

## Tiruchi farmers allege discrimination

---

*'No compensation yet for the banana plantations destroyed in 2013 gale'*



*GRIEVANCE REDRESS: A farmer present his point of view at the farmers' grievance meeting in Tiruchi on Friday. — PHOTO: R.M. RAJARATHINAM*

TIRUCHI, March 1, 2014 - Farmers voiced their concern over what they called discrimination to the district in respect of compensation for crop loss, although a

few other districts have been granted special relief.

Participating in the monthly "farmers grievances day" meeting held here on Friday, they urged the district administration to impress upon the State government the rationale for including Tiruchi district for granting relief.

Initiating a discussion, Ayilai Siva Suriyan, district secretary of Tamil Nadu Farmers' Association affiliated to the Communist Party of India, referred to the plight of banana growers in the district.

Although 10,000 acres had been damaged because of a gale in April 2013, compensation was yet to be announced. He said that banana cultivators in a few adjoining districts had been sanctioned Rs.7,500 an acre.

Mr. Siva Suriyan said the district was being "neglected" for the second consecutive year now and urged K. Tharpagaraj, District Revenue Officer, who presided over the meeting, to persuade the State government to sanction relief to horticultural farmers.

He pleaded for setting up supply channel between Mukkombu and Nattu Vaikkal near Srirangam to ensure irrigation facility for farmers.

P. Ayyakannu, State vice-president of Bharathiya Kisan Sangam, pleaded for adequate compensation to farmers who had lost their crops because of failure of monsoon. Farmers who had raised sugarcane, banana, maize, or cotton had incurred huge loss.

Kandampatti Subramanian, deputy secretary of Cauvery Delta Farmers' Welfare Association, and A. Nagarajan, former panchayat president of Puliur village, pleaded for discharge of at least 2,000 cusecs from the Mettur to meet the drinking water needs of people and cattle.

P. Viswanathan, State president of Tank and River Ayacutdars Association – Tamil Nadu, pleaded for immediate dredging of 110 tanks in the district as a long-term strategy, so that the rainwater could be harvested and utilised for irrigation.

N. Veerasekaran, coordinator of South and North Ayyan Vaikkal Ayacutdars Association, pleaded for immediate dredging of Rajakadai and Kaduvai channels in Lalgudi. He pleaded for setting up sub-stations at Anbil and Thalakudi.

G.K. Muralidharan, district president of Farmers wing of Congress, urged the State government to empower farmers to fix the prices for agricultural produce.

The District Revenue Officer assured farmers of prompt action to redress their grievances.

---

📌 **'Set up supply channel between Mukkombu and Nattu Vaikkal'**

📌 **Electricity sub-stations sought at Anbil and Thalakudi**

---

# Release water immediately: farmers

---



ERODE, March 1, 2014 - Keeping up pressure on Public Works Department and the district administration, representatives of farmers' associations in the LBP (Lower Bhavani Project) ayacut area on Friday demanded release of water for dry crop cultivation on 1,03,500 acres under the turn system without delay.

Within days of holding a massive demonstration on the issue, the farmers,

all through the meeting, reiterated their demand for diversion of water from the upper dams of Kundah and Pykara in The Nilgiris district into the Bhavani Sagar reservoir. Though late, release of water at this juncture would help farmers to raise gingelly crop, the representatives said.

C. Nallasamy, president of Lower Bhavani Farmers' Welfare Association charged the PWD with mismanagement, explaining that the department had not complied with the mandatory requirement to fulfil the requirement of farmers in LBP ayacut covering 2,07,000 lakh acres before releasing additional water for second-crop cultivation in the old Bhavani system encompassing 40,000 acres wetted by the Thadapalli-Arakankottai and Kalingarayan canals.

While 18 tmc water was supplied for five and a half months to the ayacut area of old Bhavani System for paddy cultivation, farmers in LBP ayacut received supply of 24 tmc to raise paddy on 1,03,500 acres.

