

Marine Insurance



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Every 1st week of the month, Shri Rajendra Ganatra will share with readers his thoughts on various kinds of Insurance that are relevant to the cotton industry in our experts column beginning from this issue)

Insurance is the greatest invention of mankind-Albert Einstein

WHAT IS INSURANCE? HOW IT WORKS?

Insurance is a system of sharing losses of few over a large number of persons.

People who are exposed to the same or similar risks come together form a group and agree that if any of them suffers a loss, others will contribute to share that person's loss and try to make good his loss. In earlier days the system was to collect from the members agreed contribution towards loss, when any person suffered loss but now it is collected in advance. This share of contribution is called "Premium". It is not possible to determine in advance which person of the group will suffer loss, but due to statistical principle of probability

it is possible to decide in advance as to how much losses are likely to be suffered by a particular group and how much should be the contribution for members of that group. Now, the 'groups' are managed by professionals called insurers or insurance companies and members are called Insureds.

EXAMPLE

All exporters who export cargo of cotton bales by ships are exposed to the same risks of water damage, fire onboard ship, sinking of ship, piracy etc., Under present system, to become a member of a 'group' they have to take a marine insurance policy with any of the insurance companies who act as "group managers'; if any person suffers loss/ damage to cargo of cotton bales in transit, the insurance company (insurer) will pay for his loss. Others whose cargo is safe they receive peace of mind and their money is used by insurer to pay for the loss.

How much premium? Different groups (insurers) operating in any market charge premiums differently because they decide the quantum of premium to be charged to the members (insureds) depending upon their past loss experience of similar cargo, their future expectation of loss on that cargo depending upon their statistical analysis, their management expenses, provision for contingency that their assumption about the likely losses may go wrong, and a small profit element. Depending upon the present experience and the market conditions the future premium is adjusted- increased/ decreased for future risks.

Let us see this arithmetically to understand the concept:

During a period an insurer has insured export of cotton bales worth Rs 10,00,00,000/-, losses paid by them for transit losses Rs 4,00,000/- their administrative expenses Rs 50,000/- expected profits Rs 25,000/- and provision for contingencies Rs 25,000/- = Rs 5,00,000/-. They will charge a rate of 0.050% 5,00,000/10,00,000,000) on the future transits of cotton bales they insured.

OR

On import of ginning machinery worth Rs 20,00,00,000/- losses Rs 1,00,000/- administrative expenses Rs 50,000/- profit Rs 25,000/- and provision for contingencies Rs 25,000/- Total Rs 2,00,000/- the rate for future imports will be 0.10.% (2,00,000/20,00,00,000) and so on for other commodities.

In practice longer periods say minimum 5 years are taken and huge amounts are considered to arrive at future rates.

MARINE INSURANCE

What is Marine Insurance?

The term 'Marine' is having historical and legal as well as technical meaning.

Historically insurance in the world started with marine insurance some 3000 years before. Other insurances are more recent. At that time water was the only recognized mode of transport and the word 'Marine' originated from the water mode of transport. Even when the other modes of transports like railways, roadways and aviation developed the name still remained the same 'Marine Insurance' initially the insurance cover was available only during sea (water) transportation on 'Port to Port' basis. Subsequently when other modes of transportation developed which were used as supplementary to water transportation the cover became 'Warehouse to Warehouse". Presently, we are in the era of Warehouse to Warehouse insurance.

Legally or technically the term 'Marine Insurance' originates out of Marine Insurance Act 1963 and Insurance Act 1938. Both these terms have defined the term. If we combine the definitions "Marine

Insurance" covers the following:

- a) Insurance of goods in transit by all modes of transport i.e. by rail, road, sea, air, post, courier- whether singly or in form of multimodal. This also includes storage risks during transits.
- b) Insurance of ships which are plying on water (water only) e.g. merchant ships, fishing vessels, sand dredgers, yachts, etc.
- c) Insurance of ships during construction the ships which are going to ply on water.
- d) Insurance of ships which were plying on water during their breakage.- ship breakage.
- e) Insurance of freight.
- f) Insurance of insurance premium.
- g) Insurance of profits on maritime transactions.
- h) Insurance of liabilities occurring on water and related risks collision liabilities, charters' liability, ship repairers' liability, etc.
- i) Insurance of incidental charges- expenses related to running of ships, connected with imports etc.

BRANCHES OF MARINE INSURANCE

- a) Cargo Insurance covers goods in transit and related risks.
- b) Hull Insurance Ships and related risks.

