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# THE HINDU

## **Fish Farmers Development Agency established**

The State Fisheries Department has set up Fish Farmers Development Agency in Salem district for the benefit of the fish farmers of the district. One of the main objectives of the agency is contributing to the strengthening of rural economy by making fish farming economically viable and also providing training and popularising a new avocation by way of fish culture among rural people and thereby increasing rural employment opportunity.

A press release from District Collector K. Maharabushanam called upon the fish farmers of the district to enrol themselves as the members of the new agency.

Only the members of this agency will become eligible for getting the subsidy under both the Central and State Governments' sponsored schemes, the release added.

For details, contact the office of Assistant Director of Fisheries, Kolathur Road, Mettur Dam (phone No. 04298- 244045).

## **Three-day agri leadership summit for farmers**

More than a lakh farmers are expected to participate in the three-day Agri Leadership Summit 2015 being held at Laser Valley Ground here from March 13 to learn agriculture production techniques, input, direct marketing and other intricacies.

Giving details, Haryana Agriculture and Irrigation Minister O.P. Dhankar said the summit aims at keeping the spotlight on production and the producer.

The event will have discussions on ‘Diversification and Sustainability in Agriculture’, ‘Opportunities in Horticulture – Farmers’ Initiatives and Successful Business Models’, ‘Organic Farming and Soil Health Management’, ‘Precision Farming’, ‘Water Resource Management and Micro Irrigation’ and other related topics.

Business houses dealing with processing horticulture products, fruit, milk production, fishery, etc., have also been invited to share their experiences for the benefit of the farmers.

More than 20,000 farmers will partner in promoting agriculture production techniques, induction of new farmer-friendly technology, food processing and other such unique initiatives at the summit through seminars and debates.

### **Tomato crop under pest attack**



Several tomato farmers in the State are a worried lot, with a small caterpillar pest attacking their crop.

According to National Bureau of Agricultural Important Resources (NBAIR), the caterpillar pest has been identified as *Tuta absoluta*, originating from South America.

The pest attack has been reported at Malur in Kolar district, parts of Raichur district, parts of Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri in Tamil Nadu, and

parts of Gujarat and Maharashtra, said Abraham Verghese, Director of NBAIR.

He said between 2006 and 2015, the pest seemed to have crossed several borders affecting tomato production, besides eggplant (brinjal) and capsicum crops.

“The larvae feed on mesophyll tissues and make irregular mine on the leaf surface. Sometimes, the damage can be 100 per cent, which has been reported in parts of Malur. Due to infestation, the whole farm can look burnt,” he said.

Dr. Verghese said extensive studies have been conducted, which showed “moderate to severe infestation by the pest. Chemical pesticides have failed to control the pest, which has high reproduction capability.”

### **Control methods**

The only viable way to control the pest is through biological methods. He said pheromone traps releasing biological control agents such as egg paracetoids and spraying *Bacillus thuringiensis* can together help control the pest. While each pheromone trap costs around Rs. 50, NBAIR is working to develop it further through nanotechnology so as to reduce the cost. An acre would require around 40 traps.

### **Agriculture varsity to demand ‘plagiarism-free’ certificates**

The Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) will henceforth demand plagiarism-free certificates for postgraduate and Ph.D. theses submission. The 124th meeting of the Academic Council held at the University headquarters here recently decided to use plagiarism-finder software to check for plagiarism. Henceforth, all theses will be examined with the aid of plagiarism finder and awarded certificates if found original. The chairman of the advisory committee of the candidate should furnish an affidavit to that effect, said KAU vice-chancellor P. Rajendran.

The Council also decided to streamline postgraduate and Ph.D. research so that it addressed issues in the State farm sector. The research should be based on topics identified and enlisted in the bank. Each researcher should attempt to generate either a solution to a field-level problem or generate a technology beneficial to the local farming system. The Director of Research will chair college-level faculty meetings to finalise technical programmes of postgraduate students. It will ensure quality research, he said.

Registrar P.V. Balachandran stated that the meeting approved the prospectus for admission to KAU courses for 2015-16. Reservation of seats for candidates belonging to Other Backward Communities will be ensured.

### **Acute scarcity of hay in Pudukottai**



Acute scarcity of hay has been posing a great hardship to the livestock owners in parts of the district and there has been a panic buying of hay from fields where 'samba' crop has been harvested last month.