"The PWD is unnecessarily creating rift among farmers dependent on Bhavani Sagar Dam. Eight to nine tmc water must be released without delay for raising gingelly on the same extent of land under the turn system," Mr. Nallasamy said.

"Had the PWD followed established norms, the dry conditions would not have prevailed in the LBP ayacut area," he said.

Several other participants from LBP ayacut kept reminding the district administration of its responsibility to treat farmers in all ayacut areas evenly.

The issue will be studied in detail and remedies would be found, District Revenue Officer Satheesh who chaired the meeting said.

The officials also told the aggrieved farmers of LBP ayacut that their demand for water to raise gingelly crop has been conveyed to the State overnment.

## Farmers urged to innovate

---

UDHAGAMANDALAM, March 1, 2014 - Farmers should innovate to cope with the growing challenges confronting agriculture, said the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Tea Plantation Corporation, S. Balaji while participating in a 'Farm Innovators Day' programme organised by the Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute (CSWCRTI) near here on Friday.

He added that the farmers should adopt technologies that will reduce dependence on water and increase production.

### **Objective**

Senior scientist P. Sundarambal, who presided, said that the objective was to facilitate exchange of information among farmers and officials.

The project director, Hill Area Development Programme, Srinivas R. Reddy said that the farmers should adopt a scientific approach.

The project coordinator, Sri Avinashilingam Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karamadai, also spoke. Senior scientist, CSWCRTI, K. Rajan, welcomed the gathering. Senior scientist S. Manivannan proposed a vote of thanks. About 50 farmers from the Nilgiris, Erode, and Coimbatore districts participated. Five farmers were recognised with the CSWCRTI award for innovative use of soil and water.

## Groups call for action on land rights to forest farmers

---

DAVANGERE, March 1, 2014 - Karnataka Banjarara Janajagruthi Abhiyana, Karnataka Raitha Sangha and Aranya Hakku Samithigala Okkuta have expressed their disappointment over the reluctance of the government in giving land rights to farmers who have been cultivating in the forest land and revenue land since the last three generations (cohort).

Many States including Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have issued land rights to most of the farmers who had been cultivating either forest land or revenue land for the last 75 years.

Talking to reporters here on Friday, R. Ninganaika, H. Halesh Naika and Arun Kumar of Banjarara Jana Jagruthi Abhiyana said most States have decided to give land rights to farmers cultivating forest or revenue land without evacuating them, and have distributed ownership deeds to such farmers.

In Chattisgarh more than 2.15 lakh farmers were given land rights against a total of 4.92 lakh applicants and in Orissa 3.20 lakh out of 5.24 lakh farmers were given land rights, they said. However, in Karnataka, only 6,577 farmers were given land rights against the total applications of 1.68 lakh. The government continued to exploit the landless peasants and people of scheduled tribes, they said.

In order to create awareness among such farmers and the ST community in Davangere, Chitradurga, Bellary, Tumkur and other surrounding places, the Abhiyana has organised a landless farmers conference in Chitradurga on March 1. The conference would be inaugurated by C.G. Hungund, member of the Karnataka State Human Rights Commission.

## Law to control spawning of poultry farms soon: Minister

---



*T.B. Jayachandra*

TUMKUR, March 1, 2014 - Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs T.B. Jayachandra said the State government will bring in a legislation to control the mushrooming of poultry farms in the State.

After laying the foundation stone for the construction of houses under the Rajiv Awas Yojana at Dibbur here on Friday, Mr. Jayachandra said sprouting of poultry farms have resulted in pollution, causing health problems to the people. He said poultry farms in Davangere and

Halkur village in Sira taluk are causing harm to the environment. A criminal case has been registered against the owner of a poultry farm in Halkur, where people have been staging

protests for the last ten days. He said even though the Assistant Commissioner had ordered closure of the poultry in Halkur, the owner got a stay order from the court against the closure.

