

Executive Summary

Soybean, rapeseed-mustard and soy meal posted gains on supportive buying in the physical market during the week under review. However, lower bearish supply scenario and lower crude remained limiting factors. The short and medium-term fundamentals continue to remain week for soy and rapeseed-mustard.

Soybean:

- The soybean edged-up followed by renewed buying in the cash market during the week under review.
 This is despite fall in the benchmark, CBOT, soybeans during the period.
- The international benchmark, CBOT, prices continued downtrend and reached one-week low on increasing supply pressure from the expanding South American soybean harvest and reports of higher 2015/16 US soybean planting.
- ❖ Argentine growers have harvested about 5% of this year's soy, with high yields in the central farm belt compensating for flood damage in northern region Rosario grains exchange. Argentina's crop range from 56 to 60 million tons v/s 53.4 million tons last season. Mixed soybean yield reported from Brazil and soybean harvesting have been 60 percent completed.
- ❖ Port workers at the Rosario, Argentina, which is the grain hub, will hold a 24-hour strike on Tuesday in solidarity with a general work stoppage throughout the country on the same day over tax policy.
- The domestic soybean prices will continue to remain under global supply pressure, lower crude and India's weak soy meal export sales with disparity on crushing the bean, though mild gains in cash market can't be ruled out with some bullish news.

Soy meal:

- Soy meal witnessed gains in tandem with soybeans followed by renewed local demand in the cash market during the week under review.
- Recent purchases in rapeseed-mustard oil cake and soy meal by the poultry units remained supportive for the meal market. The poultry units have shown interest in purchasing rapeseed-mustard oilcake as the prices are competitive with the newly harvested crushings of the mustard seed.



- India's near and medium-term fundamentals remain bearish for domestic soy meal mainly due to weak international prices with higher global soy supply scenario and lower crude. The competitive S. American soy meal price compared to India's, remained negative factor for domestic meal.
- ❖ There are mixed views on the Argentina's soybean production and crop damage due to heavy rains recently. Heavy rains in February and early March has hit the Argentina's soybean yield, the water is receding though. The government forecast a record soy crop of 58 million tonnes, while Agripac before cutting its forecast to 55.5 million tonnes. The flood damage is expected to reduce the Argentina's soy crop by 1.7% to 4.5% or by 1 million tonnes or 2.5 million tonnes Agripac. While others feel higher yield will offset the flood damage.
- ❖ India's soy meal exports once again fell in February by 65% Y-o-Y and 71% in the current oil year.
- The soy meal prices are likely to feature mild gains in near-term.

RM Seed:

- RM seed featured mild gains which were limited by heavy arrival pressure during the week under. The rapeseed-mustard cash market is under supply pressure with the ongoing harvesting in several growing regions.
- ❖ The harvesting in Uttar Pradesh is over and it is also complete in some parts of Rajasthan, it is progressing in Haryana and likely in Punjab.
- ❖ The all India seed arrivals were reported at 27,25,000 bags during the week under review compared to 18,25,000 bags previous week. In Rajasthan the supplies increased to 17,00,000 bags compared to 11,35,000 bags in the previous week.

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- The seed supplies are rising week-on-week with the increase in harvesting pace, though the all India supplies could not reach the previous year's level of 7 lakh bags yet, which were witnessed at the end of March 2014.
- The Malaysian palm oil is weak since last several months and currently the prices are hovering below 2200 ringgits per ton. Indian rapeseed-mustard closely tracks Malaysian palm oil.
- The international fundamental for the palm oil continued to remain bearish with price sharply lower as it is reeling under supply pressure.



- As discussed above, Malaysia will impose 4.5% export tax on crude palm oil in April, ending the period of duty-free exports starting in Sept 2014. Malaysia and Indonesia had exempted export duty from palm oil making it much cheaper for India.
- ❖ But Malaysia's step will make the import slightly dearer for India, which had been importing at lower price since long, which may boost the soy prices to some extent.
- Increasing seasonal arrivals of the rapeseed-mustard with harvesting in full swing and exemption of export duty by Malaysia and Indonesia on palm oil will pressure the seed price in near-term. However, renewed demand by the solvent extractors and Malaysia's decision on imposing export duty on palm oil may push up the seed price further.