Farmers said that non-availability of hay has forced the farmers to make a beeline to Avudaiyarkovil and Aranthangi coastal blocks where the harvest of 'samba' crop had been completed.

According to an estimate, the district accounted for a livestock population of 3.65 lakh but poor availability of hay posed a challenge. Farmers in the coastal blocks who have harvested paddy have come to the rescue of

livestock owners in other blocks. Most farmers in the coastal areas do not own livestock.

G.S. Dhanapathy, District Chairman of Farmers' Forum of India, said that the problem was more pronounced in blocks such as Kundrandarkovil, Viralimalai, Annavasal, Tirumayam, Ponnamaravathy, part of Pudukottai and part of Tiruvarankulam. Farmers incurred a huge expenditure for bringing the loads of hay from Aranthangi, Erichi, Avudaiyarkovil and Amaradakki.

He said the government should start immediately hay sales depots on the lines of the relief provided last season. The sales units were started at Pudukottai, Alangudi, Aranthangi and Keeranur.

According to official sources, a decision on starting the sales depot would be taken in course of time.

### **UAS-B to take up climate-resilient farm project in Kolar district**



In a bid to help sustain farming activity, the University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore (UAS-B) is set to take up a 'climate-resilient agriculture' project on a pilot basis in the parched district of Kolar.

In an interview with *The Hindu*, newly-appointed Vice-Chancellor of UAS-B, H. Shivanna, said a committee of experts had been constituted to

prepare a road map within a month to implement the project. The project will begin soon after getting the report from the committee, he said.

Observing that climatic stress, especially paucity of water, would be the main challenge for the future of agriculture and food security, he said as the new head of the university he would lay emphasis on efforts to tackle this challenge through climate-resilient farming methods. This emphasis was a must as majority of the districts coming under the university's jurisdiction were parched ones, which practised rain-fed agriculture, he said.

Admitting that turning agriculture into a climate-resilient activity was a complex exercise that needed co-ordination between researchers and extension personnel, besides taking farmers into confidence, Dr. Shivanna said the university would also try to involve political leaders in a bid to drum up support for such a vital transformation process.

With the decrease in geographical jurisdiction of the university, efforts would be made to adopt a micro-management approach by addressing district-specific needs, he said.

### **Bridging the gap**

Dr. Shivanna is also particular about strengthening extension activities for effectively reaching out to farmers.

He said he wanted to actively involve innovative farmers in the process of bridging the gap between the university's labs and the farmers' fields. A meeting of 45 innovative farmers would be held soon to chalk out an extension strategy, he said.

Dr. Shivanna also directed all the nine district-level Krishi Vigyan Kendras coming under the university's jurisdiction to adopt a village each and develop it into a model in terms of agricultural activities.

All scientists of the university would be involved in this process, he said. His other area of focus is strengthening teaching and research activities. “We are looking at upgrading skills of our teaching faculty and the infrastructure,” he said, while remarking that measures would be taken to boost the morale of the staff as part of efforts to enable them to face challenges gripping the farm sector.

### **Towards sustainable small-scale fisheries**

Concerns over the recent deaths of sea turtles were raised at a workshop on Friday to discuss voluntary guidelines for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries. Speakers said while the rights of small-scale fishers should be ensured, the latter should understand that they have responsibilities towards the biosphere on which they depend for their livelihood. The deaths of sea turtles are often caused due to their nets.

Shanta Sheela Nair, vice-chairman, State Planning Commission, said agencies, including panchayats, should work with the small-scale fishers and ensure that they voluntarily comply.

She said in Tamil Nadu, informal fisher panchayats had a strong hold over the hamlets and there was a need to work with them to implement guidelines endorsed by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Committee on Fisheries in Rome in June 2014.

The workshop was organised by the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers - Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project for the Eastern Coast of India, which has 60 per cent of the country’s fisher population.

FAO Representative Kevin Gallagher stressed the importance of the guidelines in addressing the needs of the small-scale fisheries sector.

## Gale damages banana crop in Salem



Banana trees, sugarcane and coconut trees standing on hundreds of acres of land in Edappadi and Kolathur blocks of the district were damaged in heavy gale that struck on Friday.

The downpour accompanied by gale received on Friday uprooted the banana trees standing on a large area in the Edappadi and surrounding villages of Koneripatti, Kottayur and Poomuniyur.