### **Drinking water**

He said there is no dearth of funds to provide drinking water to districts during the summer. The State government has received Rs.1,700 crore from the Centre, of which Rs.130 crore will be released to Tumkur district. He said villages which have less than 30 litres per capita per day has been identified and water will be provided.

## State to give interest-free farm loans from April 1

---

KARNATAKA - YELBURGA (KOPPAL DISTRICT), March 1, 2014 - Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said the government would give interest-free loans to farmers from April 1. He was addressing a public meeting at Civil Hospital ground here on Friday after flagging off various developmental projects, including the construction of Gadag-Wadi rail line.

“No government in the past has given interest-free loans for the farmers. In order to encourage people to engage in agricultural activities and achieve economic stability, our government has decided to provide interest-free farm loans,” he said.

The Chief Minister said the various irrigation projects under Krishna B Scheme would be completed within the next three months.

“Once the ongoing irrigation projects are completed, 2.85 lakh acres of cultivable land in Bagalkot, Gadag and Koppal districts would be irrigated. We have made all preparations to complete the projects within next three years as promised,” he said.

He appreciated Union Railway Minister Mallikarjun Kharge for his efforts to expand the railway network in the State. “Within a short span at the Ministry, Mr. Kharge has made considerable contributions for the expansion of railway network in Karnataka. It is in his tenure that the work on Gadag-Wadi new rail line is being realised with a budgetary allocation of Rs. 1,922 crore,” he said. The Karnataka government would bear 50 per cent of the project cost and provide land for the railway line, he added.

## Meet on farming technology today

---



*An exhibit at the technology meet to begin at Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) in Thrissur on Saturday.*

THRISSUR, March 1, 2014 - A technology meet, to begin on Saturday, at ‘Agrifesta 2014’, an agricultural exhibition and technology meet, will showcase farm models and products.

Among the exhibits is Giggin’s farm Villa, a vertical farming model developed at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kannur.

The pyramidal structure of the farm makes it self-supporting. For its construction, cement, sand or reinforced concrete is not needed. The farm is like an apartment where animals are grown in different storeys. Adequate micro climate is assured for animals and crops to have a sustainable production of eggs, meat, milk and vegetables. All the components in the vertical farm are in harmony. Waste from one component is used as input for other.

### Innovative design

The innovative design of the farm is intended to attract more youth to hi-tech farming. The efficiency of the farm depends on how well the components are managed throughout the year. Estimates reveal that Rs.2 lakhs to Rs.2.5 lakhs may be earned a year and the farm will be earning profit by the third year.

The pyramidal structure is further modified as galleries where fodder and high-value crops of the farmer's choice may be grown. Azolla grown on the side ramp provides nutritive feed for animals and poultry. An overhead tank with micro irrigation coupled with recycling of animal urine collected from the farm helps organic production of fodder and high value vegetables. The farm produce may be marketed as organic or safe-to-eat products.

A protocol was developed by the wildlife department of Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) for identifying wild animal species from unknown tissue samples using DNA fingerprinting techniques. This will help identify the animal species from which the meat sample has originated and pave the way for preventing illegal butchering of wild animals.

A herbicide applicator attached to a mechanical paddy transplanter will be demonstrated at the meet. A health food made of the medicinal rice, Njavara, developed by KAU, is being presented.

The technologies and products being displayed include Red Banana Kool, cashew apple products, microbial inoculants for waste management and bio-pesticides for vegetables.