International Highlights

- ❖ Argentine growers have harvested about 5% of this year's soy, with high yields in the central farm belt compensating for flood damage in northern region Rosario grains exchange. Argentina's crop range from 56 to 60 million tons v/s 53.4 million tons last season. Mixed soybean yield reported from Brazil and soybean harvesting have been 60 percent completed.
- Argentina's Rosario grains exchange maintained its forecast for the 2014/15 soy harvest at 58 million tonnes, citing higher yield potential would compensate for flood damage in parts of country's grains belt.
- ❖ Brazil's 2014/15 soybean harvesting is in full swing and the production is forecast to total a record 94.4 million tonnes, compared with a previous forecast of 95 million tonnes by Safras & Mercado.
- Allendale has estimated U.S. farmers to increase 2015/16 soybean plantings to a record 86.052 million acres with likely reduced sowing of corn, if realized, it would exceed last year's record plantings of 83.701 million acres.
- ❖ Flooding in some of the soy-growing areas of Argentina including Cordoba, Entre Rios and Santa Fe provinces has become the matter of concern to the government as farmers get ready to start harvesting the 2014/15 crop, the agriculture ministry said this week.
- The Argentina's government expects a 2014/15 soy crop record-high at 58 million tonnes, just above the 57 million tonnes forecast by the Buenos Aires Grains Exchange. The figures are the revised estimates of Rosario Grain Exchange raising its previous production estimate for 54.5 million tonnes. Recent rains are cited as the reason for boost in yield and eventually the production.
- * Brazillian truck strike has ended and key highway in top soy state Mato Grosso opened after two weeks of protests. 500 trucks had arrived at Brazil's port of Paranagua where recent roadblocks depleted soy stocks.
- ❖ As per Oil World, Indonesia palm oil production seen at 32.4 million tons for 2014-15 v/s 30.5 million tons last year and Malsyain palm oil production seen at 19.4 million tons for 2014-15, down one million tons from last year. Moreover, CPO (at Rotterdam) and RBD palmolein (FOB Malaysia) prices for 2015 seen at USD 770 /T and USD 750/T respectively.
- Reports by Oil World reveals EU-28 imports of soya meal increased to 5.3 Mn T in Oct/Dec 2014.

