

COTTON *Innovate*



Weekly Newsletter from Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur

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CICR celebrated 124th Birth Anniversary of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar

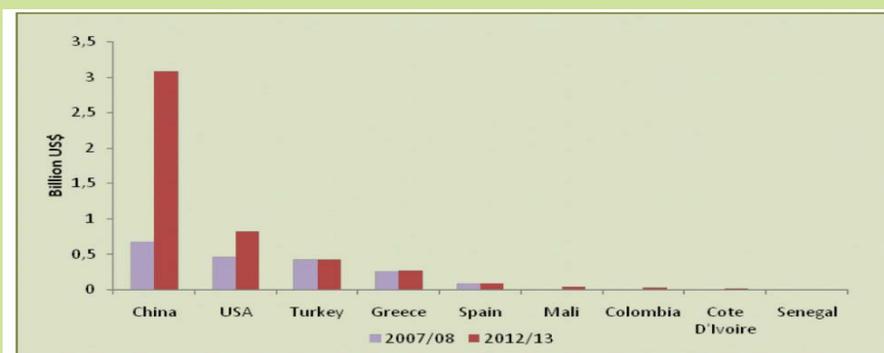
CICR Nagpur celebrated 124th Birth Anniversary of Architect of Indian Constitution, Bharat Ratna Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar. During the occasion noted writer, social thinker and philosopher Prof. Nagesh Chaudhary was the chief guest. Dr. K. R. Kranthi, Director, CICR presided over the function. At the outset dignitaries offered floral tributes and paid homage to Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar and remembered his contributions to the Nation. Speaking on the occasion Prof Nagesh Chaudhary elaborated the thoughts of Dr Ambedkar on social structure that prevailed in India and advocated for breaking the same for prosperity of the society and the Nation. Dr Kranthi spoke for year round celebrations for commemoration of forthcoming Sesquicentennial birth anniversary of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar. Dr V. N Waghmare gave introductory remarks. The function was well attended by all the Heads of Divisions, Scientists, technical, administrative staff and labour members in large numbers. Dr S. M. Wasnik compered for the programme and Dr Vishlesh Nagrare proposed the vote of thanks. Shri G.C. Gajbhiye, Shri Anil Barahate, Shri Krushna Ingle, Shri Pruthviraj Chaudhary, Shri Dilip Moharle and Shri Moreshwar Wagde work hard for successfully organizing the programme.



Support to Cotton Production

In 2011/12, the ICAC Secretariat estimated that ten countries provided subsidies to their cotton industry.¹ The largest provider of subsidies in 2011/12 was not the United States but China.² China has been the largest provider of support to its cotton sector since 2009/10, overtaking the United States.³ With a new minimum support price policy and import quotas, domestic cotton prices in China were maintained well above international cotton prices. Total government support to the Chinese cotton sector was estimated at around USD 3 billion in 2011/12. In comparison, total support provided to the U.S. cotton sector was around USD 820 million through subsidized crop insurance.⁴ On the other hand, European producers, in Greece and Spain, receive high support on a per unit basis when compared with other countries. Turkey, Mali, Colombia, Senegal and Cote d'Ivoire round out the top ten in total support provided to cotton farmers. China's dramatic rise as a supporter of cotton, with support increasing more than fivefold between 2007/08 and 2012/13 by the ICAC measure, merits specific examination. Support in most other countries has either remained flat or grown, but not by several fold, in the intervening period. Interestingly, in 2012/13, if it were not for the Chinese government's accumulation of cotton into a very large national reserve, stocks might have accumulated faster in the rest of the world and international cotton prices might have declined further. Global stocks are only expected to decline slightly in 2013/14, while demand for cotton will remain constrained by slow economic growth. With the threat of large Chinese stocks hanging over the global market, the likelihood that international cotton prices will remain depressed over the next two years is high. The Chinese minimum support price, as explained below, is unlikely to ameliorate the situation.

1. *International Cotton Advisory Committee, Government Support to the Cotton Industry, October 2012.*
2. *Total subsidies, not equivalent subsidy per pound of cotton.*
3. *As a result of higher than average cotton prices, U.S. support to its cotton sector dropped significantly that season and has since remained lower than in the past.*
4. *Other countries supporting their cotton sector in 2011/12 include Turkey, Greece, Spain, Colombia and some Francophone African countries (Mali, Cote d'Ivoire and Senegal).*



Source: ICAC Secretariat

Fig. Support to Cotton Production

Reference:

Information note. May 2013.
Cotton: Trends in Global Production, Trade and Policy
ICTSD Programme on Agriculture Trade and Sustainable Development (www.ictsd.org)

Contributed by Dr. Anuradha Narala, Scientist, Agricultural Economics, CICR, Nagpur

Lecture delivered

In connection with the 'Implementation of Research Data Management in ICAR' - portal named 'KRISHI', Dr Rishi Kumar nominated as Co-Nodal Officer in CICR, Regional Station, Sirsa, delivered a talk on the ICAR guidelines for Internal Evaluation and Forwarding Research Papers to Scientific Journals and Data Management in ICAR Institutes on April 17, 2015. The lecture was attended by scientists and an interactive session followed the talk.

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Editors : Dr. J. Annie Sheeba, Dr. Vishlesh Nagrare, Dr. J. Amudha, Dr. M. Saravanan
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Central Institute for Cotton Research
Post Bag No. 2, Shankar Nagar PO, Nagpur 440010
Phone : 07103-275536 Fax : 07103-275529; email: cicrnagpur@gmail.com