## Boon for aqua farmers

---

NAGAYALANKA, March 1, 2014 - Sri Mandali Venkata Krishna Rao Fisheries Polytechnic College and the Agricultural Technology and Management Authorities (ATMA) introduced high valued Silver Pampano fish to farmers in Krishna district here on Friday. It was proved that the marine fish, locally known as Chanduva para, would survive in brackish water and has huge market value. In July 2013, the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute provided the fish seed to Nagayalanka based young farmer T. Raghu Sekhar, whose experiments yielded success. Sri Mandali Venkata Krishna Rao Fisheries Polytechnic principal K. S. Prasad opined that cultivation of the Silver Pampano would help boost the struggling aquaculture in Krishna and Godavari districts. Around 50 farmers, who turned up to the Silver Pampano introduction programme held on the bank of river Krishna here, were advised to shift from risky tiger prawn cultivation to the fish cultivation. The farmers were briefed about cultivation process, input cost and growth of the fish, in addition to the market requirement.

An exhibition of live Silver Pampano fish was also displayed during the demonstration.

***Experiment has proved survival of the fish in brackish water***

## Relief package for Rajasthan farmers who lost crops in hailstorm

---

JAIPUR, March 1, 2014 - Two days after an unexpected hailstorm caused widespread damage to rabi crops in several parts of Rajasthan, Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje on Friday announced a relief package for the farmers affected in about 4,400 villages of 21 districts. The relief package will be distributed through the State Government's Department of Disaster Management.

The hailstorm accompanied by heavy rains has damaged the rabi crops, which were to be harvested during March and April. The crops damaged by the natural calamity include barley, wheat, gram, mustard and pulses.

As part of the package, farmers in non-irrigated areas who have suffered 50 per cent damage of crops will be paid Rs.4,500 per hectare as agricultural input grant. Farmers of

irrigated areas and using electricity for irrigation will be provided Rs.9,000 per hectare, while those using diesel pump sets will get Rs. 12,000 per hectare. According to the official sources here, small and marginal farmers who have suffered loss of more than 50 per cent will be exempted from payment of electricity bills for the next four months. Farmers losing half of their crops would also be exempted from the payment of irrigation tax.

## No field trial of GM crops in State

---

KOTTAYAM, March 1, 2014 - : Field trials of genetically modified (GM) food crops would not be permitted in the State under any circumstances, said Minister for Agriculture K.P. Mohanan.

The Minister made the statement in the wake of the approval given by the Union Environment Ministry for the decision of the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) to permit field trials of GM crops, including rice, wheat, and maize. At the same time, Environment Minister M. Veerappa Moily also clarified that the field trials would be subject to consent of the respective State.

Speaking after inaugurating a two-day seminar on 'Challenges and Opportunities in the Plantation Sector' at the headquarters of Plantation Corporation of Kerala Ltd here on Friday, Mr. Mohanan said there would be no change in the government policy to ensure that Kerala remained a GM-free State. "The State has opposed the trial of GM crops owing to various issues, including the possible consequences upon humans and the lack of required safety norms. The government will remain firm in its position," he said. He said the K. Kasturirangan report on the conservation of the Western Ghats would not be implemented without clearing the apprehension of those who felt threatened by the recommendations. The government was pursuing various options to attain self-sufficiency in the farm sector, he said.

## Heavy rain damages crop

---

ADILABAD, March 1, 2014 - The weather changed for the worse again in Adilabad on Friday as Arli village in Tamsi mandal was ravaged by a 30-minute spell of heavy rain accompanied with hailstorm causing damage to standing wheat and Bengal gram crops in over 700 acres. According to villagers, heavy rain started lashing at about 5.30 p.m., resulted in water logging of the agriculture fields and disruption of power supply at a few places in the mandal.

### **Total blackout**

Parts of the Nirmal Division of the APTransco went without power for the second consecutive day on Friday following damages to the feeders and electric lines due to strong winds which swept these parts over the previous night.

Many other places in the district, including Adilabad, experienced power cuts during the intervening night of Thursday and Friday owing to the breakdowns.

The feeder lines in the Bhainsa, Kubeer and Kuntala mandals were badly hit by the strong winds, resulting in the blackout.

Electricity engineers however, were trying to restore the supply by rectifying the damages.