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- Oil World has estimated, Argentina's shipments of vegetable oils are expected to improve by approximately 0.6 Mn T this season.
- EU-28 crushings of rapeseed rose above expectations and touched a record 13.5 Mn T in July/Dec 2014, as reported by Oil World.
- On the production front, combined crude palm oil output from Malaysia and Indonesia is expected to rise to 51.1 million tons in 2015 v/s 49.2 million tons last year.
- Brazil's 2014/15 soybean production is estimated at 92.3 million tonnes by Abiove in the new forecast in Feb., which is up 1.6 million tonnes from its previous estimate of 91.9 million tonnes.
- The shipments and the volume of Argentine soybeans in 2015 are expected to be similar to December's estimate at 48 million tonnes, said Abiove.
- The consolidated soya oil shipments of the US, Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay increased by 2% to 2.1 Mn T in Oct/Jan 2014/15, as reported by Oil World.
- ❖ The surge in G-4 soybean shipment by 2.4 Mn T in Sept/Jan 2014/15 indicates record global demand (Source: Oil World).
- Brazil based analyst Safras & Mercado forecast a 2014/15 Brazilian soybean output at 95.0 million tonnes, down from 95.9 million tonnes estimated in December.
- Brazil's Agriculture Ministry's crop supply agency Conab has estimated its 2014/15 soybean production at record 95.8 million tonnes, higher than the USDA. It also said Brazil is expected to export a record 49.6 million tonnes of the soybean, which is sharply higher from the 45.6 million tonnes estimated to be exported during the current season.
- The global production of soybeans has been raised by 1.3 Mn T to 309.1 Mn T, 24.3 Mn T, by Oil World, above last season Oil World.
- ❖ India's 2013/14 soyoil imports stood at 1.95 Mn T against 1.09 Mn T in 2012/14 season. Palm oil purchases were slightly lower at 7.29 Mn T against 8.29 Mn T last season. Sunflower oil imports were recorded at 1.51 Mn T against 0.97 Mn T in 2012/13.
- ❖ As per Oil World, the global supplies of palm oil is expected to rise by only 2.2 Mn T in Oct/Sept 2014/15, which is down from an average annual growth of 3.9 Mn T in the past 3 seasons.
- China's soybean import is estimated to 73.5 Mn T in Oct/Sept 2014/15 by the Oil World.
- ❖ As per Abiove, Brazil's soybean crop for 2014/15 is estimated at 91 million tons and exports forecast at 48 million tons. As per Oil World, oilseed production may rise to 519.7 million tons, up 4.31 percent from 2013-1. The total oilseeds production includes 310.80 million tons of soybean, 68 million tons of rapeseed, 41.4 million tons of sunflower seed and rests others.
- ❖ The total oilmeals consumption of five N. African countries in 2014/15 is estimated at 6.2-6.3 Mn, which has more than doubled within 10 years.
- India's import requirements of vegetable oils are set to increase to a new high of 12.2 Mn T in 2014/15, as reported by Oil World.
- ❖ Oil World has estimated a combined soya meal imports of 8 key countries in Southeast Asia at a record 16.6 Mn T next season, which is up 1.4 Mn T on the year.
- ❖ As per Agroconsult, Brazil is likely to produce 95.1 million tons of soybeans in 2014-15, up 1 million tons from previous estimates. Moreover, Argentina soybean crop output for 2014-15 seen at 56.6 millions tons.



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- The palm oil production in Malaysia is estimated to reach a record 19.7 million tons to 19.9 million tons. Further, Indonesia's output is likely an all-time high of 30.5 million tons or more this year. Production is estimated by Dorab Mistry, Director at Godrej International Ltd. Both the countries account for 86% of world total supplies.
- ❖ Germany's winter rapeseed output is estimated at 5.8 million tonnes in 2014, up from 5.7 million tonnes in 2013, German farmer's association, DBV said.
- ❖ Oil World has estimated the Canadian canola crop at 14.7 Mn T in 2014 which is considerably below the record 17.96 Mn T last year.
- ❖ EU-28 rapeseed outturn has turned out higher than expected there is an upward revision to 23.5 Mn T. EU rapeseed exports are also improving.



Oil Meal Prices at Key Spot Markets:

Soy DOC Rates at Different Centers

Centres	Ex-factory rates (Rs/ton)			
Centres	27-Mar-15	20-Mar-15	Parity To	
Indore (MP)	29000	29000	Gujarat, MP	
Kota	28700	28500	Rajasthan, Del, Punjab, Haryana	
Dhulia/Jalna	29700	29700	Mumbai, Maharashtra	
Nagpur (42/46)	29500	29500	Chattisgarh, Orissa, Bihar, Bangladesh, AP, Kar, TN	
Nanded	30400	29400	Andhra, AP, Kar ,TN	
Latur	30300	29500	-	
Sangli	30300	30300	Local and South	
Sholapur	30800	30500	Local and South	
Akola	29200	28800	Andhra, Chattisgarh, Orrisa,Jharkhand, WB	
Hingoli	30000	29200	Andhra, Chattisgarh, Orrisa,Jharkhand, WB	
Bundi	28500	28500	-	

Soy DOC at Port

Centers	Port Price		
Centers	27-Mar-15	20-Mar-15	
Kandla (FOR) (INR/MT)	29750	29500	
Kandla (FAS) (USD/MT)	475	472	

International Soy DOC			
Argentina FOB USD/MT	26-Mar-15	19-Mar-15	Change
Soybean Pellets	360	359	1
Soybean Cake Flour	360	359	1
Soya Meal	368	367	1
Soy Expellers	368	367	1

