



INTERNATIONAL COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

77TH PLENARY MEETING

“COTTON CHALLENGES: “Smart and Sustainable Solutions”

2nd December, 2018 - 6th December, 2018

Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire

INDIA’S COUNTRY STATEMENT

Ministry of Textiles,
Government of India

INTRODUCTION

- India has emerged as the largest producer of cotton in the world with production touching 6.29 million tons in 2017-18.
- The Indian Textile Industry consumes a diverse range of fibres and yarns and the ratio of use of cotton to non - cotton fibres in India is 59:41.
- In India, most of the cotton production comes from nine major cotton growing states, which are grouped into three diverse agro-ecological zones, Northern zone comprising States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, Central zone comprising the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh and Southern zone comprising the States of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Besides this, cotton is also grown in the States of Tamil Nadu and Orissa. Cotton cultivation has also gained momentum in small areas of non-traditional States such as Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Tripura, etc.
- Hence, the cotton produced is of diverse varieties mainly, **Medium Staple** (Staple length: 20.5 mm-24.5 mm, Trade varieties: V797, Jayadhar), **Medium Long Staple** (Staple length: 25.0 mm-27.0 mm, Trade varieties: J-34, LRA) and **Long Staple** (Staple length: 27.5 mm -32.0 mm, Trade varieties: H-4, MECH, Shankar-6, Bunny, Brahma).
- The State-wise area, production and yield of cotton from 2015-16 to 2018-19 is annexed (Annexure-I).

OUTLOOK FOR INDIAN COTTON SUPPLY AND DEMAND

- India has the distinction of having the largest area under cotton cultivation in the world and about 36% of this area is irrigated and rest is rain-fed. During cotton season 2018-19 (October to September), the acreage under cotton cultivation is estimated at 12.24 million hectares as against 12.43 million hectares in the previous season 2017-18. Average cotton yield during 2017-18 was 506 Kg/hectare.
- Acreage under Bt. cotton cultivation has increased over the years. During the cotton season 2017-18, this was about 89% as against 0.38%, in 2002-03. Currently about 10% to 11% of the area is under local hybrid varieties developed by Cotton Research Institutes in India.
- The total availability of cotton in India including domestic production, carryover stocks and expected imports during cotton season 2018-19 is estimated at 7.20 million tons as against 7.30 million tons in the previous cotton season 2017-18.
- The total domestic consumption (including non-textile use) of cotton during 2018-19 is estimated at 5.39 million tons as against 5.35 Million tons in 2017-18.
- The cotton year 2018-19 is estimated to have a carryover stock of 0.70 Million tons as against 0.80 million tons, during previous season.

INDIA'S COTTON TRADE WITH REST OF THE WORLD

- Cotton is a freely exportable commodity in India and exports have been mainly to Bangladesh, China, Pakistan, Vietnam, Indonesia, Turkey, Taiwan and Thailand. China was the largest importer of Indian cotton till 2013-14, but became the 4th largest importer of Indian Cotton in 2017-18, after Bangladesh, Pakistan and Vietnam. During 2017-18, 1.15 million tons of cotton was exported from India.
- Consequent to trade liberalization in India since 1994, cotton has also been a freely importable commodity. India imported 0.27 million tons of cotton during 2017-18 majorly from USA, Australia, Mali, Egypt, Cote D' Ivoire, Tanzania etc.

SUSTAINABILITY IN COTTON VALUE CHAIN

- Poor quality of Lint and sub-optimal productivity of cotton has been an area of concern in India. Several measures have been adopted by Government of India to improve the quality and productivity of cotton in the country.
- The Technology Mission on Cotton was launched by the Government of India in 2000, to improve the quality and productivity of cotton. The Mission consisted of efforts focusing on research and development, dissemination of technology to the cotton farmers, improvement of marketing infrastructure and modernization of ginning and pressing sector.

