. CCI-Hira has the benefits of minimal trash (below 1.7 %), low moisture (below 8%), best grade (Rd 78 plus), optimal micronaire value (3.8-4.2) and strength (29 g/tex plus) which would result in good realization. CCI is maintaining the high quality standards so far this season. CCI likely to procure the target of 100 lakh bales this season till October 2020. The procurement is likely to stretch till March end to mid-April across India. And the trade and textile industry is waiting for a reasonable rate of CCI's sale which is yet to be started.

Weather Forecast for tomorrow:

During the next 24 hours, light to moderate rains and thundershowers are expected over Northeast and East Madhya Pradesh, parts of Chhattisgarh, Odisha, North coastal Andhra Pradesh, parts of Telangana, Vidarbha and Interior Karnataka. Isolated rains are likely over Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala and Jharkhand. Scattered rains are expected over Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh and Uttarakhand as well as northern parts of Ladakh and Uttarakhand.

International Fundamentals:

Cotton finished the Thursday session 171 to 221 points lower, May 20 Cotton closed at 56, up by 1.07 cents. The 03/18 Cotlook A index was down another 70 points to 67.70 c/lb. The Adjusted World Price for cotton was adjusted 309 points lower to 49.95 c/lb.

Brazil farmers has finished their crop sowing planting on 1.619 million hectares with an increase of 0.05% from the previous season as the farmers are expecting strong demand for the fiber. The forecast released by USDA in Mar'20 reveals that country is likely to produce 2.83 million tonnes of the cotton lint higher by 25 thousand tonnes from the previous month's estimate. While the exports are also likely to increase by 6.05 lakh tonnes this year from 1.31 million tonnes in the previous season increasing the ending stocks to 2.84 million tonnes this year.

Steady to bearish trend was witnessed in Pakistan cotton market. The local textile and cotton industry which is moving in positive direction is badly affected by Corona virus. There were many challenges in the way of increasing the production of cotton. Ginners are suffering due to the non-interest of millers in the purchase of cotton. Although, ginners had the limited stock of 4 lakh bales out of which only 25 percent cotton is of good quality. It is expected that due to the negative impact of Corona virus in China Pakistani exports is likely to increase as Americans and European importers will take interest in the buying of Pakistani textile products.

The US Export Sales report from USDA showed 484,200 RB of 2019-20 upland cotton sold in the week ending 05th Mar'20 were up by 22% compared to previous week. Increases primarily for Pakistan (161,600 RB), China (90,900 RB), Turkey (84,100 RB), Vietnam (47,400 RB), Bangladesh (32,800 RB) were offset by reductions primarily for Japan (3,900 RB) and

Thailand (1,200 RB). For 2020/2021, net upland sales of 160,400 RB were for Mexico (91,600 RB), Turkey (20,100 RB), China (15,900 RB), Pakistan (11,400 RB). Net Upland Shipment for exports of 424,600 RB were down 11 percent from the previous week, Exports were primarily to Vietnam (94,600 RB), Pakistan (86,200 RB), Turkey (60,400 RB), China (55,100 RB), Bangladesh 34,800 RB).

Steady to bearish trend was witnessed in Pakistan cotton market. The ginnerers were not keen to sell cotton at the prevailing rates, expecting better rates in the coming days. In fact, the ginnerers are not interested to sell unsold cotton, anticipating a rise in the rates. Also, the steps announced by the government failed to provide any sooth to the textile sector, instead withdrawal of subsidy on electricity, will affect the sector and growers are under pressure as cotton seeds are not available easily in the market. The government had unilaterally increased power tariff from 7.5 cents to 13 cents per kWh to cover its inefficiency. The Pakistani exporters cannot compete with China, Bangladesh and India where power tariffs are lower.

US cotton dipped significantly by around 5% compared to the previous even after good sales report in the last week of Feb'20. The virus has now spread to South Korea, Italy, and Iran this week and no one has a cure. The spread created new fears about the health of the world economy and that meant the potential for less demand for US Cotton. The number of new cases being reported inside China continues to drop, but the number of new cases outside of China is increasing. U.S. factory manufacturing activity slowed as new orders contracted, likely due to supply chain disruptions related to the fast-spreading coronavirus outbreak.

Cotton futures slumped more than 4 percent on Thursday to their lowest level in over four months as fears about the economic impact of the spreading coronavirus dented risk sentiment among investors. Cotton contracts for May settled down 2.97 cent, or 4.5%, at 62.5 cents per lb. It traded within a range of 62.47 and 65.47 cents a lb. Investors are ignoring the good fundamentals for cotton and are trading on the panic of the coronavirus. The export sales were positive, especially with China being one of the major buyers this time.

