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Dedicated Efforts of CCI Initiatives and Measures Undertaken During Covid-19 Pandemic

Shri. Pradeep Kumar Agarwal, Chairman cum Managing Director of the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), has nearly three decades of experience in the cotton sector. He has an excellent academic record, B.Com. (Gold Medalist) followed by M.Com. from Lucknow University. He also holds a Bachelor's Degree in Law (L.L.B) and is Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCA). Before joining CCI, he worked with UP Samaj Kalyan Nirman Nigam, a U.P. Government undertaking for seven years. After joining CCI in 1994, he worked in various departments i.e. Finance, Purchase and Sales, Exports, Logistics,



GUEST COLUMN

Shri. Pradeep Kumar Agarwal
Chairman-cum-Managing Director,
The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI)

Planning, Legal and Human Resources. He was selected by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) as Director (Finance) of CCI in 2012. He also served as Director (Marketing) of CCI for a long time.

Now, he has been appointed as the Chairman cum Managing Director of CCI. Working in various capacities in CCI, he has always used a professional approach and played a vital role in formulating marketing and financial strategies of CCI and effective implementation of the same. His leadership abilities have been in leading the core team of CCI for upliftment of cotton farmers and growth of the textile sector.

COVID-19 pandemic has come as a shock to the society, healthcare system and economic activities worldwide. India is also at a critical stage in the COVID-19 pandemic.

CCI, being a Nodal Agency of Govt. of India is supporting the cotton farmers by procuring cotton under MSP operations to safeguard the cotton farmers from distress sales and also

helping the domestic textile mills including MSME Mills in India to have an assured supply of good quality cotton at competitive price through daily e-Auction.

As health safety is very important in the ongoing pandemic situation, a Standard Operating Procedure has also been issued to all the offices of CCI including head office, branch



offices and procurement centres to ensure all precautionary measures for creating safe and secure work place for all.

The highlights of the initiatives and measures taken by CCI during pandemic are as under:

❖ **Supporting the Society**

❖ Distributed hand held kapas plucker machines to the marginal and small cotton farmers in various cotton growing states to promote contact less harvesting of cotton. Use

of kapas plucker machine is not only helping the farmers to be safe in the ongoing pandemic situation while harvesting of cotton, but is also reducing the cost of production and improving the quality of cotton.

❖ Distributed locally manufactured three ply 100% cotton face masks and created safety awareness against COVID-19 pandemic and its prevention amongst the cotton farmers as well as poor people residing in close proximity of CCI offices located in all the cotton growing states.

❖ Hospitals, among other emergency services, are the frontline in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. However, since the start of the pandemic, hospital facilities have experienced tremendous strain because the demand exceeded their capacity, forcing them to make hard choices between those who can and cannot receive treatments.

The massive rise in infections during





Since 1921,
we are dedicated to the cause of Indian cotton.
 Just one of the reasons, you should use our Laboratory Testing Services.

The Cotton Association of India (CAI) is respected as the chief trade body in the hierarchy of the Indian cotton economy. Since its origin in 1921, CAI's contribution has been unparalleled in the development of cotton across India.

The CAI is setting benchmarks across a wide spectrum of services targeting the entire cotton value chain. These range from research and development at the grass root level to education, providing an arbitration mechanism, maintaining Indian cotton grade standards, issuing Certificates of Origin to collecting and disseminating statistics and information. Moreover, CAI is an autonomous organization portraying professionalism and reliability in cotton testing.

The CAI's network of independent cotton testing & research laboratories are strategically spread across major cotton centres in India and are equipped with:

- State-of-the-art technology & world-class Premier and MAG cotton testing machines
- HVI test mode with trash% tested gravimetrically

LABORATORY LOCATIONS

Current locations : • **Maharashtra :** Mumbai; Yavatmal; Aurangabad; Jalgaon • **Gujarat :** Rajkot; Ahmedabad • **Andhra Pradesh :** Adoni
 • **Madhya Pradesh :** Khargone • **Karnataka :** Hubli • **Punjab :** Bathinda • **Telangana :** Warangal, Adilabad



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the pandemic situation in the state of Maharashtra has led to the hospitals reeling under a shortage of medical oxygen and beds. In such a difficult situation, to support the efforts of Government of India to provide adequate and appropriate hospitalisation services, CCI is helping society by providing around 1 lakh sq. ft. area of its warehousing complex located in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, to the State Government for setting up a 1000 beds dedicated COVID Care Health Centre.

❖ Sustaining the Economic Interests of Cotton Farmers and Domestic Textile Industry

❖ In order to protect the interest of the cotton farmers in the country and to avoid the eventuality of distress sale by them, CCI is functioning in all the cotton growing states with minimum staff strength.