***Parts of the Nirmal Division went without power for the second consecutive day on Friday following damages to the feeders lines***

# 'Fishermen need to explore alternatives'

---

CHENNAI, March 1, 2014 - Fishing communities have to explore alternative options of generating revenue for three to four months every year, said agricultural scientist M.S. Swaminathan.

At the State-level stakeholders meet on sustainable fishing and new technologies here on Friday, Dr. Swaminathan said fishermen should tap the potential of the ocean without depleting existing resources. He also stressed the need for value-added products using the resources of the village knowledge centres and sustainable practices to improve livelihood of fishermen.

India has over 7,500 km of coastline with enormous potential for fishing. But the fishermen are yet to find alternatives for livelihood for four months. Options like prawn powder marketed by women from various fishing settlements have to be explored more, he said. "We have started marketing prawn powder. Many of us generate additional income for our families," said Maheswari, one of the members of a self help group.

MSSRF-INCOIS services cover more than one lakh fishermen in 542 villages in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Odisha and Puduchery. It provides a range of information services on fishing zone, wave height, wind speed, high wave alerts, early warning for cyclone and tsunami, sea route for fishing efficiency, government schemes and fishermen helplines (9381442311/9381442312).

# 'Prioritise disaster management plan'

---

DHARMAPURI , March 1, 2014 - *Two-day seminar held*

District officials should give priority for evolving disaster management plan to meet any challenge caused by natural calamities, observed S. Rajarathinam, Director, Centre for Disaster Management Studies, Anna University here on Thursday.

He was speaking at the two- day seminar organised by the district administration held here on Friday.

Revenue, police, PWD, Tangedco, Highways, Fire and Rescue and Rural Development were participating in the seminar.

## **Skills**

The officials were explained about prevention of disaster and imparting skills to the masses on management and distribution of relief during crisis formed the major responsibilities of the district administration and the local bodies.

## **Legal terms**

They were also explained on legal terms of Disaster Management System and disasters' due to chemical, atomic and biological accidents and the rescue operations carried out by the Disaster Management Authority constitute by the State Government.

The seminar was inaugurated by the district collector K. Vivekanandan.

District Revenue Officer P. Ramar, Professors from Anna University S.S. Ramakrishnan, K. Srinivasan, R. Senthil Ganapathy among others participated in the seminar .

# Water level

---

Mettur - The water level in the Mettur dam stood at 49.47 feet on Friday against its full reservoir level of 120 feet. The inflow was 926 cusecs and the discharge 2,000 cusecs.

