THE HINDU

Montek says he went wrong on inflation projection

Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia on Sunday conceded that he went wrong while projecting moderation in inflation, which remains near the double-digit mark.

“It is true that we were hoping that this [moderation in inflation] will happen earlier, to that extent our credibility becomes a question,” he told Karan Thapar in CNN-IBN's ‘Devil's Advocate.'

He was asked why the government's repeated projections on inflation proved false

“You should recognise that short-term forecast is subject to error,” he said.

He, however, asserted inflation would moderate to 7-7.5 per cent by next March. Headline inflation has remained over 9 per cent for several months and was 9.73 per cent in October. The food inflation stood at 10.63 per cent for the week ended November 5.

Inflation has remained stubbornly high despite repeated assurances by several government functionaries that it would moderate.

Responding to criticism of India Inc that there was a policy paralysis in the government, Mr. Ahluwalia said: “Industry has been a lot more focused on decisions that are holding up infrastructure projects and not the [financial] reforms”

He said, “The government is keen to push [reforms] ahead, but needs to develop political consensus and if the measures like GST, DTC and other reforms are delayed, that does not mean that they will not happen.”

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NCC cadets present skit on rainwater harvesting

Staff Reporter

How could you blame the government in times of water shortage when you are not doing what you could?, asked Sudir Vigneshwar, a Standrad IX student of Chinmaya International

Residential School. Rainwater harvesting was simple and easy, you could store rain water in containers and collect water from roof-tops in tanks for household use, he added.

He, along with his friends, were presenting a skit on rainwater harvesting as part of the awareness campaign conducted by the NCC cadets of the school belonging to the 4 (TN) battalion NCC Singanallur. The skit was interspersed with dance sequences by students.

Lt. Colonel Nagarajan. M, Commanding Officer, 4 (TN) battalion, NCC, flagged off the cycle rally at NCC group headquarters in Singanallur. Sixty NCC cadets studying in Standard VIII and IX cycled through Trichy Road, Ramanathapuram, Avinashi Road, Varadarajapuram, Vasantha Mill Junction and returned, covering a distance of 15 km.

With placards displaying the importance of water conservation and urging people to take steps towards it, the students raised slogans as they cycled their way through the city. “It was exciting. People were curious to know what we were doing and many listened to what we had to say,” said Haran Rajkumar, Quarter Master, and Arjun. I, IX Standrad students.

The last Saturday of November is celebrated as NCC Day across the country. All the 32 institutions belonging to the battalion would take part in various programmes arranged as part of the celebration, said Mr. Nagaraj.

Campaigns, cycle rallies, sapling plantation and street plays focusing on various social issues are conducted throughout the year by the cadets, he said.

According to Shivashnmugham M., First Officer, NCC, who organised the rally, said that since the city had received good showers recently, people would immediately connect with the message.

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Puthiya Tamilagam condems increase in price of milk

Staff Reporter

Condemning the increase in the price of milk and bus fares, Puthiya Tamilagam founder-president K. Krishnasamy has called for an immediate roll back.

Speaking to reporters in the city on Sunday, Mr. Krishnasamy said that the increase would affect the common man and said the party would hold a protest outside the Collectorate in every district on Monday.

He added that the Chief Minister's explanation for raising the price was not reasonable.

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Over Rs. 70 lakh for subsidy to farmers

Staff Reporter

A sum of Rs.74.70 lakh has been allocated for supply of farm equipment on 50 per cent subsidy to farmers in general category/ SC and ST categories under the National Agricultural Development Programme (NADP) for the financial year 2011-12, said a release from Collector R. Lilly.

To reduce the cost of production, and modernisation under the NADP, the farmers would be given power tillers, paddy harvest machine, weeders, sprayers and rotovators at a subsidised cost.

A sum of Rs. 59.90 lakh was allocated to provide farm equipment to 109 farmers and Rs. 14.80 lakh to 25 farmers belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Interested farmers could contact Executive Engineer (Agriculture Engineering), Office of the Joint Director, Collectorate,

Dharmapuri, Phone: 04343 230948, Assistant Executive Engineer (Agriculture Engineering), Collectorate and Assistant Executive Engineer (Agriculture Engineering), Govindasamy Nagar, Harur, for details.

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Private sugar mills agree to pay arrears to cane growers

Staff Reporter

The private sugar mills in the district have agreed to pay the arrears to sugarcane growers quickly.