Sunflower (DOC) Rates	Ex-factory rates (Rs/ton)		
Centers	27-Mar-15	20-Mar-15	Change
Adoni	20200	20000	200
Khamgaon	NA	NA	-





Parli	20400	20200	200
Latur	20000	20000	Unch

Groundnut Meal (Rs/MT)	27-Mar-15	20-Mar-15	Change
Basis 45%, Saurashtra	25000	25000	Unch
Basis 40%, Saurashtra	22000	22000	Unch
GN Cake, Gondal	25500	25500	Unch

Mustard DOC/Meal	27-Mar-15	20-Mar-15	Change
Jaipur (Plant delivery)	14800	15000	-200
Kandla (FOR Rs/MT)	15400	15300	100

Progress of Sown Area - Rabi Oilseeds, India

In the official rabi oilseeds planting report (week ending 12 Mar. 2015), the area coverage under Rabi oilseeds is reported at 84.01 lakh hectares, down 8% from 91.45 lakh ha during the same period last year. Of the major oilseeds, rapeseed/mustard seed sowing is reported down by 8.6% at 65.17 lha compared to 71.32 lha during the same period last year. Groundnut at 8.43 lha vs 8.71 lha, safflower at 0.95 lha vs 1.78 lha, sunflower at 3.19 lha vs 4.40 lha, sesamum 2.26 lha vs 1.12 lha, linseed 3.21 lha vs 3.59 lha during the same period last year.

Crop	As on 12 Mar. 2015	As on 12 Mar. 2014	% Change
Rapeseed/Mustard	65.17	71.32	-8.6
Groundnut	8.43	8.71	-3.2
Safflower	0.95	1.78	-46.6
Sunflower	3.19	4.40	-27.5
Sesamum	2.26	1.12	101.8
Linseed	3.21	3.59	-10.6
Others	0.80	0.53	50.9
Total Oilseeds	84.01	91.45	-8.1

(Area in lakh hectares) Source: GOI



Soybean

The soybean edged-up followed by renewed buying in the cash market during the week under review. This is despite fall in the benchmark, CBOT, soybeans during the period.

However, the domestic oilseeds market is under continued pressure with ongoing harvesting in rapeseed-mustard. Further, weakness in crude and bearish soybean supply outlook is limiting the gains in domestic soybeans too.

Higher edible oil imports and lower soy meal export sales of Indian origin followed by disparity in crushing the beans kept the bean prices under pressure for long.

The international benchmark, CBOT, prices continued downtrend and reached one-week low on increasing supply pressure from the expanding South American soybean harvest and reports of higher 2015/16 US soybean planting.

Argentine growers have harvested about 5% of this year's soy, with high yields in the central farm belt compensating for flood damage in northern region - Rosario grains exchange. Argentina's crop range from 56 to 60 million tons v/s 53.4 million tons last season. Mixed soybean yield reported from Brazil and soybean harvesting have been 60 percent completed.

Port workers at the Rosario, Argentina, which is the grain hub will hold a 24-hour strike on Tuesday in solidarity with a general work stoppage throughout the country on the same day over tax policy.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture expects world soy stocks to hit a record-high 89.5 million tonnes by the end of the 2014-15 season. USDA has estimated the global soybean production at a record 315.1 million tonnes for this season.

Malaysia will impose 4.5% export tax on crude palm oil in April, ending the period of duty-free exports starting in Sept 2014. Malaysia and Indonesia had exempted export duty from palm oil making it much cheaper for India.

But Malaysia's step will make the import slightly dearer for India, which had been importing at lower price since long, which may boost the soy prices to some extent.

Conab – Brazil's government crop supply agency has trimmed its 2014/15 soybean production estimate to 93.3 million tonnes this week from 94.6 million tonnes in February slashing sown area and potential yield output.

However, consistent Chinese buying remained supportive to the market to some extent. China imported 4.26 million tonnes of soybeans in February, down 38.1% from 6.88 million tonnes in January, as reported by the General Administration of Customs of China. China bought 230,000 tonnes of vegetable oils in February, down 48.9% from the previous month.