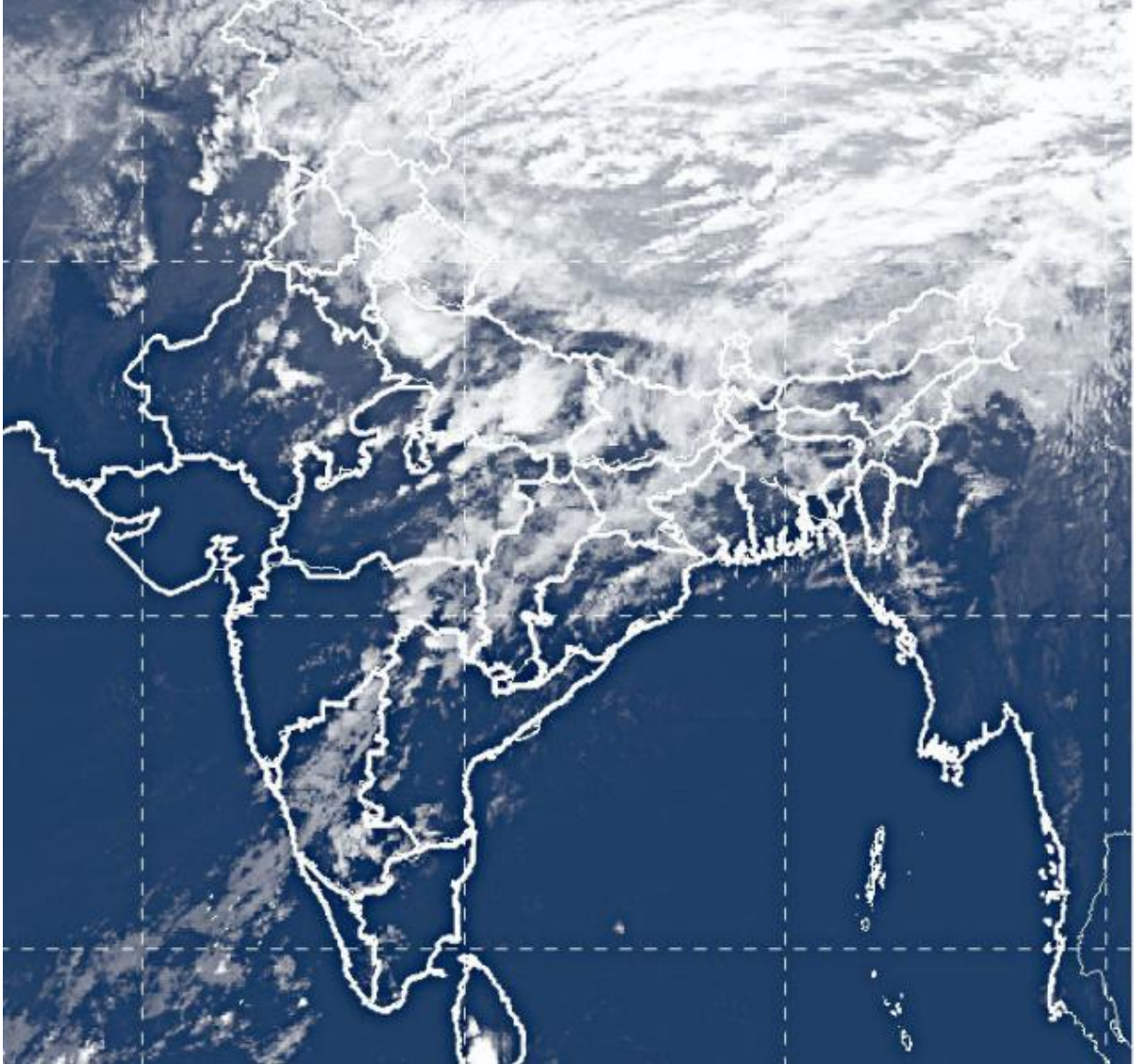
Water level in the Papanasam dam on Friday stood at 52.15 feet (maximum level is 143 feet).

The dam had an inflow of 68.10 cusecs and 502.75 cusecs of water was discharged from the dam.

The level of Manimuthar dam stood at 72.04 feet (118 feet). The dam had an inflow of 12 cusecs and 330 cusecs of water was discharged.

## Weather

---



INSAT PICTURE AT 11-30 hrs. Observations recorded at 8-30 a.m. on February 28.



## Weather

Chennai - INDIA

Today's Weather



Partly Cloudy

Rain: 0

Humidity: 62

Wind: normal

**Saturday, Mar 1**

Max Min

30° | 23°

Sunrise: 06:25

Sunset: 06:17

Barometer: 1015

Tomorrow's Forecast



Partly Cloudy

**Sunday, Mar 2**

Max Min

31° | 23°

Extended Forecast for a week

Monday

**Mar 3**

31° | 22°

Partly Cloudy

Tuesday

**Mar 4**

25° | 22°

Overcast

Wednesday

**Mar 5**

26° | 23°

Overcast

Thursday

**Mar 6**

25° | 23°

Overcast

Friday

**Mar 7**

26° | 23°

Overcast

THE TIMES OF INDIA

## Farmers threaten mass suicide if demands are not met immediately

Trichy: A group of disgruntled farmers on Friday threatened to commit suicide en masse if their problems were not addressed with immediate effect. Their demands included the release of 2000 tmcft water from the Cauvery to save the standing crop, construction of more check dams to increase the water tables, immediate release of water in all the available channels for the purpose of drinking, de-silting tanks and compensation for wilted banana cultivation. The farmers also reiterated that the nationalized banks were unduly harassing the farmers who might have defaulted on their agricultural loans for obvious reasons.