Participating at the tripartite meeting held here recently, representatives from the management of a private mill in Appakoodal assured to clear all the arrears to the growers within March 2012. The management had also agreed to re-pay the loans taken from the co-operative societies.

Representatives from the private mill located at Pugalur had also accepted to pay the arrears shortly.

The administration had advised the sugar mills to make the payment within 15 days after the procurement of sugarcane to the growers. There should not be any unnecessary delays in making payment to the growers in the future, Collector V.K. Shanmugam stressed while speaking in the meeting.

Farmers earlier wanted the sugar mills to start the crushing operations only after clearing all the arrears to growers.

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Farmers' grievance meet

The district administration will conduct a farmers grievances redressal meeting at the Collectorate premises at 10.30 am on November 25.

According to a press release, farmers and representatives of farmers associations could participate in the meeting and express their grievances, if any.

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Collector releases revised retail price list for Aavin milk

Special Correspondent

Collector C.T. Manimekalai has said that following the State government's decision to revise the procurement and sale price of Aavin milk, the retail prices would be as follows (with old prices within brackets):

Toned milk – for card holders – Rs 12 for 500 ml (Rs 8.90) and Rs 24 for one litre (Rs 17.75), for cash payment – Rs 13.50 for 500 ml (Rs 9.50) and Rs 27 for one litre (Rs 19).

Standardised milk – for card holders – Rs 15 for 500 ml (Rs 12) and Rs 30 for one litre (Rs 24), for cash payment – Rs 15.50 for 500 ml (Rs 12.50) and Rs 31 for one litre (Rs 25).

Cow milk – for card holders – Rs 14.50 for 500 ml (Rs 11) and Rs 29 for a litre (Rs 22) and for cash payment – Rs 15 for 500 ml (Rs 11.50) and Rs 30 for a litre (Rs 23).

For cash payment, the retail price of 200 ml of toned milk would be Rs 6, standardised milk - Rs 7 and cow milk - Rs 6.50.

The Collector said that during January and February 2011, the government had enhanced milk procurement price by Rs 2.50 a litre without any corresponding increase in sale price.

However, owing to increased outgo on salary, hike in diesel prices and other input costs, the government had to revise both the procurement and sale price of milk.

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Dryland farming research bowls over farmers from other States

B.S. Satish Kumar

Farmers from other States too have given thumbs up for the National Krishi Mela being organised by the University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore.

About 2,500 farmers from different States attended the mela, which was held for the first time as a national event. Interestingly, it was the research in dryland farming that bowled over most of them. “The best thing about the krishi mela here is the showcasing of different dryland farming practices. This is unique and I have not seen this kind of focus in other parts of the country,” Banduru Srinivasa Rao, an innovative farmer from Andhra Pradesh who has received an award from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, told *The Hindu* .

The university has showcased various innovative farm practices and models for dryland farming, including the live crop demonstration in a bid to send a message that is possible to earn decent income even on one hectare of dry land.

The dryland farming technologies promoted by the university include that of efficiently using rainwater through watershed development and green manure under which farmers grow green manure crops and plough them back into the field. This is expected to increase soil fertility and reduce the nitrogen fertilizer requirement by about 50 per cent.

Another progressive farmer from Andhra Pradesh, Goriparthi Narasimharaju Yadav, who has got several awards including Padma Shri, said the striking feature of the mela was that the standing crops on the fields were well-maintained.

“Being a member of the ICAR steering committee, I have seen all the universities in the country. Normally, farm plots of universities cannot match that of progressive farmers. But here the farm plots match the best in the country,” he said.

Several other things, including the research on tissue culture, biofuel and minor millets too caught the attention of farmers from other States.

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MSP elusive for cotton growers

Staff Reporter

Produce is purchased for Rs. 3,500 per quintal against MSP of Rs. 4,500

Waiting to be bailed: Cotton farmers selling their produce in distress sale at the agricultural market in Karimnagar. – Photo: Thakur Ajay Pal Singh

Cotton growers of the district are a worried lot over the non-availability of market price for their hard-earned produce in spite of investing huge amount in cultivation of the crop while facing odd dry weather conditions and being on the verge of committing suicide unable to clear the debts.

Already, cotton farmers have suffered with poor yield due to deficit rainfall and power cuts following the general strike.