The farmers had raised *kadali* and *rasthali* varieties and these have suffered severe damage.

### **Entire crop**

Rajasekar, a farmer of Poo Muniyur said that he had raised the banana trees in about three acres and the entire crop has been damaged.

In Kolathur block, banana crop has been raised in about 500 acres in Govindapadi and surrounding villages. The banana crop harvest has just commenced.

The sudden heavy rain, accompanied by strong winds on Friday uprooted more than 50,000 trees standing on about 50 acres in the villages of Vella Karattur, Thinnapatti and Pannavadi.



The banana farmers of Vattaramapalayam near Thevur, Kaveripatti, Mottur, Vattrampalayam and Sendrayanur, all near Mettur, suffered a similar fate.

Venkatachalam of Govindappadi village had raised the banana crop by spending about Rs. 3 lakh. The crop this season was in very good condition. With just a week left for harvesting, tragedy struck and the entire farm has been destroyed.

A cross-section of the banana farmers say that they will be suffering heavy loss and will not be able to meet the expenditure involved in raising the crop during the next season.

They demanded that State Horticulture Department officials take the initiative to conduct a study of the damaged crop and recommend adequate compensation to the banana farmers without any delay. The Department should commence loss assessment exercise with immediate effect, they said.

### **Minister promises 20,000 MW in next three years**

Energy Minister G. Jagadeeswar Reddy said that the State Government has been planning to produce 20,000 MW power in the next two to three years.

Inaugurating sub-stations at Gajwel Assembly constituency on Sunday, Mr. Jagadeeswar Reddy said that the government was able to handle the power situation better in the State resulting in no power cuts so far despite serious problems.

“The focus is more on meeting the demand for domestic use and farm requirements. Sub-stations are being established so that power can be supplied depending on the requirement of farmers,” said Mr. Jagadeeswar Reddy adding that the government was ready to spend any amount of money to procure power. He has informed that Rs. 33.6 crore is being

spent for establishment of power stations in the constituency. Stating that Rs. 6.5 crore at Yerravalli and Rs 25.75 crore in Angadikishtapur is being spent for development activities and 271 villages under Gajwel Area Development Authority would be developed.

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### **Complex exercise**

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## **Bridging the gap**

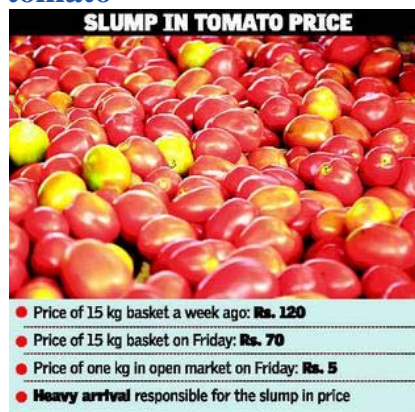
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## **Steep fall in price of tomato**



The bulk arrival following good crop has led to steep fall in the price of tomato in Thammampatti markets, much to the concern of the farming community.

Tomato is being sold at a paltry price of Rs. 5 per kg in the open market, said to be the lowest ever price in the recent past. Tomato is a major crop in the rain-fed areas in the villages surrounding Thammampatti in the district. The vegetable wholesale markets at Thammampatti have been receiving a large quantity of tomato from the nearby villages for the past few days. This has led to deep fall in the price of tomato.

A 15-kg box of tomato which was being sold at Rs. 120 last week, is now priced at Rs. 70 for the past two days. Due to this, the price of a kg of tomato has come down to Rs. 5 in the open market.

A cross-section of the traders of wholesale mandies in Thammampatti observed that with the commencement of harvest season, the arrival of tomato has increased in the recent past.

Moreover, the turmeric farmers have also raised tomato as interim crop and the harvest of the same too is in progress. This has led to the present trend, they say.

### **CPCRI workshop on neera**

The Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) is organising a workshop on the production and marketing of 'neera' here on March 10 to highlight its importance and develop entrepreneurship in the district.

The one-day programme in collaboration with the North Malabar Chamber of Commerce would be held on the CPCRI campus at 9.30 a.m.

#### **Packaged bottles**

It is also proposed to launch 'CPCRI packaged neera bottles' on the occasion.

The production technology of the neera brand 'Kalparasa,' developed by the CPCRI, is a natural non-alcoholic beverage, high in nutritional value.