MCX Cotton Futures*: (Prices in Rs/170 kgs)

Contract	+/-	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	OI	Change
20-Mar	50	17380	17400	17120	17200	1179	699	4486	2323
20-Apr	20	17530	17650	17350	17470	1225	858	4082	2799
20-May	-50	17820	17890	17670	17740	112	-696	556	-984

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Spread	20-Feb	20-Mar	20-Apr	20-May	--	--
Spot	-				-	-
19-Dec	-	-250	-	-	-	-
20-Jan	-	-	-240	-	-	-

(NB: Spread Basis = Spot- Near Month Future) As updated on 20th Mar @ 5.30 pm

* Updated at as on 20-Mar- 2020 @ 5:00 PM

DOMESTIC PRICES AND ARRIVALCotton Prices at Key Spot Markets:

Commodity	Kapas		Prices (Rs./Quintal)		Change
State	Centre	Variety	20-Mar-20	19-Mar-20	
Gujarat	Ahmedabad	Shankar-6	5200	5300	-100
	Gondal	Shankar-6	5230	5180	50
	Rajkot	B.T. Cotton	5025	5025	Unch
	Patan	B.T. Cotton	4890	4955	-65
	Kadi	B.T. Cotton	5100	5250	-150
	Deesa	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	B.T. Cotton	NR	4785	-
Haryana	Bhiwani	B.T. Cotton	5050	5050	Unch
	Bhiwani	Desi	NA	NA	-
	Adampur	B.T. Cotton	5050	5100	-50
	Fatehabad	B.T. Cotton	4900	4950	-50
	Jind	B.T. Cotton	Closed	5125	-
	Uchana	B.T. Cotton	NA	5025	-
	Dabwali	B.T. Cotton	5450	5450	Unch
Rajasthan	Hanumangarh	B.T. Cotton	Closed	4950	-
	Rawatsar	B.T. Cotton	Closed	Closed	-
Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa	Mech-1	5200	5200	Unch
	Khargaon	Mech-1	NR	NR	-
Maharashtra	Amravati	Mech-1	Closed	Closed	-
	Jamner	Medium Staple	NA	NA	-
Uttar Pradesh	Hathras	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Hathras	Desi	NA	NA	-
Telangana	Adilabad	Un-Ginned	4700	4700	Unch
Karnataka	Bijapur	Bunny	5209	5259	-50
	Hubli	D.C.H.	5200	5250	-50
	Hubli	B.T. Cotton	6700	6700	Unch
	Raichur	H-44 Cotton	5100	5200	-100
Commodity	Lint		Prices (Rs./Maund)		Change
State	Centre	Variety	20-Mar-20	19-Mar-20	
Punjab	Bhatinda	J-34	3890	3920	-30
	Abohar	J-34	3900	4035	-135
	Mansa	J-34	3950	3980	-30
Haryana	Sirsa	J-34	3850	3890	-40
Rajasthan	Sri-Ganganagar	J-34	3666	3690	-24

Cotton Arrivals in Key Centers:

Commodity	Kapas		Arrivals (Quintal)		Change
State	Centre	Variety	20-Mar-20	19-Mar-20	
Gujarat	Ahmedabad	Shankar-6	34000	37400	-3400
	Gondal	Shankar-6	2628	2694	-66
	Rajkot	B.T. Cotton	4390	4810	-420
	Patan	B.T. Cotton	3042	2873	169
	Kadi	B.T. Cotton	20000	30000	-10000
	Deesa	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	B.T. Cotton	NR	255	-
Haryana	Bhiwani	B.T. Cotton	500	500	Unch
	Bhiwani	Desi	NA	NA	-
	Adampur	B.T. Cotton	340	255	85
	Fatehabad	B.T. Cotton	100	100	Unch
	Jind	B.T. Cotton	Closed	510	-
	Uchana	B.T. Cotton	NA	1100	-
	Dabwali	B.T. Cotton	1700	1700	Unch
Rajasthan	Hanumangarh	B.T. Cotton	Closed	200	-
	Rawatsar	B.T. Cotton	Closed	Closed	-
Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa	Mech-1	400	300	100
	Khargaon	Mech-1	NR	NR	-
Maharashtra	Amravati	Mech-1	Closed	Closed	-
	Jamner	Medium Staple	NA	NA	-
Uttar Pradesh	Hathras	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Hathras	Desi	NA	NA	-
Telangana	Adilabad	Un-Ginned	1740	1940	-200
Karnataka	Bijapur	Bunny	1568	1556	12
	Hubli	D.C.H.	36	2	34
	Hubli	B.T. Cotton	NR	NR	-
	Raichur	H-44 Cotton	1327	1477	-150
Commodity	Lint		Arrivals (Quintal)		Change
State	Centre	Variety	20-Mar-20	19-Mar-20	
Punjab	Bhatinda	J-34	5100	5100	Unch
	Abohar	J-34	2550	1190	1360
	Mansa	J-34	2040	1700	340
Haryana	Sirsa	J-34	2210	2040	170
Rajasthan	Sri-Ganganagar	J-34	500	500	Unch