Traders have reportedly formed a ‘syndicate' and have not been providing the market price to cotton growers forcing the farmers to resort to distress sale.

Against the prevailing market price of Rs.4,500 per quintal, traders are purchasing cotton ranging from Rs.3,500 per quintal to Rs.3,900 per quintal. The Cotton Corporation of India entered into procurement as the minimum support price fixed by the government was Rs.3,300 per quintal.

Farmers of Karimnagar district cultivated cotton in 2.35 lakh hectare against normal area of 1.73 lakh hectare. However, due to deficit rainfall, the crop almost withered in rain-fed regions of the district.

In other regions where the ground water table was available, farmers could not protect their crops from withering due to power cuts following the general strike during the crucial month of September and October.

Though some farmers had irrigation sources to protect their crops, but the lack of power supply caused withering of crops and resulted in poor yield. Farmers had expected a yield ranging from 10 to 15 quintals per acre, but could harvest only two to three quintals.

A farmer of Gollapalli village in Bejjankin mandal said that he had invested Rs.20,000 per acre for cultivating cotton after purchasing seeds and fertilizers in the ‘black market'. But, the yield was hardly three quintals and there was no market support price, he added. The government which had assured to pay Rs.10,000 per acre to farmers who had declared crop holiday should increase the MSP of cotton and bail out debt-ridden farmers in the region, he pointed out.

Majority cotton farmers fear that the spate of suicides would increase due to pressures from money-lenders as they would not be able to clear debts with the available market price for their produce.

The Hindu

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express buzz

By Express News Service

21 Nov 2011 02:37:51 AM IST

Coconut rejuvenation scheme to be extended

KOCHI: The Coconut Development Board’s (CDB) ‘Replanting and Rejuvenation’ scheme is set to be extended from three districts to all the fourteen districts of the State. The programme is set to be a major boost to the ailing coconut productivity in the State.

Kerala now stands at the ninth position out of the total 16 coconut growing states in the country.

The scheme was launched by the Union government in 2009 to check the root wilt disease and to increase the productivity.

The programme aims at replacing old, senile, unproductive and disease advanced palms with quality seedlings and rejuvenation of the existing gardens.

“Kerala received an amount of `475 crore for the project, for a period of three years, for three of its districts- Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Thrissur. But the CDB has been able to utilise only an amount of

`44 crore after two years of its implementation. The balance amount after the utilisation in the third year and an additional spillover will be diverted to the new project in the 14 districts,” CDB deputy director Ramany said.

“There were certain criteria for the release of the funds in the scheme. One was that the amount would be sanctioned only after the CDB carried out a survey and determined the total number of trees. The number of trees was much lesser than what was expected. So the amount spent was quite low. This year we will be utilising about ` 35 crore.

Apart from this a considerable amount will be utilised for input supply and others. The balance amount will be used for the remaining plots in the same districts or for the other districts in the next five year plan,” said Ramani.

“Under the project, the CDB aims at replacing unproductive palms with healthy tender palms, hybrid palms and tall palms in the ratio 25:25:40. The presence of a large number of very old trees and the trees infected by root wilt are among the major factors affecting the productivity in the State.

As of now we can only control wilting, there is no permanent cure. We hope that in the next five years, with a project like this, we will be able to raise the productivity of the State from the 9th position to the third in the country,” CDB chairman T K Jose said.

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the pioneer

Beneficial winters for farmers ahead

SUNDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2011 22:12

NEHA SAHAY | RANCHI

The generous monsoon this year has heralded an early onset of winters with mercury dipping with each passing day resulting in residual moisture of soil, which is considered beneficial for sowing. Farmers here have got a reason to rejoice.

According to agricultural experts, farmers should start sowing seeds by the end of the coming week and it should be completed by the end of the month.

This will be helpful for tender flowering. Tender flowering results in good variety of crops. Agricultural scientist of Birsa Agriculture University, A Badud, said, “Early sowing of crops will help farmers to avoid injury to crops.”

Badud added that winter is likely to be very cold this time with temperature expected to fall by one degree Celsius each day. “It is expected that the temperature will go down till one degree Celsius. In last 10 years, the temperature has never gone below five degree Celsius except the previous year. The temperature will also depend on the snowfalls in J&K,” he said.