#### **Pamdew**

In Kerala, the first fresh neera sale was launched in the brand name 'Pamdew' by Palakkad Coconut Producers Company Limited (PCPCL)

at Vyttila Mobility Hub, Ernakulam, by adopting the coco-sap chiller technology developed by the CPCRI.

Since then its sale had gone rapidly and now it was being sold in more places and adopted by five coconut producer companies, CPCRI director P. Chowdappa said.

### **Watermelons and pools for a red-hot summer**



Even before the withdrawal of winter, watermelons have flooded Madurai, announcing the early arrival of summer.

The pavements in many localities in the city, which are filled with watermelons as well as the people enjoying slices of the fruit, speak volumes of the rising temperature.

“Last year, the fruits made an appearance in the market only during mid-March but the rains in the district have resulted in a good harvest which has led to watermelons flooding markets during the first week of February itself,” said N. Mohideen, a fruit vendor.

“With the temperature rising ever since the end of January, we have also been doing brisk business,” he added. The early onset of summer has raised concern as to what the weather has in store in the coming months.

### **More pools needed**

On holidays, the corporation swimming pool near Gandhi Memorial Museum is filled with young boys and girls and their fathers. “During weekends, we make it a point not to stay indoors during the afternoons and visit the corporation swimming pool to cool off,” said K. Vishal, a class VII student and resident of Melamadai.

“Most of the visitors hit the pools during weekends since schools are still working. We are expecting lot more people after schools close down and when the temperature further soars ,” said a corporation worker . While the pool has a special slot for women and children from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., S. Rebecca, a student and regular user of the swimming pool, said that they would like to have an additional slot early in the morning.

“The corporation swimming pool is affordable for us. It is one of the best places to take our children during summer as it gives them some physical activity. While the maintenance of the pool is just about satisfactory, ensuring better hygiene and keeping the chlorine level in check will be beneficial for us,” said Vijay Sekaran, who had brought his daughters to the swimming pool. “Since most of the private pools in the city charge a high fee for usage, more facilities like this can be developed across the city by the corporation,” he added.

### **Yoga cools body**

Apart from swimming as a viable activity to keep fit during summer, yoga is preferred by many as it can be practised indoors.

“There are many special ‘asanas’ that can be performed during summer months as they are believed to have cooling properties. A special cooling ‘pranayama’ (breathing exercise), when performed consistently, can keep the body heat in check,” said S, Yoganand, a yoga instructor .

Stating that fresh fruit juices and tender coconut water could be consumed instead of packaged juices with preservatives, R. Jayasudha,

chief dietician at a city hospital, said that fried items, which resulted in excess body heat, should be strictly avoided during the coming months.



## THE TIMES OF INDIA

### **Tech-savvy farmer saves wheat crop in Chandigarh**

CHANDIGARH: Untimely rains accompanied with strong winds and hailstorm have farmers across north India worried as it has led to lodging (flattening) of wheat crop. However, one progressive farmer from Karnal managed to save his wheat from the vagaries of weather as he had sown his crop using the "Happy Seeder" machine unlike the broadcasting method used by most farmers.

Harpreet Singh of Kalwehri village of Karnal, who had sown 10 acres of wheat, said, "Heavy rainfall and strong winds flattened the wheat crop in our area on March 2 and 3. Crops of many farmers in the adjoining fields got lodged due to inclement weather. However, my crop remained unaffected by the torrential downpour and strong winds. I had sown wheat with the Happy Seeder so that could be the reason that my crop remained unaffected."

Harpreet said he has been sowing wheat with this machine since 2011. "I have sown HD-3086, HD-2967, WH-1105 and KRI-210 varieties of wheat. I started using Happy Seeder for sowing about four years ago and the results have been encouraging."

Even farm scientists are taking keen interest in the growth of wheat sown by Harpreet. Samar Singh, director, regional research station, Karnal of the Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar also visited Harpreet's fields on March 5 to take a look at the crop, which remained unaffected by strong gusts of wind and heavy downpour.

Scientists at the Karnal station of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) also inquired about the crop condition from Harpreet after heavy rainfall in the region.

"Many other progressive farmers in the region are also keen to use Happy Seeder now. I knew that new implements helped in reducing the cost of cultivation, but now that my crop did not flatten it should encourage others to follow suit," said Harpreet, who is also a pioneer in direct seeded rice (DSR) technique.