When K Tharpagaraj, revenue divisional officer assured that all the grievances would be looked into, the farmers were further infuriated. They demanded to know whether any concrete action had been taken to alleviate their sufferings and to keep the banks at bay as promised in the previous meetings. On the issue of sand mining, the farmers locked horns with the local administration and cited the activity as the main reason for the depleting water tables in the delta.

Stressing his point, Koundampatti Subramaniyan, a member of [Cauvery Delta Farmers](#)

[Welfare Association](#) said that both humans and cattle alike were thirsting for water as there was not drop available in his locality, and appealed to the official to whatever they could in their command to release water with immediate effect.

P Ayyakannu, the state vice-president of Bharathiya Kisan Sangam said that committing suicide was the last resort for the farmers as the bankers constantly intimidated them into paying the dues.

Joint director of agriculture, Gururaj Singh, regional joint director of cooperative societies, G Rajendra Prasad could not pacify the farmers and the monthly meeting ended without any concrete solution in sight.

## Business Standard

### Cardamom down 0.6% on profit-booking

---

[Cardamom](#) prices declined by 0.66% to Rs 832.00 per kg in futures trade today as speculators booked profits at prevailing higher levels amid sluggish demand in the spot market.

At the [Multi Commodity Exchange](#), cardamom for delivery in April declined by Rs 5.50, or 0.66% to Rs 832.00 per kg in business turnover of 90 lots.

Similarly, the spice for delivery in March contract shed Rs 4.50, or 0.56% to Rs 802.50 per kg in 266 lots.

Market analysts said besides profit-booking by speculators at existing higher levels, driven by sluggish demand in spot market mainly led to decline in cardamom prices at futures trade.

### Palm oil down 0.5% on weak spot demand

---

[Crude palm oil](#) prices fell 0.54% to Rs 593.70 per 10 kg in futures market today as speculators reduced their holdings, triggered by weak demand in the spot market.

At the [Multi Commodity Exchange](#), crude palm oil for delivery in March declined by Rs 3.40, or 0.54% to Rs 593.70 per 10 kg in business turnover of 167 lots.

In a similar fashion, the oil for delivery in February traded lower by Rs 2.30, or 0.39% to Rs 589.40 per 10 kg in 38 lots.

Market analysts said offloading of positions by speculators on weak demand in the spot market against adequate stocks position, mainly kept pressure on crude palm oil prices at futures trade.

# Potato up 1.9% on strong demand, tight supply

---

[Potato](#) prices rose 1.98% to Rs 1,193.70 per quintal in futures trading today as indulged in creating positions, supported by strong demand in the spot market.

At the [Multi Commodity Exchange](#), potato prices for delivery in April shot up by Rs 23.20, or 1.98% to Rs 1,193.70 per quintal in business turnover of 92 lots.

The potato for delivery in March also moved up by Rs 16.90, or 1.46% to Rs 1,177.50 per quintal in 66 lots.

Market analysts said besides strong demand in the spot market, restricted supplies from producing belts mainly pushed up potato prices at futures trade.

# Chana up 2.9% on strong demand

---

[Chana](#) prices recovered sharply by 2.97% to Rs 3,261 per quintal in futures trading today as speculators built-up positions, driven by rising demand from dal mills at spot markets amid restricted arrivals from producing regions.

At the [National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange](#), chana for delivery in May spurted by Rs 94, or 2.97% to Rs 3,261 per quintal with an open interest of 34,810 lots.