In this and future articles on the subject we will confine our discussion only to a) Cargo insurance.

METHODS OF TAKING CARGO INSURANCE

a) Specific Policy Method -

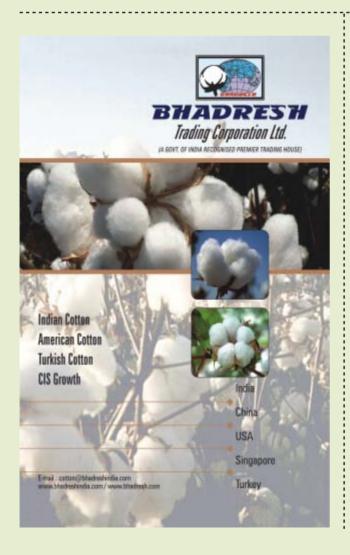
For every dispatch of a cargo a separate insurance is arranged. E.g export of 500 cotton bales from Dharangdhra to USA via Mumbai Port. Take policy for this transaction by paying premium in advance and arranging of insurance in advance before commence of transit from Dharangdhra.

For next dispatch, another policy is to be taken. Here everything is on case to case basis. There is no commitment from either client (insured) or insurer about having long term relationship. Insured can change insurer every time and insurer may also be selective every time. He may refuse to insure certain consignments or for certain consignment he may ask for more premium.

b) Open Policy/ Open cover Method -

Insured and insurer form an understanding in form of open policy/cover and agree for insurance over a period of time say one year. During this period, insurer undertakes to provide covers for all the despatches of the insured at fixed terms. Similarly, insured also undertakes to insure during that period only with that insurer all the despatches. In this method as the insurance is arranged in advance in general terms, the need of informing insurers about the dispatch before commencement of transit and arranging for insurance of the consignment is dispensed with.

The insured has to inform insurer periodically (as agreed) about the dispatches made during the period say weekly, fortnightly, monthly, etc. However, in this method, sufficient premium balance is to be maintained with the insurer to take care of despatches – at the time of dispatch there should be a positive balance to cover the shipments to be made. This premium deposit is to be replenished when it goes down and to be maintained at sufficient level to cover future despatches. There may be some restrictive conditions like putting a cap on value of goods that can be sent during a particular dispatch (Per Sending Limit) or accumulation of stock limit at any location (Location Limit) etc. Very important aspect of this method is that there is no selection available to insure only a few consignments. All consignments coming within the scope of the insurance policy must be declared whether they have reached safe or in damaged condition.





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Glut in Hybrid Cotton Seed - Report

According to a press report, there is a glut in Bt cotton seeds which is said to have triggered serious price competition among various brands in States such as Punjab and Haryana where planting of cotton for the 2013-14 crop has commenced. Seed companies, amidst intensifying competition, are reportedly under pressure to slash prices of Bt hybrids, having regard to the huge surplus in the market.

The press report adds that against the requirement of around four crore packets of 400 gm each for the season across the country, the supplies of Bt cotton seed for the current season are estimated at nine crore packets. Against the maximum retail price (MRP) of Rs.1,000 a packet in Punjab, the Bollgard II seeds are being sold at Rs.800-850, the press report claims quoting trade sources. Similarly, the Bollgard I seeds are being sold at around Rs.750 a packet against the MRP of Rs.825. The trade circles are said to be of the view that the State-fixed MRPs will help only a few large players, creating a sort of monopoly in the market.

As for the cotton crop, it is claimed that although prospects look better than last year in the northern States as farmers are seen coming back to the fibre crop, planting is yet to pick up. The delay in harvesting of wheat appears to be one of the main reasons for this. Planting is, however, stated to have started in areas where mustard was planted last rabi.

Farmers across the country have a choice of buying Bt cotton seeds from over 1000 hybrid brands from over 50 companies in kharif 2013, trade sources are quoted to have claimed. Seed companies are stated to attribute the glut situation in seeds to the huge stocks carried forward from the past two years, when they faced a drop in demand as farmers had switched over to other crops such as guar and soyabean among others. Some of the companies are said to be adopting promotional schemes and planning to reach out to more customers.

(Source: Business Line - 06.05.2013)

Cotton Area to See a Drop in 2013-14?

According to a recent report in the press; cotton farmers are slowly losing their fancy towards the fibre crop. It is stated that lower yield and reduced net returns are likely to see them shift to other crops during the impending kharif season. It is claimed that there may be a drop in the sowing of cotton. The report goes on to state that according to the projections given by the Textile Commissioner, the area under cotton cultivation is likely to be around 117.7 lakh hectares in 2012-13 as against 121.78 lakh hectares in 2011-12.

