



LANKA COMMODITY BROKERS LTD
TEA MARKET REPORT

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SALE NO.06 OF 5TH & 6TH FEBRUARY, 2019

COMMENTS

A total weight of 7.2 Mkgs was on offer at this week’s auction. Low Grown leafy teas accounted for 2 Mkgs. whilst Tippy/Small Leaf teas amounted to 1.2 Mkgs. High Grown in the Ex Estate segment totaled 1 Mkgs. The quality of Low Grown was irregular. A range of High Grown westerns in the “best” category maintained previous quality whilst others were irregular.

Buyers for Russia and the C I S continued to display good demand for whole leaf Low Grown along with sustained buying from those operating for the U A E, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Jordon. Turkey was active for Pekoe grades whilst Libya and Iraq were forceful for secondary type teas. The strong Iranian presence at the Colombo Tea Auctions is however facing many challenges in the wake of economic sanctions that have been imposed on Iran by the U S A which is bound to change the market dynamics. Under the U S A sanctions however, India is one of the five countries that have been allowed to trade “oil for tea” under a bilateral agreement between India and Iran, which *ipso facto* allows for transactions to be routed only through Banks or Financial Organizations that have satisfied the conditions stipulated by the U S A.

The “Ex-Estate” catalogue which comprised of 1 Mkgs opened to better demand, and the selection of westerns which had seasonal quality were in receipt of wider air-mail interest following which the prices for selected teas saw substantial price gains. However, there was a waning of demand as the sale progressed, and the worst affected were the plainer liquoring rotorvane teas as well as CTC PF1’s that sold in the latter half of the auction. The drop in demand from the commencement to later on in the sale may well be attributed to the higher production volumes that are now available to the “Tea Bag” sector from Kenya, which up to November last year posted a massive crop of 441 Mkgs. Buyers for Germany and other European countries along with Japan were seen competing for the better liquoring types. Hong Kong and China too were active for “below best” teas with cleaner leaf.

This week’s auction comprised of **12,635** lots with a total quantity of **7,286,958** Kgs.
 The catalogue-wise breakdown was as follows:-

	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	4,382	2,054,345
Low Grown Tippy	2,179	1,205,901
High & Medium	1,515	791,251
Off Grade/BOPIA	2,645	1,505,113
Dust	683	660,349
Premium Flowery	349	63,470
Ex-Estate	<u>882</u>	<u>1,006,529</u>
Total	<u>12,635</u>	<u>7,286,958</u>

In lighter vein

Hi, my name's Joe..

There once was a farmer whose wife had died and left him with three beautiful teenage daughters. Every weekend, when they went out on dates, the farmer would stand at the door with his shotgun, making it clear to their dates he wanted no trouble from them.

Another Saturday night came around. At about 7 pm., there was a knock on the door. He answered and the young man said, "Hi, my name's Joe. I'm here for Flo. I'm taking her to the show. Is she ready to go?"

The farmer thought he was a clever boy and wished them a good time.

A few minutes later, another knock was heard. A second boy appeared and said, "Hi, I'm Eddie. I'm here for Betty. I'm taking her for spaghetti. I hope she's ready."

He thought that he must know Joe, but bade them off as well with his best wishes.

A few minutes after that, a third knock was heard.

"Hi, I'm Chuck..."

That was when the farmer shot him.

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LOW GROWNS – LEAFY

BOP1 : A few invoices in the select best category were barely steady; balance declined by Rs.20/- and at times more. Teas at the lower end were generally firm.

OP1 : Select best teas maintained; balance was fully firm at the commencement of the sale but declined Rs.20/- and more as the sale progressed. Stalky invoices too followed a similar trend.

OP : Teas in the select best category declined by Rs.10-20/- per kg; balance however met with good demand. Secondary types gained Rs.20/- and at times more.

OPA : Select best invoices declined substantially; balance maintained. Poorer sorts advanced by Rs.30-40/- and at times more.

PEK/PEK1: Well made shotty invoices met with a good demand; balance tended irregular. Best bolder Pekoes were firm to irregularly lower by Rs.10-20/- per kg; balance too declined by Rs.20/- per kg. Teas at the lower end maintained.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)

	Best		Below Best		Others	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
BOP1	900-1100	900-1150	650-720	670-720	550-600	550-600
OP1	1000-1450	1000-1400	725-775	725-775	430-480	425-475
OP	680-800	670-790	540-580	525-575	430-480	420-470
OPA	660-800	660-800	550-600	530-570	400-450	380-440
PEK/PEK1	800-1100	800-1050	680-730	700-750	525-575	520-570

TIPPY/SMALL LEAF

BOP/BOPSP : A few select best were firm to dearer. Best irregular. Below best and lower end were firm to dearer.

BOPF/BOPFSP: Select best maintained. Best were irregular. Cleaner tea in the below best and lower end were firm to dearer. Others were easier.

FBOP/FBOP1 : Select best FBOP's firm. Best tended irregular and at times lower. Bolder below best together with the cleaner teas at the lower end were firm to dearer. Others were easier. FBOP1's in general were firm to dearer.