### **What's happy seeder:**

It is an implement which allows sowing of wheat in fields that still have rice stubble. It helps in sowing of wheat without burning of rice stubble, thus preventing burning of paddy straw and helping maintain fertility of soil. It costs around Rs 1.15 lakh.

### **Coffee export down 19% in January-February**

NEW DELHI: **Coffee export** fell by 19 per cent to 49,272 tonne during the January-February period of this year on weak global prices.

Total coffee shipments stood at 60,660 tonne in the same period of last year.

Coffee export, in value terms, also fell to Rs 888.69 crore in January-February 2015, as against Rs 903.08 crore in the year-ago period, the Coffee Board's data showed.

### **How the masala magic works**

What makes Indian cuisine distinct from Western cuisine? A team of complex systems experts from IIT Jodhpur who applied data analytics techniques on 2,543 recipes from across India have found the answer.



According to their finding, which has created ripples in the world of food science and gastronomy, combining ingredients with very different flavours in one recipe gives Indian cuisine a unique character. In fact, in Indian cooking more the number of common flavour molecules shared by two ingredients, the lesser the chance of them co-existing in a recipe. (Flavour molecules give an ingredient the sense of taste and smell peculiar to it.) For example, red chilli powder and cumin share only six flavour molecules but this pair of ingredients can be found 406 times across Indian cuisine.

This research turns the accepted notion in Western cuisines — that two ingredients will go well together in a recipe if they share a large number of flavour molecules — on its head. For example, two pairs of ingredients that occur together frequently in American cooking are butter and milk, which share 73 flavour molecules and butter and vanilla, which share 32 flavour molecules.

So why were the computational researchers dabbling in kitchen science? Short answer: trying to answer a simple question -what makes Indian food special? Assistant professor Ganesh Bagler with basic training in physics and a PhD in computational biology along with his students Rakhi NK doing a PhD in biomedical text mining and Anupam Jain an MTech system science student started by identifying the best repository of Indian recipes, which are well curated, formatted and covering several regional cuisines. That happened to be the Tarla Dalal's collection of recipes that includes eight regional sub-cuisines — Bengali, Gujarati, Jain, Maharashtrian, Mughlai, Punjabi, Rajasthani and South Indian.

From 2,543 recipes, they identified 194 ingredients, which were then divided into 15 categories — spice, vegetable, fruit, plant derivative, nutseed, cereal crop, dairy, plant, pulse, herb, meat, fish seafood,

beverage, animal product, and flower. Then a database of the flavour molecules present in these 194 ingredients was created. Each ingredient is associated with a set of flavour molecules which is the taste profile of that ingredient. Based on the flavour profile they looked at the 'food pairing' or sharing of flavour compounds in Indian recipes and discovered that more the extent of flavour sharing between any two ingredients, the lesser the chance of them occurring in the same recipe. An average Indian recipe contains seven ingredients but some can contain up to 40.

A flavour network was created to identify pattern of ingredients coming together in a recipe. This revealed the distinct feature of food with least overlap in flavours occurring in one recipe. While this is a feature observed in some Asian cuisines, researchers found it very pronounced in Indian cuisine. This was referred to as negative food pairing only to distinguish it from the already observed phenomenon in Western cuisines like North American and Western European of positive pairing. (Cuisines from southern Europe and East Asia have shown a mild tendency towards pairing differently flavoured ingredients.) Interestingly, Mughlai cuisine shows the least tendency to pair vastly different flavour molecules. But then this food tradition carries strong influences from outside the Indian subcontinent. Those ethnically from the subcontinent showed a strikingly strong pattern of negative pairing.

The Indianness of a recipe is not sensitive to the replacement of ingredients of any category except for spices. If we were to replace an ingredient of one category with another from the same category, say one vegetable with another, it would not change the molecular pattern of the recipe radically. But changing a given spice with another would destroy the negative food pairing. In a list of the top 15 ingredients in terms of their contribution towards food pairing, 14 are spices demonstrating their key place in Indian cuisine.

India has a tradition of using food as medicine as Charaka Samhita and Bhavaprakasha, important Ayurvedic texts, refer to food or natural ingredients as medicine. Key molecular components in spices are reported to have various curative properties, one of the most celebrated among them being curcumin, a compound found in turmeric.

While the traditional use of spices may not have been based on the understanding of their molecular properties, using spices for flavour, colour and preservation might have led to empirical evidence-based understanding of their medicinal values.