It is stated that this year the area under cotton cultivation will drop as more farmers will shift to other crops like groundnut. Apart from low yield, cotton prices are also said to be lower than last year. In some States like Andhra Pradesh, the market prices are stated to have fallen below the support prices in April. Later on, they rebounded with the procurement of cotton by the Cotton Corporation.

Prospects for export of cotton are also said to be dim which exert downward pressure on prices and discourage farmers from growing cotton instead of other competing crops. It would appear that export prospects have dimmed mainly because buying by China has stopped and no further export is taking place. It would appear that importers in China have been told that if they import, they would have to buy three times that amount from the Chinese Government reserve. This has obviously hit the cotton exporters in India, particularly as imports by China account for about 60 per cent of exports by India. The second highest importer of Indian cotton, viz. Bangladesh, is also stated to have cut down imports. Pakistan is also claimed to have turned to Australia and African countries for cheaper cotton.

It is stated that there was sufficient demand from spinning mills last year which checked the possibility of over supply in the market and downward drift in prices. This year, the demand from mills is said to be quite weak due to global economic conditions. Also, the mills are stated to have imported cotton as it is cheaper compared to domestically sourced cotton. Farmers, it is stated, are thus left with no option but to sell the kapas below the support prices as they are in need of cash to buy seeds for the impending kharif season. It would appear that in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, CCI and NAFED (National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation) have intervened and have managed to increase the price of kapas. The overall scenario is stated to be bleak for cotton at the moment on the domestic market as well as international market.

(Source: Business Standard 23.05.2013)

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Cotton Prices Weaken in May

Domestic cotton prices moved down in the case of all growths during May. However, the drop was only quite marginal. The average spot rates of some representative growths during the last three months are given below:

Avg. Spot Rate (Rs./Quintal)

Growths	March 13	April 13	May 13
ICS-202 (P/H/R)	10,660	10,383	10,255
ICS-105 (M/M/A)	10,580	10,552	10,360
ICS-105 (GUJ)	10,764	10,732	10,608
ICS-105 (M/M/A/K/T)	/O) 10,999	11,114	11,013
ICS-107 (M(P)/K/T)	13,439	13,687	13,633

The decline has been maximum at Rs.162 per quintal in the case of ICS-105 (M/M/A). The next in order was ICS-202 (P/H/R) with a fall of Rs.128 per quintal and was closely followed by ICS-105 (GUJ) at Rs.124 per quintal. The lowest drop at Rs.54 per quintal was in the case of ICS-107 (M(P)/K/T). In the case of ICS-105 (M/M/A/K/T/O) the decline was Rs.101 per quintal.

After touching a high in August compared to the previous months, prices had turned weak in September and October. Prices were marginally up in November and they further hardened in the case of most growths. The uptrend was maintained in January except in the

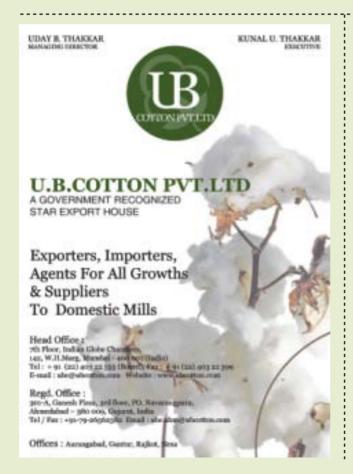
case of ICS-107 (M(P)/K/T) the price of which declined. Prices moved up in February and escalated further in March but turned weak in April. And now in May, prices have continued the slide.

The decline in prices, although marginally, was a reaction to the rising supply with fresh market arrivals without any corresponding increase in demand from spinning mills or exporters. Cotton exports have slowed down considerably mainly owing to the sharp fall in imports by China which has already built up its national reserve. Further, imports are now required to buy three times the intended quantity from the government reserve.

Coming to the seasonal average prices, the prices of all growths barring ICS-105 (GUJ) were higher in the first eight months of 2012-13 compared to the averages during the corresponding period of 2011-12. The comparative data in this regard are given below:

Seasonal (Oct-May) Avg. Spot Rates (Rs/Qtl.)