Also, the commodity for delivery in April up by Rs 92, or 2.95% to Rs 3,210 per quintal in 85,220 lots.

Analysts said speculators creating positions, supported by rising demand from dal mills against fall in supplies from producing regions mainly attributed the upsurge in chana prices at futures trade.

# Jeera up 1.1% on upsurge in demand

---

[Jeera](#) strengthened by 1.17% to Rs 11,677.50 per quintal in futures trading today after speculators enlarged positions, triggered by rising spot demand.

At the [National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange](#), jeera for delivery in March rose by Rs 135, or 1.17% to Rs 11,677.50 per quintal with an open interest of 6,117 lots.

Similarly, the spice for delivery in April traded higher by Rs 120, or 1.05% to Rs 11,585 per quintal in 6,117 lots.

Analysts attributed the rise in jeera futures to upsurge in demand in the spot market but expectations of higher output limited the gains.

# Sugar up 0.6% on spot demand, fall in output

---

[Sugar](#) prices gained 0.64% to Rs 2,851 per quintal in futures trade today as speculators created positions, triggered by a rise in demand in the spot market amid fall in output.

At the [National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange](#), sugar for delivery in April rose by Rs 18, or 0.64% to Rs 2,851 per quintal with an open interest of 29,710 lots.

Likewise, the sweetener for delivery in March traded higher by Rs 13, or 0.47% to Rs 2782 per quintal in 25120 lots.

Market analysts attributed the rise in prices at futures trade to fresh positions created by speculators after the country's sugar output fell over 13% to 14.37 million tonnes so far this year on delayed crushing.

# Coriander up 2.6% as demand picks up

---

Supported by pick up in demand in the spot market against limited arrivals from producing regions, [coriander](#) prices rose by 2.60% to Rs 9,546 per quintal in futures trade today as speculators enlarged positions.

At the [National Commodity and Derivative Exchange](#), coriander for delivery in April rose by Rs 242, or 2.60% to Rs 9,546 per quintal with an open interest of 43080 lots.

Similarly, the spice for delivery in May gained Rs 242, or 2.55% to Rs 9,724 per quintal in 28,760 lots.

Market analysts said speculators enlarged their positions on the back of pick-up in spot market demand against limited arrivals from producing belts mainly led an upswing in coriander prices at futures trade.

# Soybean prices up on tight supplies

---

[Soybean](#) prices have risen substantially in a fortnight due to low supplies and fear of damage to Rabi [oilseed crop](#) because of unseasonal [rainfall](#) in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, traders say.

"Soybean supplies have been declining every day since last week for various reasons like rainfall and holidays in physical markets among others," P Goyal, a soybean trader in Indore, said.

Soybean arrivals in Madhya Pradesh on Friday were around 60,000 bags of 100 kg each compared to 85,000 bags a fortnight ago.

General price in Indore mandi auctions on Friday ranged between Rs 3,900 and Rs 4,100 per 100 kg compared to Rs 3,500-3,850 per 100 kg a fortnight ago.

Plant delivery prices were Rs 4,100-4,175 per 100 kg compared to Rs 3,900-3,975 per 100 kg a fortnight ago.

Madhya Pradesh is the largest producer of soybean in India and Indore is the soybean trade hub of the country.

Traders feel unseasonal rains this week in major mustard producing states like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are responsible for rise in prices of soybean.

"Mustard is a major Rabi oilseed crop of the country and any harm to this crop will certainly see rise in prices of the oilseed," Hitesh Agrawal, a soybean trader in Ujjain, said.

In the beginning of this week, domestic soybean prices also got good support from overseas cues like unfavourable weather for soybean crop in South American countries like Brazil and Argentina.

South American countries like Brazil and Argentina are number two and number three soybean producers in the world after United States of America.

Analysts and traders feel soybean prices may gain further in the coming days due to continued low supplies and reports of damage to mustard crop in many areas in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

---