❖ In the cotton season 2019-20, CCI opened 423 procurement centres in 12 cotton growing states to safeguard the cotton farmers from distress sales. In the days leading to the global pandemic i.e. up to March 2020, CCI procurement was 84.43 lakh bales valuing Rs. 22,885 crores. Thereafter, from mid-March 2020 lockdown was imposed in the country due to world-wide

COVID-19 pandemic situation. However, as per the order dated 15.04.2020 of Government of India, agencies engaged in the procurement of agricultural products were exempted from the lockdown. Accordingly, CCI took up the matter with respective State Governments for functioning of APMCs and supported the cotton farmers in the dire situation when there were no buyers for their cotton. Thus, during the global pandemic i.e. during April 2020 to September 2020, CCI procured 20.72 lakh bales valuing Rs. 5615 crore from around 4 lakh cotton farmers and saved them from distress.



❖ With the above MSP intervention during the entire cotton season 2019-20, CCI made a record procurement of 105.15 lakh bales (equivalent to around 546.80 lakh quintals kapas) and an amount of Rs. 28500 crores was disbursed to around 21.50 lakh cotton farmers directly into their bank accounts.

❖ During the cotton season 2020-21 also, CCI opened more than 450 procurement centres in all cotton growing states to safeguard the cotton farmers from exploitation by the middlemen. CCI continued its procurement of cotton under MSP operations since the beginning of the season to avoid the eventuality of distress sale by farmers and procured 91.89 lakh bales (equivalent



to around 482 lakh quintals kapas). CCI disbursed an amount of Rs. 26,700 crores to around 19 lakh cotton farmers directly into their bank accounts.

- ✧ Due to the impact of COVID-19 out-break and in order to supply good quality raw material to the textile industry at competitive rates, CCI has rationalised the sale rates as and when required in close parity to the domestic market price to sustain the interests of the domestic textile industry. Besides this, segment-wise sale was also initiated for the benefits of the textile industry.
- ✧ In order to increase the competitiveness of the domestic textile industry including MSME mills, CCI has initiated a lock-in period facility wherein mills can buy cotton bales in e-auction and lock-in cotton prices from the date of contract for 30 days without any charge, Rs. 250/- per bale for 60 days and another Rs. 250/- per bales for lock-in period upto 90 days.

❖ Efforts for Creating Safe Working Environment for All Stakeholders

- ✧ Every CCI employee has downloaded AAROGYA SETU mobile application, for proper information and awareness about COVID-19.
- ✧ CCI permitted employee to attend office only when the employee is healthy. Those



requiring monitoring have been referred for medical advice before resuming work.

- ✧ People having symptoms of fever, cough, vomit, diarrhoea, etc. have been directed not to resume work without proper joining advice/ fitness certificate from the Medical Officer.



- ✧ Daily Fumigation of the entire premises, employee transport vehicle, forklifts/ stackers and other critical areas, washrooms, toilets, canteen, hand wash areas etc.



- ✧ Adequate number of the PPE including digital scanner thermometer for each work centre/ office, mask, gloves, sanitizer have been made accessible to each CCI employee for maintaining personal hygiene.
- ✧ Hands free hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed on each floor of the office in front of the lift.
- ✧ Social distancing is being maintained in day to day working in the office by installing glass screens on the desk of employees, video conferences to avoid physical meetings and allowing only two persons in a lift at a time.
- ✧ UV based device boxes have been installed in CCI offices for disinfecting office files.

(The views expressed in this column are of the author and not that of Cotton Association of India)

Update on Cotton Acreage (As on 05.08.2021)

(Area in Lakh Ha)

Sr. No.	State	Normal Area (DES)*	Normal Area as on Date (2016-2020)	Area Covered (SDA)					
				2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1	Andhra Pradesh	6.12	4.156	3.560	4.759	4.180	4.020	4.430	3.390
2	Telangana	18.09	17.357	22.340	22.770	17.240	17.065	17.770	11.940
3	Gujarat	26.09	24.614	22.223	22.480	24.696	26.587	26.490	22.815
4	Haryana	6.56	6.464	6.880	7.370	6.760	6.650	6.560	4.980
5	Karnataka	6.47	4.331	5.070	4.818	4.468	3.760	4.300	4.310
6	Madhya Pradesh	6.06	5.892	6.000	6.371	6.100	5.240	5.760	5.990
7	Maharashtra	42.13	40.551	38.740	41.375	42.815	39.699	41.130	37.735
8	Odisha	1.47	1.524	1.887	1.666	1.690	1.560	1.444	1.260
9	Punjab	2.86	3.656	3.040	5.010	4.020	2.840	3.850	2.560
10	Rajasthan	5.78	5.400	5.992	6.735	6.445	4.961	5.031	3.830
11	Tamil Nadu	1.54	0.054	0.069	0.067	0.048	0.050	0.059	0.048
12	Others	0.42	0.223	0.371	0.216	0.271	0.172	0.286	0.170
All India		123.591	114.222	116.172	123.637	118.733	112.604	117.110	99.028

* Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
Source : Directorate of Cotton Development, Nagpur

Revision in Testing Charges at CAI Laboratories

The following are the charges for cotton testing in the laboratories of the Cotton Association of India with effect from 1st October 2020.