Growths	2011-12	2012-13	Diff.
ICS-202 (P/H/R)	8,989	9,652	+ 663
ICS-105 (M/M/A)	9,469	9,766	+ 297
ICS-105 (GUJ)	10,039	9,974	- 65
ICS-105 (M/M/A/K/T/O)	10,130	10,228	+ 98
ICS-107 $(M(P)/K/T)$	13,047	13,106	+ 59





intal)			MP/K/T ICS-107	Fine	34mm 30-38	88		13498	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13638	13498	13633
(₹\Quintal)			K/A/T/O ICS-106	Fine	32mm 3549	ਜ਼ਿਲ		11135	11220	11248	11248	11248	11248	11248	11248	11248	11248	11248	11248	11248	11248	11248	11304	11332	11360	11389	11445	11417	11417	11417	11417	11445	11445	11445	11135	11306
			MAV/A/K/T/O ICS-105	Fine	31mm 3549	3		10882	10967	10995	10995	10995	10939	10939	10939	10939	10939	10939	10939	10939	10967	10967	10967	11023	11051	11079	11135	111107	11107	11135	11135	11164	11164	11164	10882	11013
			۷.۵	Fine	30mm 3549	39		10629	10714	10770	10770	10770	10770	10714	10714	10714	10714	10657	10657	10657	10686	10686	10686	10742	10770	10798	10854	10826	10882	10911	10911	10939	10967	10967	10629	10766
			CS106	Fine	29mm 3549	<u></u> 89		10404	10489	10545	10545	10545	10545	10545	10601	10601	10901	10545	10545	10517	10545	10545	10545	10601	10629	10657	10714	10686	10686	10714	10770	10826	10854	10854	10404	10608
			M/M/A/K ICS-105	Fine	29mm 3549	<u>}</u> 89	:	10348	10432	10489	10489	10489	10489	10489	10545	10545	10545	10489	10489	10461	10489	10489	10489	10517	10545	10573	10629	10601	10601	10629	10686	10742	10770	10770	10348	10541
			CS-105	Fine	28mm 3549			10236	10320	10404	10404	10404	10404	10404	10461	10461	10461	10404	10404	10376	10404	10404	10404	10461	10489	10517	10573	10545	10545	10601	10657	10714	10742	10742	10236	10469
			M/M/A ICS-105	Fine	28mm 3549		:	10151	10236	10320	10320	10320	10320	10320	10320	10320	10320	10264	10264	10236	10264	10264	10320	10348	10376	10404	10461	10432	10432	10489	10573	10629	10657	10657	10151	10360
RATES			P/H/R ICS-105	Fine	28mm 3549			10517	10601	10629	10629	10517	10432	10432	10461	10461	10461	10404	10404	10376	10348	10348	10404	10489	10517	10601	10686	10714	10601	10601	10657	10714	10798	10798	10348	10531
	3		M/M/A ICS-105	Fine	77 mm 3549	B.	:	8686	9954	10039	10039	10039	9954	9954	9954	9954	9954	8686	8686	0286	8686	8686	9954	10011	10039	10067	10123	10095	10039	10151	10208	10264	10320	10320	0286	10018
XY SPOT	May 2013	2012-13 Crop	M/M/A ICS-105	Fine	27 mm 30-34	8		9673	9729	9826	9826	9826	9701	9617	9617	9617	9617	9561	9561	9533	9533	9533	6286	9617	9645	8423	9729	9701	9701	9826	9842	0286	8686	8686	9533	9681
UPCOUNTRY	2	201	P/H/R ICS-105	Fine	27 mm 3549	B.	X	10320	10404	10432	10489	10376	10292	10264	10320	10320	10320	10264	10264	10236	10208	10208	10264	10376	10404	10489	10573	10601	10489	10489	10545	10601	10686	10686	10208	10394
UPCC			M/M/A ICS-105	Fine	26mm 3549	B	LIDAY	9673	9729	9826	9826	9246	9246	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9701	9701	9701	9701	9826	9814	9842	8686	9870	9870	6883	10011	10039	10039	10039	9673	803
			M/M/A ICS-105	Fine	26mm 30-34	9	НО	9448	9505	9588	9588	9588	9505	9420	9420	9420	9420	9420	9420	9392	9392	9392	9392	9448	9476	9505	9561	9533	9533	9617	9645	9673	9673	9673	9392	9499
			P/H/R ICS-202	Fine	26mm 3549	8		10179	10264	10292	10348	10236	10151	10151	10208	10208	10208	10151	10151	10123	10095	10095	10151	10236	10208	10320	10404	10432	10348	10348	10376	10432	10517	10517	10095	10255
			M/M ICS-104	Fine	24mm 40-55	8	÷	6826	6826	6826	6826	6886	6886	6886	6826	6826	6826	6826	6826	9561	9561	9561	9561	9561	9561	6826	9617	6826	9533	9533	9561	6826	6826	9617	9532	9578
			KAR ICS-103	Fine	23mm 40-55	R FI		8942	8942	8942	8942	8942	8942	8942	8661	8661	8661	8661	8661	8661	8661	8661	8577	8577	8577	8577	8605	8577	8520	8520	8548	8548	8548	8942	8520	8694
			GUJ ICS-102	Fine	22mm 4040	B	:	7480	7536	7536	7536	7536	7536	7536	7536	7536	7536	7452	7396	7396	7396	7396	7396	7396	7396	7424	7452	7396	7255	7283	7311	7311	7367	7536	7255	7436
			P/H/R ICS-201	Fine	22mm 50-70	15		9729	9729	9758	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9729	9758	8686	10011	10011	10011	10095	10095	10095	10095	10179	10179	9729	9844
			P/H/R ICS-101	Fine	22mm 50-70	15.	:	9476	9476	9505	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9476	9617	9729	9729	9729	9842	9842	9842	9842	9366	9366	9476	9585
			Growth G. Standard	Grade	Staple Micronaine	Strength/GPT	1	2	3	4	9	7	8	6	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	18	20	21	22	23	24	25	27	28	29	30	31	Н	T	А

	UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES (Rs./Qtl														
iı	tandard Descript n Millimetres ba By law 66 (A) (a)	sed on U			Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2012-13 Crop May – June 2013										
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Strength /GPT	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st	1st			
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	15	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9926 (35300)	10011 (35600)			
2	P/H/R	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	15	10095 (35900)	10095 (35900)	10095 (35900)	10095 (35900)	10179 (36200)	10264 (36500)			
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 - 6.0	20	7255 (25800)	7283 (25900)	7311	7311 (26000)	7367 (26200)	7311 (26000)			
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 - 5.5	21	8520 (30300)	8520 (30300)	8548 (30400)	8548 (30400)	8548 (30400)	8548 (30400)			
5	M/M	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 - 5.5	23	9533 (33900)	9533 (33900)	9561	9589 (34100)	9589 (34100)	9589 (34100)			
6	P/H/R	ICS-202	Fine	26mm	3.5 – 4.9	26	10348 (36800)	10348 (36800)	10376 (36900)	10432 (37100)	10517 (37400)	10432 (37100)			
7	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 – 3.4	25	9533 (33900)	9617 (34200)	9645	9673 (34400)	9673 (34400)	9673 (34400)			
8	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.5 – 4.9	25	9870 (35100)	9983 (35500)	10011	10039 (35700)	10039 (35700)	10039 (35700)			
9	P/H/R	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	26	10489 (37300)	10489 (37300)	10545	10601 (37700)	10686 (38000)	10629 (37800)			
10	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	26	9701 (34500)	9786 (34800)	9842	9870 (35100)	9898 (35200)	9898 (35200)			
11	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	26	10039 (35700)	10151 (36100)	10208	10264 (36500)	10320 (36700)	10320 (36700)			
12	P/H/R	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	10601 (37700)	10601 (37700)	10657	10714 (38100)	10798 (38400)	10742 (38200)			
13	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	10432 (37100)	10489 (37300)	10573	10629 (37800)	10657 (37900)	10657 (37900)			
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	10545 (37500)	10601 (37700)	10657	10714 (38100)	10742 (38200)	10742 (38200)			
15	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5 – 4.9	28	10601 (37700)	10629 (37800)	10686	10742 (38200)	10770 (38300)	10742 (38200)			
16	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5 – 4.9	28	10686 (38000)	10714 (38100)	10770	10826 (38500)	10854 (38600)	10826 (38500)			
17	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.5 – 4.9	29	10882 (38700)	10911 (38800)	10911	10939 (38900)	10967 (39000)	10939 (38900)			
18	M/M/A/ K/T/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.5 – 4.9	30	11107 (39500)	11135 (39600)	11135	11164 (39700)	11164 (39700)	11135 (39600)			
19	K/A/T/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 – 4.9	31	11417 (40600)	11417 (40600)	11417	11445 (40700)	11445 (40700)	11417 (40600)			
20	M(P)/K/T	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	33	13638 (48500)	13638 (48500)	13638	13638 (48500)	13638 (48500)	13638 (48500)			
(N	lote: Figures in bra	icket indic	cate pr	ices in	Rs./Candy	()	,	,,				, , , , , ,			