Cotton Seed Oil Prices:

Commodity	Cotton Seed Oil	Price	Change
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State	Centre	Unit	20-Mar-20	19-Mar-20	
Gujarat	Rajkot	Rs. /10 Kg.	770	755	15
Delhi	New Delhi	Rs. /10 Kg.	735	720	15
Telangana	Hyderabad	Rs. /10 Kg.	780	745	35
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Rs. /10 Kg.	760	760	Unch

Cotton Seed Oil Seed Cake Prices:

Commodity	Cotton Seed Oil Seed Cake		Price		Change
State	Centre	Unit	20-Mar-20	19-Mar-20	
Gujarat	Mahesana (Kadi)	Rs./Qtl	1893	1881	12
Maharashtra	Akola	Rs./Qtl	1827	1807	20

Cotton Association of India Spot Rates:

Trade Name	Staple	Micronaire	Strength/ GPT	Rs. Per Candy	Rs. Per Candy	Change
				19-Mar-20	18-Mar-20	
Bengal Deshi (RG)/Assam Comilla (101)	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	15	36800	37100	-300
Bengal Deshi (SG)(201)	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	15	37300	37600	-300
J-34(202)	26mm	3.5 - 4.9	23	37000	37400	-400
H-4/ MECH-1(105)	28mm	3.5 - 4.9	27	37300	37600	-300
Shankar-6(105)	29mm	3.5 - 4.9	28	38300	38700	-400
Bunny/ Brahma(105)	31mm	3.5 - 4.9	30	38200	38600	-400
MCU-5/ Surabhi(106)	32mm	3.3 - 4.9	31	38000	38300	-300
DCH-32(107)	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	33	38500	38900	-400

INTERNATIONAL PRICES AND INDICES**China Cotton Index:**

Index	Unit	20-Mar-20	19-Mar-20	Change
CCIndex(328)	RMB/Ton	11825	12223	-398
CCIndex(527)	RMB/Ton	11333	11671	-338
CCIndex(229)	RMB/Ton	12275	12580	-305

RMB -Renminbi, 1RMB =0.16 \$U.S.

China Foreign Cotton (FCE) Index :

Index	Unit	20-Mar-20	19-Mar-20	Change
FC Index (S)	Cents/lb	70.12	72.34	-2.22
FC Index (M)	Cents/lb	66.63	68.05	-1.42
FC Index (L)	Cents/lb	64.83	66.58	-1.75

Cotlook Index:

Cotlook Indices	Unit	19-Mar-20	16-Mar-20	Change
A-Index	Cents/Pound	66.6	70.05	-3.45

USDA Cotton Spot Rates:

Growth Area	Unit	Leaf 4 to Staple 34	Leaf 3 to Staple 35	Arrivals
		19-Mar-20	19-Mar-20	Bales
Southeast	cents/lb.	52.68	54.93	0
North Delta	cents/lb.	51.18	53.43	43
South Delta	cents/lb.	51.18	53.43	0
East TX-OK	cents/lb.	49.93	52.18	0
West Texas	cents/lb.	49.43	51.93	0
Desert SW	cents/lb.	46.68	50.68	0
SJ Valley	cents/lb.	47.18	56.08	0

Spot quotations are for cotton equal to the official standards, net weight, in mixed lots. Upland quotations are FOB car/truck, which includes compression and any brokerage charges. The upland base quality is color 41, leaf grade 4, staple 34 (1.05 to 1.07), mike 3.5, 3.6 and 4.3 to 4.9, strength 26.5 to 28.4 grams per Tex and uniformity 80.5 to 81.4

Pakistan Cotton Spot rates: As on 19-Mar-2019

(in Pakistan Rupees)

Product	Rate for	Ex-Gin Price	Up Country Sales	Spot Rate Karachi
Cotton	37.32 Kgs	8900	160	9060
Equivalent	40 Kgs	9538	171	9709

Daily Futures Price Listing Thu March 19, 2020

Most Recent Information							Previous Day		
Mth	Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Change	Volume	Open Int	Change
Cotton(ICE)									
20-May	200319	56.3	56.95	53.64	54.93	-1.71	19,127	97,173	-2,750
20-Jul	200319	56.92	57.4	54.19	54.98	-2.21	10,880	50,694	-432
20-Oct	200319	56.42	56.42	55.55	56.25	-1.85	19	54	0
20-Dec	200319	57.99	58.25	55.08	56.1	-1.98	4,794	50,160	169
21-Mar	200319	59.05	59.08	56.21	57.08	-2.05	892	8,419	-126
21-May	200319	60.6	60.6	57.3	58.02	-2.04	342	982	70
Total Volume and Open Interest							36,285	211,258	-2,956

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