Badud said, “By the end of December and early January the farmers should keep the fields warm with smoke, helpful for protecting the crops from injuries”.

He said that cold breeze will blow throughout December and January month. “The north-westerly wind is helping to cool the environment and has made the atmospheric conditions very pleasant,” he further said.

Meanwhile, the farmers are also excepting good yield this year which may lead to reduction in food grains prices. “Yes, the monsoon this year was good and we have got very good yield of crops. Hopefully, the winter this year will also bring cheers to us,” added Ramlal a farmer from Ormanjhi block.

Business Standard

Monday, Nov 21, 2011

Agri ministry plans to launch new national seed mission

Anindita Dey / Mumbai November 20, 2011, 0:56 IST

The ministry of agriculture has decided to come up with a national seed mission over and above all its existing seed policies. Officials said the seed sector needs a policy initiative which was expected to come with the new Seed Act 2004, replacing the current Seed Act 1966. However, this Bill is still building a consensus on the crucial issues of marketing only certified seeds and compensation to farmers for spurious seeds.

At present, both certified and non-certified seeds are available in the market, while the new Bill makes it mandatory for all seeds to be certified by the government before selling them in the market. Besides improving the production and availability of quality certified seeds in the domestic market, the new policy aims to make bigger dent into the internal market for exports by making Indian a hub. To this effect, the department intends to achieve a 10 per cent market share in the total global export of seeds by 2020. For this, the mission has asked for an outlay of Rs 10 crore to support international co-operation in seeds by implementing international treaties and schemes of seed export promotion.

Another significant objective is incentive-based assistance to support private sector seed producing organisations in collaboration with the public sector. For this purpose, a total of Rs 45 crore has been sought as credit linked subsidy.The new National Seed Mission (NSM) has been proposed to the planning commission for a plan outlay of Rs 3,773.4 crore for a period of five years starting 2011-12 of eleventh plan and run through the twelfth five-year plan. The allocation of the sixth year will be decided later. Officials explained that the difference between the existing schemes and the new mission is that it gives a incentive based focus to development of quality seeds which will be later certified and focused incentives to seed sector.

“At present, incentives for seed sector are spread across other agricultural schemes while polices are made by seed department. In the new mission, not only the seed department of the ministry of agriculture will handle the funds, part of the funds will be allocated to the state seed department so that the approach of the seed development will be bottoms up and less bureaucratic," explained an official source. The other objectives of the mission to increase production of certified quality seeds, upgrade quality of farm saved seeds so as to produce 100 quintals of seed each year through farmers and thus to enhance the seed replacement rate (SRR). Besides, the mission proposes to establish a seed reserve at regional levels to met requirement during natural calamities and upgradation of public sector seed producing agencies.

The various components of the scheme for which funds have been sought include intervention at the seed planning stage, seed production level, increase SRR by promotion of variety replacement, intervention for seed infrastructure, quality control and interest subsidy for working capital for seed producing organisations. Formation of seed bank, transport subsidy on movement of seeds to north eastern states, application of biotechnology etc. are the some other interventions for seed promotion.

Green market sees red due to euro zone crisis

Rajesh M Bhayani & Piyali Mandal / Mumbai/new Delhi November 20, 2011, 0:54 IST

But, analysts feel the Indian carbon market is mature enough to absorb risks.

Tremors of the euro zone crisis are being felt in the carbon trading market. Even as Indian players holding the carbon emission reduction (CER) certificates get jittery, analysts are hopeful that domestic companies will not be significantly hit in the long run.

The price of CER certificate on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) has halved from $18.52 a tonne in May-end to $9.21 this week.

This is a fallout of the lack of demand coupled with economic turmoil in the European market, a major buyer of the CER certificates.

According to analysts, Indian players may be hit marginally as most of them have been selling off

CERs soon after they were allotted, at the prevailing market price.

CERs are a type of emissions unit (carbon credit) issued by the Clean Development Mechanism Executive Board for emission reductions under the rules of the Kyoto Protocol.

On November 3, CER prices on ICE touched their life-time low of $8.78 a tonne. Before the global financial crisis, in July 2008, prices had peaked to $ 41.72.

Barclays Capital's commodity analyst Trevor Sikorski said, "Tightening credit markets in Europe, which increase the opportunity cost of holding carbon allowance inventories, has led to sell off. With the outlook for euro area industrial production remaining bearish, carbon market will remain a source of short-term revenue or finance."