FBOPF/FBOPF1: Very tippy teas were irregular. Best and cleaner below best were firm to dearer. Teas at the lower end too appreciated. Few select best FF1's maintained. Best were irregular and at times lower. Cleaner teas at the lower end were firm. Others tended irregular.

FBOPFSP/ EXSP: Small tippy varieties gained substantially whilst long tips maintained last levels. Below best teas too followed a similar trend.

Quotations (Rs./Kg)

	Best		Below Best		Others	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
BOP/BOPSP	750-850	750-1450	550-600	550-600	380-420	380-440
BOPF /BOPFSP	750-920	740-1550	550-600	550-600	380-420	380-440
FBOP/FBOP1	750-940	750-960	600-680	650-700	600-650	600-650
FBOPF/FBOPF1	750-860	700-820	600-680	550-620	550-600	550-580
FBOPFSP/EXSP	800-1880	750-1800	700-800	650-700	650-700	600-650

MEDIUM GROWN LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY TEAS

FBOP : Well made FBOP's lost Rs.30-40/- and more. Secondary types too tended irregular. Teas at the lower end met with general demand.

FBOPF/FBOPF1: Well made neat leaf varieties lost Rs.20/- and more. Below best types too tended irregularly lower. Teas at the lower end were firm to dearer.

PEK/PEK1 : Well made shotty Pekoe1 types were firm to easier. Bolder types and the mixed varieties were substantially lower.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	<u>Best</u>		<u>Below Best</u>		<u>Others</u>	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
FBOP	780-920	800-940	660-780	700-800	550-660	540-700
FBOPF/FBOPF1	700-880	720-830	630-700	650-720	550-630	520-650
PEK/PEK1	780-940	820-980	700-780	730-820	570-700	560-730

HIGH GROWNS

BOP: Best Westerns -select invoices gained Rs.20/-per kg and more following special inquiry whilst the others were irregular. In the below best category better teas were Rs.20-40/-per kg dearer -others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent. Poor leaf plain liquoring teas were irregularly easier. Nuwara Eliyas were irregular and mostly dearer following quality. Udapussellawas were barely steady. Uva select invoices were Rs.20-40/-per kg dearer whilst the others were barely steady.

BOPF: Best Westerns gained Rs.20/-per kg and more following special inquiry. In the below best category clean leaf bright liquoring teas were Rs.20-40/-per kg dearer, others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent. Plainer poor leaf teas were neglected. Nuwara Eliyas -select invoices were substantially dearer, others were firm and dearer to a lesser extent. Udapussellawas, last week's select high priced teas were Rs.20-30/-per kg easier whilst the poorer sorts were firm and Rs.10-20/-per kg dearer. Uva select invoices were substantially dearer, others were Rs.10-20/-per kg dearer.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	<u>BOP</u>		<u>BOPF</u>	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Best Westerns	680-820	650-760	670-760	630-750
Below Best Westerns	620-670	580-640	620-660	600-620
Plainer Westerns	570-610	520-570	550-600	540-590
Nuwara Eliyas	570-700	550-660	610-760	510-680
Other Uda Pussellawas	N/A	450-480	470-500	490-510
Best Uva's	620-670	600-700	620-690	550-590
Other Uva's	550-600	520-550	560-580	500-540

MEDIUM GROWN TEAS

BOP: Rs.10-20/-per kg dearer.

BOPF: Better teas were Rs.20-30/-per kg dearer. Poorer sorts were barely steady.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	<u>BOP</u>		<u>BOPF</u>	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Best Westerns	550-810	470-820	450-640	420-620

CTC

PF1: High & Medium PF1's were firm to irregularly lower whilst Low Grown varieties sold around last levels.

BP1: High & Medium BP1's were up to Rs.20/- easier whilst Low Grown varieties sold around last week's levels.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	<u>PF1</u>		<u>BP1</u>	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
High	450-570	470-580	450-500	480
Medium	340-530	380-600	340-480	410-470
Low	360-750	400-830	300-500	340-500

Cont'd... (P4)

OFF GRADES

Best liquoring FNGS/FNGS1's lost Rs.10-20/- whilst the poorer sorts were firm to dearer by Rs.10-20/- per kg. Best BP's too held firm. Well made BM's too were firm whilst poorer types too followed a similar trend. Select best BOP1A's advanced Rs.10-20/- per kg whilst poorer types however appreciated Rs.20-40/- per kg.

QUOTATIONS (Rs/kg)	HIGH		MEDIUM		LOW	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
Good Fannings (Orthodox)	360-510	340-570	320-360	300-360	310-370	300-370
Good Fannings (CTC)	270-300	270-300	270-300	270-300	270-310	250-300
Other Fannings (Orthodox)	330-370	300-330	300-330	300-330	330-370	300-310
Other Fannings (CTC)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Good BM's	350-400	350-400	400-420	375-400	440-470	450-480
Other BM's	300-350	300-350	300-350	300-350	300-350	300-350
Best BOP1As	400-440	400-420	410-460	410-450	470-570	470-550
Other BOP1As	325-375	300-340	330-370	325-350	350-380	330-370

DUST

Best liquoring High Grown D/D1's eased by Rs.30/- per kg whilst others were firm to easier by Rs.20-30/-.. Secondary and poorer types declined by Rs.10-20/- and at times more. Select best Low Grown D/D1's gained Rs.10-20/- per kg whilst the poorer sorts were lower by Rs.10-20/- per kg. CTC PD's too firm to easier by Rs.20-30/- per kg.