Particulars	Per Sample Testing Fees in Rs.		
	Testing Fees	GST	Total
HVI Test	145	26	171
Micronaire Test	85	15	100
Colour Grade on HVI	85	15	100
Gravimetric Trash Test on HVI	85	15	100
Moisture	85	15	100
Grading (Manual Classing)	235	42	277

VOLUME BASED DISCOUNTS

Particulars	Per Sample Testing Fees in Rs.		
	Testing Fees	GST	Total
For 250 samples and above but less than 500 samples	140	25	165
For 500 samples and above but less than 750 samples	135	24	159
For 750 samples and above but less than 1000 samples	130	23	153
For 1000 samples and above but less than 2000 samples	125	23	148
For 2000 samples and above but less than 5000 samples	120	22	142
For 5000 samples and above but less than 10,000 samples	115	21	136
For 10,000 samples and above	100	18	118

The fees under the above volume based discount scheme is payable within 15 days from the receipt of the invoices to be raised on monthly basis.

We would also like to inform that the parties can avail the benefit of testing of cotton at multiple laboratories of the Associations against the CAI Credits made by them.

We earnestly request you to avail the facility of testing at the Association's laboratories.



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UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES													
								(Rs./Qtl)					
Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple in Millimetres based on Upper Half Mean Length [By law 66 (A) (a) (4)]								Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2020-21 Crop August 2021					
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4%	15	12148 (43200)	12232 (43500)	12288 (43700)	12345 (43900)	12345 (43900)	12345 (43900)
2	P/H/R (SG)	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4.5%	15	12317 (43800)	12401 (44100)	12457 (44300)	12541 (44600)	12541 (44600)	12541 (44600)
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 - 6.0	13%	20	10208 (36300)	10208 (36300)	10208 (36300)	10208 (36300)	10208 (36300)	10208 (36300)
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 - 5.5	4.5%	21	10742 (38200)	10742 (38200)	10742 (38200)	10742 (38200)	10742 (38200)	10742 (38200)
5	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 - 5.5	4%	23	12092 (43000)	12035 (42800)	11979 (42600)	11951 (42500)	11951 (42500)	11951 (42500)
6	P/H/R(U) (SG)	ICS-202	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4.5%	26	14594 (51900)	14482 (51500)	14454 (51400)	14454 (51400)	14454 (51400)	14482 (51500)
7	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	12795 (45500)	12795 (45500)	12795 (45500)	12795 (45500)	12795 (45500)	12823 (45600)
8	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4%	26	14679 (52200)	14594 (51900)	14594 (51900)	14594 (51900)	14594 (51900)	14622 (52000)
9	M/M(P)/SA/TL/G	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	13273 (47200)	13273 (47200)	13273 (47200)	13273 (47200)	13273 (47200)	13301 (47300)
10	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	3.5%	26	14482 (51500)	14426 (51300)	14369 (51100)	14341 (51000)	14285 (50800)	14341 (51000)
11	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 - 4.9	4%	27	14988 (53300)	14904 (53000)	14847 (52800)	14847 (52800)	14847 (52800)	14875 (52900)
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	15157 (53900)	15072 (53600)	15016 (53400)	14988 (53300)	14988 (53300)	15044 (53500)
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	15185 (54000)	15100 (53700)	15044 (53500)	15016 (53400)	15016 (53400)	15072 (53600)
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	27	15494 (55100)	15410 (54800)	15353 (54600)	15325 (54500)	15325 (54500)	15382 (54700)
15	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	28	15241 (54200)	15185 (54000)	15129 (53800)	15129 (53800)	15129 (53800)	15129 (53800)
16	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	28	15635 (55600)	15607 (55500)	15550 (55300)	15522 (55200)	15522 (55200)	15550 (55300)
17	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	28	15663 (55700)	15635 (55600)	15578 (55400)	15550 (55300)	15550 (55300)	15578 (55400)
18	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	28	16028 (57000)	15972 (56800)	15916 (56600)	15888 (56500)	15888 (56500)	15916 (56600)
19	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	29	16113 (57300)	16085 (57200)	16056 (57100)	16028 (57000)	16028 (57000)	16028 (57000)
20	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	29	16141 (57400)	16113 (57300)	16085 (57200)	16085 (57200)	16085 (57200)	16085 (57200)
21	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	30	16310 (58000)	16310 (58000)	16281 (57900)	16253 (57800)	16253 (57800)	16253 (57800)
22	SA/TL/K / TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 - 4.5	3%	30	16338 (58100)	16338 (58100)	16310 (58000)	16310 (58000)	16310 (58000)	16310 (58000)
23	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 - 4.2	3%	31	16535 (58800)	16535 (58800)	16506 (58700)	16506 (58700)	16535 (58800)	16535 (58800)
24	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	25730 (91500)	25730 (91500)	26011 (92500)	26292 (93500)	26573 (94500)	26855 (95500)
25	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	26433 (94000)	26433 (94000)	26714 (95000)	26995 (96000)	27276 (97000)	27558 (98000)
26	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	27136 (96500)	27136 (96500)	27417 (97500)	27558 (98000)	27698 (98500)	27839 (99000)
27	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	27558 (98000)	27558 (98000)	27839 (99000)	27979 (99500)	28120 (100000)	28261 (100500)

(Note: Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./Candy)