The domestic soybean prices will continue to remain under global supply pressure, lower crude and India's weak soy meal export sales with disparity on crushing the bean, though mild gains in cash market can't be ruled out with some bullish news.



Soy meal

Soy meal witnessed gains in tandem with soybeans followed by renewed local demand in the cash market during the week under review.

Recent purchases in rapeseed-mustard oil cake and soy meal by the poultry units remained supportive for the meal market. The poultry units have shown interest in purchasing rapeseed-mustard oilcake as the prices are competitive with the newly harvested crushings of the mustard seed.

India's near and medium-term fundamentals remain bearish for domestic soy meal mainly due to weak international prices with higher global soy supply scenario and lower crude. The competitive S. American soy meal price compared to India's, remained negative factor for domestic meal.

There are mixed views on the Argentina's soybean production and crop damage due to heavy rains recently. Heavy rains in February and early March has hit the Argentina's soybean yield, the water is receding though. The government forecast a record soy crop of 58 million tonnes, while Agripac before cutting its forecast to 55.5 million tonnes. The flood damage is expected to reduce the Argentina's soy crop by 1.7% to 4.5% or by 1 million tonnes or 2.5 million tonnes - Agripac. While others feel higher yield will offset the flood damage.

India's soy meal exports once again fell in February by 65% Y-o-Y and 71% in the current oil year.

The domestic soy meal demand has been already hit due to recent incidents of bird flu in some parts of Kerala, affecting poultry production in several other parts of South India where there are highest number of poultry units, and poultry is the largest consuming industry of soy meal in India.

The domestic solvent extractors continued to face the crisis followed by wide disparity on crushing the beans and sharp fall in the meal exports from the beginning of the season which is certainly restricting the gains in soy meal.

The overseas soy meal exports eased m-o-m as well as y-o-y this season primarily due to the competitive international meal prices, including the meal of US, Brazil and Argentine origin compared the meal of Indian origin. India's soy meal exports this season are sharply lower as compared to the previous years.

Exports of Soybean meal during February, 2015 was 64,515 tons as compared to 1,83,551 tons in February, 2014 showing a decrease by 64.85% over the same period of last year.

On a financial year basis, the export during April'2014 to February'2015 is 5,99,818 tons as compared to 26,08,698 tons in the same period of previous year showing a decrease of 77%.

During current Oil year, (October – September), total exports during October 2014 to February, 2015 are 5,02,958 tons as against 17,32,404 tons last year, showing a decrease by 70.96%.

Iran, Indonesia and Myanmar remained the top 3 buyers of Indian soy meal in February 2015.

The average monthly soy meal price spread between FAS Kandla and FOB Argentina has widened in Feb. and was recorded at US \$45/MT in Feb. 2015 compared to US \$30/MT in Jan. 15. Argentine soy meal export prices continued to be attractive as compared to the India's.



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India's soy meal exports declined to 64,514 tonnes in February from 104,426 tonnes in Jan., the Solvent Extractors' Association of India. Of total oilmeal shipments in Feb., soy meal comprised of 64,514 tonnes, rapeseed meal (62,545 tonnes), ricebran extraction (3380 tonnes) and castorseed meal was (51,494 tonnes).

Considering the current scenario, we feel that India may not be able to regain the lost market this season which it lost last season due to prices competitive in US, and South American meal followed by record supply scenario.

The soy meal prices are likely to feature range-bound movement in near-term.

Preference of the soy meal of Indian origin mainly by the South-East countries due to logistic and freight advantage and demand for non-GMO meal will continue to lend support to the domestic soy meal. Iran, Japan, Europe, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and South Korea could be seen as the major destinations for Indian soy meal exports.

India's Y-o-Y soy meal prices are lower. Soy meal export price, FOR Kandla (Mar – Apr delivery) was quoted between Rs 29,425–29,750/MT compared to Rs 38,200 – 38,650/MT during the same period last year.