- With a series of measures, India has improved its cotton yield from a level of around 300 Kg/hectare in the year 2002-03 to 482 Kg/hectare in the year 2005-06. In the cotton season 2017-18, it has reached to 506 Kg/hectare as against the world average of 788 Kg/hectare. India is working on suitable interventions for enhancing productivity in cotton, such as High Density Planting System (HDPS) and protection of crops from chronic pest infestations.
- Government of India is encouraging the research on coloured cotton cultivation in India. In recent years, there has been much progress in research on coloured cotton. Scientists in India have reported that the desired parameter of coloured cotton can be brought to the levels of white cotton to the satisfaction of the textile industry.
- To make the country self-sufficient in ELS cotton, Govt. of India is encouraging contract farming and state-of-art technology under National Food Technology Mission (NFSM)-Cotton so as to kick-start the whole process of bringing about a tangible improvement in production of ELS variety of cotton.
- Though area under cotton cultivation is the highest in India, due to low cotton productivity, return from cotton farming remains poor. Government of India is making efforts for enhancement of yield, improvement of quality, demonstration of best practices for reducing the contamination of cotton, developing new varieties of cotton, etc.
- In the endeavor for raising the quality of Indian Cotton, revival of Technology Mission on Cotton in its 2nd phase, is also underway.

- The objectives of Technology Mission on Cotton in its 2nd phase covers all the aspects i.e. from increasing the farmers' income, reducing the cost of cultivation, propagation of best management practices to the farmers of all cotton growing States, production of contamination controlled pure cotton and branding of Indian cotton.
- Realizing the need for achieving a special place for Indian cotton in the international arena and to ensure production of assured quality bales, Government of India is also under the process of introducing mandatory bale testing & quality labelling/bale tagging system. This would also ensure traceability of cotton bales with Pressmark No., Year of manufacture, Lot Number, Bale Number, Weight, Quality Parameters like Grade, Variety, Fibre Length, Micronaire, Uniformity Ratio, Trash and Moisture.
- Government of India has introduced various developmental schemes covering the entire textile value chain such as Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, Powerloom Development schemes, Schemes of Integrated Textile Parks and Integrated Processing Development Scheme for increased consumption of cotton and other fibres.
- In order to obtain real time data on cotton crop condition, cotton cultivation, yield and production, a satellite based cotton crop assessment system has been developed by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) in co-ordination with CCI for effective implementation in all the cotton growing States.

- Government of India, Trade and Industry in India are taking required steps to boost the quality and productivity of cotton while ensuring environmental safety and socio-economic progress.
- I express my sincere thanks to the ICAC for extending the opportunity to present the “**Cotton & Cotton Industry Scenario**” in India, to the stake-holders of the world.

Thanking you

Annexure – I

State-wise Area, Production and Yield of Cotton

NAME OF STATE	Area in Million Hectare				Production in Million Metric tons			
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18(P)	2018-19(P)	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18(P)	2018-19(P)
Punjab	0.34	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.11	0.15	0.20	0.20
Haryana	0.62	0.57	0.67	0.67	0.25	0.35	0.38	0.46
Rajasthan	0.45	0.47	0.58	0.50	0.26	0.28	0.37	0.37
NORTHERN ZONE	1.40	1.33	1.54	1.45	0.61	0.78	0.95	1.03
Gujarat	2.72	2.38	2.62	2.71	1.53	1.62	1.77	1.56
Maharashtra	4.21	3.80	4.21	4.12	1.29	1.50	1.45	1.38
Madhya Pradesh	0.56	0.60	0.60	0.70	0.31	0.35	0.35	0.41
CENTRAL ZONE	7.49	6.78	7.43	7.53	3.13	3.47	3.57	3.35
Telangana	1.77	1.41	1.90	1.79	0.99	0.82	0.93	0.90
Andhra Pradesh	0.67	0.47	0.64	0.55	0.40	0.32	0.35	0.34
Karnataka	0.64	0.51	0.53	0.58	0.33	0.31	0.31	0.31
Tamilnadu	0.14	0.14	0.19	0.14	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.10
SOUTHERN ZONE	3.22	2.53	3.26	3.06	1.82	1.53	1.68	1.65
Orissa	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.16	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.08
Others	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
TOTAL	12.29	10.83	12.43	12.24	5.65	5.87	6.29	6.14

NAME OF STATE	Yield in Kg/Hectares			
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18(P)	2018-19(P)
Punjab	313	537	672	688
Haryana	401	611	572	690
Rajasthan	569	596	640	754
NORTHERN ZONE	433	590	617	712
Gujarat	562	678	674	577
Maharashtra	307	396	343	334
Madhya Pradesh	544	582	578	585
CENTRAL ZONE	418	511	479	445
Telangana	556	579	493	502
Andhra Pradesh	606	684	541	617
Karnataka	516	600	576	532
Tamilnadu	718	599	505	729
SOUTHERN ZONE	566	604	517	539
Orissa	408	375	410	484
Others	680	680	680	680
TOTAL	459	542	506	501

Source: Cotton Advisory Board meeting dated 22.11.18

P-Provisional