Earlier, several Indian companies generating carbon credit used to hold them and sell at an appropriate time. However, now that European market is passing through uncertainty, the selling pattern has changed.

The realisations of these companies have also come down as they had anticipated much higher values.

Dipankar Ghosh, partner, Ernst & Young (Climate Change and Sustainability Advisory Services), feels that the Indian market is mature enough to absorb the shocks.

"Indian carbon market has always been mature, and therefore international buyers are comfortable transacting in this market. There have been insignificant instances of contractual difficulties in carbon transactions from India projects. Indian projects are therefore expected to continue receiving reasonable attention from international buyers, even in the volatile carbon market setting."

However, more than the falling prices, according to Jaldeep Sodhi, Executive Director, Avalon Consulting, "companies are already facing troubles in carrying on their businesses due to unfavourable conditions in domestic and international market and their problems have been further compounded by the uncertain future of Kyoto protocol."

The first commitment period of Kyoto protocol is coming to end in 2012.

THE HINDU Business Line

Board awards for spices exporters

Kochi, Nov. 20:

The Spices Board will present awards for excellence in exports of spices and productivity in spices. The Board has invited applications from exporters of spices and spices products, who have done commendable performanceduring 2009-10 and 2010-11.

This is the 23rd and 24th set of awards to be presented to exporters for excellence in spices exports. Farmers who have attained appreciable productivity during 2010-11 in cardamom small, large cardamom, vanilla and organic spices will also be given awards.

In view of the increased export of nutmeg and mace, it has been decided to institute separate award for performance in exports of nutmeg and mace, which is a new category. The Board has also decided to give away two more news awards in the category of innovative spice product and for the Innovator.

The details of the award scheme along with the application forms and trophies are being posted on the Spices Board's Web site *www.indianspices.com*. The guidelines and applications for award for Innovators will be published soon. Farmers to be considered for the productivity awards are to get in touch with the offices of the Spices Board for more details.Last date for receipt of applications, which need to have import/export statements certified by bankers and chartered accountants, has been fixed at December 10.

(This article was published in the Business Line print edition dated November 21, 2011)

Spices exports up 29% in value

Export of value-added products surges in April-September

Kochi, Nov. 20:

Indian spices exports have increased by 29 per cent in rupee value terms to Rs 4,165.59 crore ($920.55 million) in April-September during the current fiscal. In dollar terms, the increase was 32 per cent.

The total exports of spices and spice products stood at 2,37,585 tonnes during the period, a decline of 19 per cent in volumes.

About 2,94,925 tonnes of spices and spices product valued at Rs 3,220.16crore ($699.25 million) were exported during the same period in the previous year, the Spices Board said in a press statement.

During April to September 2011, export of pepper, cardamom (small), cardamom (large), ginger, turmeric, nutmeg and mace and other spices such as tamarind, asafoetida, have shown an increase both in volume and value compared to the previous year.

The export of value-added products, curry powder/paste has also increased both in volume and value. However, in the case of chilli, spice oils and oleoresins and mint products, the increase is in terms of value only.

The export of other spice items has shown a decline both in volume and value compared to the last year.

About 11,250 tonnes of pepper valued Rs 311.52 crore have been exported during the period against 9,250 tonnes valued Rs163.10 crore in the previous year. The unit value of pepper has increased from Rs 176.32 per kg to Rs 276.91 per kg.

A total quantity of 1,825 tonnes of cardamom (Small) valued Rs 161.00 crore was exported against 335 tonnes valued at Rs 39.84 crore.

During the period, a total quantity of 280 tonnes of cardamom (large) valued Rs 22.68 crore have been exported against 210 tonnes valued Rs 9.97 crore of last year.

The unit value of cardamom (large) has increased from Rs 474.68 per kg in April to September 2010, to Rs 809.82 per kg during April to September 2011.

About 41,500 tonnes of turmeric valued at Rs 450.76 crore was exported against 28,500 tonnes valued Rs 389.59 crore last year.

Compared with the spices export target of 500,000 tonnes valued Rs 6,500 crore fixed for the current financial year, the achievement of 2,37,585 tonnes valued Rs 4,165.59 crore during April to September 2011, is 48 per cent in terms of quantity 64 per cent in rupee and 63 per cent in dollar terms of value.