Recommendation: India's soy meal prices are under global supply pressure. Indian meal exporters are advised to aggressively explore the lost markets last season especially traditional South and Far-East Asian destinations and Iran. India is into the period of higher exports considering seasonality. The domestic meal prices are likely to feature range bound movement with weak bias in near-term. FOR, Kandla (Apr. - May delivery) is expected to feature range-bound movement and the quotes are expected to slightly improve and will in the range of Rs.29500 – 29,800/MT levels in the upcoming week. They remained between Rs. 29,425 – 29,750/MT during the week.



Technical Analysis:

NCDEX Soybean Futures



Soybean Spot, Indore



*Note: Daily Chart

Support & Resistance NCDEX Soybean - Apr. contract

S 1	S2	PCP	R1	R2
3314	3255	3382	3440	3480

- > Soybean prices closed slightly above previous week's level.
- Prices closed below 9-day and 18-day EMA.
- > RSI is rising in neutral region while stochastic is easing in oversold zone.
- MACD is rising in negative territory.
- The prices are expected to feature gains in the coming week.
- ➤ Trade Recommendation (NCDEX Soybean Apr.) Week: BUY Above 3380. Levels: Target 3430; T2-3460, SL -3350.

Trade Recommendation Soybean - Spot: Soybean prices will remain under pressure but may witness mild gain after market witnessed some fresh buying this week. The prices are likely to be in the band of 3330–3450 levels (Indore, Plant basis) during the week. The prices remained within the price band of 3300-3400.



Rapeseed - Mustard Seed

RM seed featured mild gains which were limited by heavy arrival pressure during the week under. The rapeseed-mustard cash market is under supply pressure with the ongoing harvesting in several growing regions.

The harvesting in Uttar Pradesh is over and it is also complete in some parts of Rajasthan, it is progressing in Haryana and likely in Punjab.

The all India seed arrivals were reported at 27,25,000 bags during the week under review compared to 18,25,000 bags previous week. In Rajasthan the supplies increased to 17,00,000 bags compared to 11,35,000 bags in the previous week.

The seed supplies are rising week-on-week with the increase in harvesting pace, though the all India supplies could not reach the previous year's level of 7 lakh bags yet, which were witnessed at the end of March 2014.

The Malaysian palm oil is weak since last several months and currently the prices are hovering below 2200 ringgits per ton. Indian rapeseed-mustard closely tracks Malaysian palm oil.

The international fundamental for the palm oil continued to remain bearish with price sharply lower as it is reeling under supply pressure.

As discussed above, Malaysia will impose 4.5% export tax on crude palm oil in April, ending the period of duty-free exports starting in Sept 2014. Malaysia and Indonesia had exempted export duty from palm oil making it much cheaper for India.

But Malaysia's step will make the import slightly dearer for India, which had been importing at lower price since long, which may boost the soy prices to some extent.

Exports of Malaysian palm oil products for March 1 - 25 rose 3.5 percent to 856,474 tonnes from 827,273 tonnes shipped during February 1 - 25, cargo surveyor Intertek Testing Services said on Wednesday. India and subcontinent imported 281,500 tons of palm oil products from Malaysia during 1-25 March v/s 239,975 tons same period of the last month.

The oilseed crushers are already discouraged by the soybean crushing due to lower returns followed by wider disparity on crushing the beans. Hence, they are currently switching to mustard seed crushing more than the soy.

As per Oil World, the Indian rabi (winter) rapeseed crop, which is under harvesting phase is expected to decline by 12%, due to unfavorable weather just before harvesting, this will increase the country's dependence on vegetable oil imports in coming months. This is one other reason for the surge in the seed prices.