### **Vegetable prices increase due to abrupt showers**

JAIPUR: The fleeting spell of rainfall have increased the fears of steep rise in vegetable prices among traders and consumers. Rates of leafy vegetables were up at the Muhana Mandi on Saturday while prices of all other vegetables are likely to move upwards soon.

Immediate impact of abrupt rains was evident on green, leafy vegetables, which are difficult to store and easily perishable. The crop which was about to be harvested has been completely destroyed. Spinach sold at Rs 35 per kg in wholesale while methi (fenugreek) too rallied at Rs.30 per kg. Coriander reached Rs 25 per kg and cauliflower, another crop which can rot due to prolonged exposure to moisture, was selling at Rs 28 per kg.

"Major suppliers of vegetables to Rajasthan are bordering Haryana, UP and Punjab. In all these places damage to vegetables crops has been reported. Customers can expect a sharp rise in days ahead as their inflow in the state is likely to decrease," said Ashok Agarwal, a vegetable trader in Muhana Mandi.

Farrukhabad in UP, which is a leading producer of potatoes, has seen a huge reduction in its crop production this season. This will further trigger the prices that are already high as potato was sold between Rs 30-35 per kg in retail.

"Supply was already in short. So far, the demand is being met by supplies from Chomu and around Jaipur. But with abrupt rains and clouds hovering for a few days, their production too has been adversely affected," said Radheyshyam Phatak, president of the Rajasthan Fruits and Vegetable Traders Association. He added, water in fields at this time of season acts as poison for the vegetables.

## THE HINDU BusinessLine

### **There's too much cotton around**



Since August last year, domestic cotton prices have headed south, mirroring the trend in global markets. The Cotlook A index for cotton prices is down 26 per cent over the past year.

The thorn in the commodity's side was China, the world's largest consumer, whose cotton policies have global consequences. Last year, China changed farmer support policies, began restricting cheaper imports through its import quota system, and then started selling from the reserve stocks it holds. The resultant drop in Chinese demand impacted global prices and prospects for India, for which China is the largest export market.

According to USDA reports, Chinese imports have shrunk about 70 per cent in the past three years. This apart, the alternative to cotton — synthetics — has also turned cheaper on falling crude oil prices.

### **Supply in excess**

On the domestic front, cotton prices lost 28 per cent over the past year. A sharp decline began in August, when the crop's marketing season kicks off.

Cotton production was already up 9 per cent in the 2013-14 season to 39.8 million bales, according to Cotton Corporation of India. Now, production estimates for the 2014-15 season, at 40 million bales, are not much higher than the year before due to lower yields.

But even so, this level of production is above the five-year average of around 34 million bales.

The absence of China in absorbing this increased supply put a lid on prices. India's exports to China dropped 26.4 per cent between April and October 2014, going by India Ratings & Research reports.

While exports to countries such as Pakistan and Bangladesh can pick up, overall exports are still low.

The Cotton Corporation estimates that total exports will drop 23 per cent in the 2014-15 season over the previous one.

Domestic mills haven't taken advantage of the lower prices and stepped into the fray either, to make up for lower exports. Growth in global demand has not significantly gathered pace. Domestic demand is also muted as wary consumers kept away. Mill consumption is estimated to move higher by just around 4 per cent for 2014-15, resulting in higher stockpiles.

Adding to the woes of excess supply, minimum support prices for cotton have moved higher only marginally by Rs. 50 or so, below the approximate increase of Rs. 100 the season before. Market prices are now ruling below minimum support prices.

In the medium term, the situation is likely to remain the same and prices for cotton may not see a sharp climb.

Here's why. The USDA predicts a fall in production, with large producers such as China, the US and Pakistan reducing output. The Indian market is set to remain flat, but will still be the top producing region for the second year running.

### **China factor**

Usually, change in cotton prices in a particular year impacts demand the following year. Demand may, therefore, pick up in the coming quarters owing to the sharp 25 per cent drop in cotton prices.

But with higher cotton stockpiles to draw on, this demand can be met even with the reduced production.

Moreover, much of the increase in demand is estimated to stem from the Chinese market, which holds almost half the global stock.

The country's cotton policies and import restrictions can keep up the pressure on prices. In Indian markets too, the muted export climate and higher stocks can restrict price rises.