Value up, volumes down

- *Chilli, spice oils and oleoresins exports increased in terms of volumes only*

- *Export volumeof spices and spices exports down 19 per cent*

- *Against financial yearexport target of Rs 6,500 crore (500,000 tonnes), April-September exports constitute 64 per cent in rupee terms, at Rs 4,166.6 crore*

(This article was published in the Business Line print edition dated November 21, 2011)

Tea Board working on management system

P.S. Sundar
Coonoor, Nov. 20:

Tea Board is currently working on developing a Tea Management System (TMS) at its Coonoor office.

“The objective is to strengthen the data relating to stakeholders and create an efficient system to build statistics relating to important parameters including holding area, owners, details, tea production and sale within the country and abroad besides buyers' preferences,” Executive

Director, Mr R Ambalavanan, told *Business Line* on the sidelines of his releasing the "Global Tea Diary 2011" brought out by Mr Rajesh Gupta, Director, Global Tea Brokers.

He said that the TMS was being developed at an outlay of Rs 34 lakh. "It will be launched by mid-2012. It takes care of workflow and documentation management. It is a pilot project aimed at making Coonoor a hub for tea data.

It entails collecting e-returns from all stakeholders," he said.

"We are currently building growers' data bank. This will help us dispose off the nearly 3,000 applications pending for subsidy under various schemes", he said.

Listing the benefits of TMS, he said that growers could get relevant data online which saves them visits to Board's office.

"Application processing will be quick and time-bound. The Board can monitor the progress of the applications up to disposal of subsidies by the banks. Besides, the Board will have useful statistics for taking decisions," Mr Ambalavanan noted.

"We are also working with Indian Space Research Organisation for mapping the tea area," he added.

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Bearish trend continues in pepper market

G.K. Nair
Kochi, Nov. 20:

Pepper market continued to remain in the hands of operators despite Indian parity being at an advantageous position in the world market. The market closed nearly steady with marginal decline in all the contracts.

What ever material is available, at present, is believed to be in Brazil and India. The silence maintained by Indonesia and the limited offers from Vietnam of lower grade material seem to be reasons for such a conjecture, market sources told *Business Line*.

However, Indonesia is said to have shown signs of becoming active by reducing its price of L Asta. The trade here is hesitant to believe fully whatever reports emanate on Indonesian pepper as on several occasions in the past they have turned out to be deceptive, they said.

The Malabar is placed at an advantageous position in the overseas market with a competitive price and availability. An estimated 4,500 tonnes of pepper are said to be available on the exchange platform and that could be sold overseas, provided pepper is brought in list of "focused commodities," trade sources said.In spite of the rise in prices, there was substantial increase in exports. A total 11,250 tonnes valued at Rs 311.52 crore were exported during April-September 2011 as against 9,250 tonnes valued at Rs 163.10 crore the same period last year. The unit value has increased from Rs 176.32 a kg in April-September 2010 to Rs 276.91 a kg in April-September 2011.

Availability of high bulk density pepper is limited. As the grinding season has begun, there is going to be an increase in demand from crushing/grinding industry because of its high output and good penchancy. There were sellers of 500–510 GL and 550 GL pepper on the spot but buyers were hesitant buy at quoted prices. However, there were buyers for high bulk density material at Rs 340 a kg, traders said.December, January and February contracts declined by Rs 35, Rs 15 and Rs 325 respectively during the week on limited activities and closed at Rs 34,755, Rs 35,040 and Rs 35,000 a quintal.

Total turnover fell by 8,166 tonnes to close at 22,100 tonne on Saturday. Total open interest also dropped by 305 tonnes to 11,468 tonnes showing liquidation.

Spot prices remained unchanged at Rs 32,800 (ungarbled) and Rs 34,300 (MG 1) a quintal.

Indian parity in the international market remained at $7,250–7,300 a tonne (c&f) for Europe and $7,550-7,600 a tonne (c&f) for USA and remained competitive.

Overseas trend

The black pepper market last week, according to the International Pepper Community (IPC) showed a mixed response, particularly in local prices of origins.In India, Vietnam and Sri Lanka, the local price increased marginally by 1-2 per cent. Fob price of Malabar black was marginally up, while fob price for Vietnamese black decreased by 4 per cent and 9 per cent for 500g/l and 550g/l respectively.

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