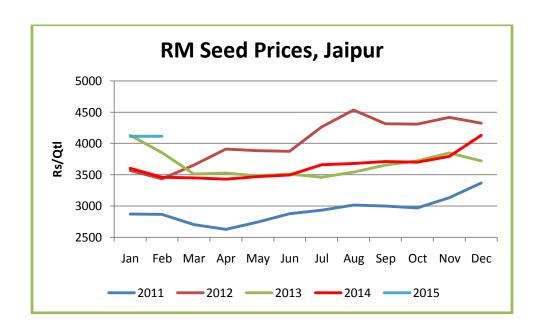
Overall, India's edible oil imports remained higher in previous months, which have lead to severe crisis to domestic solvent extractors owing to disparity on crushing the seed and bean.

On the production front, combined crude palm oil output from Malaysia and Indonesia is expected to rise to 51.1 million tons in 2015 v/s 49.2 million tons last year. This is again a bearish factor for India's rapeseed-mustard.



India's area under rapeseed-mustard this season is reported lower over 8.6% at 65.17 lha compared to 71.28 lha previous season. India's area under RM seed was 71.4 lakh hectares in 2013. Lower area is a bullish factor for the domestic RM seed.

Increasing seasonal arrivals of the rapeseed-mustard with harvesting in full swing and exemption of export duty by Malaysia and Indonesia on palm oil will pressure the seed price in near-term. However, renewed demand by the solvent extractors and Malaysia's decision on imposing export duty on palm oil may push up the seed price further.





Technical Analysis:

NCDEX RM Seed Futures

RM Seed Spot, Jaipur





	Support & Resist	ance NCDEX RM See	ed - Apr. contract	
S1	S2	PCP	R1	R2
3320	3286	3370	3440	3486

- > RM seed prices edged-down on selling pressure.
- > Prices closed below 9-day and 18-day EMA.
- > RSI and stochastic are easing in neutral zone.
- > MACD is easing in positive territory.
- > The prices are expected to feature losses in the coming week.
- ➤ Trade Recommendation (NCDEX Soybean Apr.) Week: SELL Below 3375. Levels: Target 3320; T2-3300, SL -3408.

Trade Recommendation RM Seed Spot (Jaipur basis): In spot, the RM seed continues to be under palm oil and domestic new RM seed supply pressure. Prices of seed are expected to be between 3700 – 3750 levels during the week. They were between 3700 – 3820 levels during the week under review.



Annexure

Progress of Sown Area - Kharif Oilseeds, India

In the official *kharif oilseeds* planting report (week ending 09 Oct 2014), the area coverage under *Kharif* oilseeds is reported at 178.47 lakh hectares, down 8.4% from 194.90 lakh ha previous year. Of the major oilseeds, soybean sowing is reported down by 10% at 110.22 lha compared to 122.20 lha during the same period last year. Groundnut at 37.25 lha vs 43.19, sunflower at 2.05 lha vs 2.43 lha, sesamum 16.31 vs 14.91, niger 2.28 lha vs 2.33 lha and castor at 10.35 lha vs 9.84 lha during the same period last year.

Crop	As on 09 Oct 2014	As on 09 Oct 2013	% Change
Groundnut	37.25	43.19	-13.8
Soybean	110.22	122.20	-9.8
Sunflower	2.05	2.43	-15.6
Sesamum	16.32	14.91	9.5
Niger	2.28	2.33	-2.1
Castor	10.35	9.84	5.2
Total Oilseeds	178.47	194.90	-8.4

(Area in lakh hectares) Source: GOI

Rabi MSP 2014-15

❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for Rabi Oilseeds Crops of 2014-15 season to be marketed in 2015-16 as follows: The MSP of Rapeseed/Mustard is raised by Rs. 50/Qtl to Rs. 3100/Qtl from Rs. 3050/Qtl earlier. For Safflower too it is increased by Rs. 50/Qtl to Rs. 3050/Qtl from Rs. 3000/Qtl in 2013-14.

Kharif MSP

Government has increased minimum support price (MSP) of sunflower seed by Rs 50 to 3750 a quintal, further a hike of Rs 100 on sesamum and nigerseed at Rs 46,00 and 36,00 a quintal respectively. However, the MSP of soybean and groundnut seeds remained unchanged at Rs 2500-60 and Rs 4000 a quintal respectively this season.

Disclaimer