QUOTATIONS (Rs/kg)	HIGH		MEDIUM		LOW	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
Good Primary Dust 1(Orthodox)	800-810	840-920	600-670	630-700	400-560	450-610
Good Primary PD (CTC)	520-690	550-730	530-540	530-560	460-570	450-540
Other Primary Dust (Orthodox)	300-320	300-320	300-350	300-350	400-430	400-430
Other Primary Dust (CTC)	N/A	N/A	300-330	300-330	290-330	290-330
Secondary Dust	320-350	320-350	300-320	300-320	290-320	290-320
Poorer Dust	300-340	300-340	240-280	240-280	290-340	290-340

World Crop Statistics (MKGS)

Country	Month	2017	2018	Difference +/-	To-date 2017	To-date 2018	Difference +/-
SRI LANKA	Dec.	23.93	26.00	2.07	307.06	303.84	-3.2
<i>BANGLADESH</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	6.5	6.3	-0.20	78.9	82.1	3.2
<i>KENYA</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	45.4	45.6	0.27	392.4	441.2	48.8
<i>MALAWI</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	5.6	6.3	0.7	45.6	50.6	5.0
<i>NORTH INDIA</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	102.3	95.6	-6.7	1032.1	1058.3	26.20
<i>SOUTH INDIA</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	20.9	19.2	-1.7	218.2	199.4	-18.80
<i>UGANDA</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	5.63	3.06	-2.6	47.67	52.95	5.28

THIS WEEK'S TOP PRICES

<u>WESTERN MEDIUM</u>			<u>UVA MEDIUM</u>			<u>LOW GROWN LEAFY GRADES</u>		
Craighead	BOP	810/-	Aruna Passara	BOP	690/-	Green House	BOP1	1100/-
Doombagastalawa	BOPSP	700/-	Halpewatte Uva	BOP SP	660/-	Kiruwanaganga	BOP1	1050/-
*Harangalla	BOPF/ BOPFSP	640/-	El-Teb	BOPF/BOPFSP	620/-	*Sithaka	BOP1	1000/-
Vellai Oya	BOPF/ BOPFSP	640/-	Dickwella	BOP1	900/-	Sithaka	OP1	1450/-
Cooroondoowatte	BOP1	890/-	Dickwella	FBOP /FBOP1	800/-	Mulatiyana Hills	OP1	1450/-
*Harangalla	FBOP/FBOP1	920/-	Shawlands	FBOP /FBOP1	800/-	Ceyenta	OP1	1350/-
Craighead	FBOPF /FBOPF1	880/-	*Halpewatte Uva	FBOPF / FBOPF1	755/-	Karagoda	OP1	1350/-
Deenside	OP/OPA	760/-	Shawlands	OP/OPA	790/-	*L.Kottawa	OP1	1300/-
Harangalla	OP1	1200/-	Halpewatte Uva	OP1	850/-	Sirimewana	OP	880/-
*Dartry Valley	PEK/PEK1	940/-	Aruna Kappetipola	PEK / PEK1	900/-	*Nawalakanda Sup	OPA	860/-
<u>WESTERN HIGH</u>			<u>UVA HIGH</u>			<u>LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES</u>		
Dessford	BOP	820/-	Pita Rathmalie	BOP	670/-	*Geekiyannahena	BOP	850/-
Bearwell	BOPSP	720/-	Craig	BOP	670/-	Sithaka	BOP	850/-
Logie	BOPSP	720/-	Haputale Super	BOPSP	700/-	Ceciliyan	BOPSP	770/-
Alton	BOPF / BOPF SP	760/-	Bandaraeliya	BOPF/BOPFSP	690/-	*L.Weerapana	BOPSP	760/-
Glentilt	BOPF / BOPF SP	760/-	Craig	BOP1	820/-	*Sithaka	BOPSP	740/-
Queensberry	FBOP/ FBOP1	800/-	Craig	FBOP/ FBOP1	750/-	*Ihalapanapitiya	BOPSP	740/-
Inverness	FBOPF/FBOPF1	800/-	Uva Kellie	FBOPF / FBOPF1	730/-	Pothotuwa	BOPF	920/-
Inverness	OP/OPA	630/-	Oodoowerre	OP1	810/-	Dellawa	BOPF	900/-
Harrow	OP1	580/-	Spring Valley	OP/OPA	740/-	New Deniyaya	BOPFSP	740/-
Weddemulla	PEK/PEK1	830/-	Uva Highlands	PEK/PEK1	780/-	Hidellana	BOPFSP	720/-
<u>NUWARA ELIYA</u>			<u>UDA PUSSELLAWA</u>			<u>PREMIUM FLOWERY</u>		
Mahagastotte	BOP	700/-	Alma	BOP	730/-	Lickra	FBOPFSP	1800/-
Mahagastotte	BOPF/BOPFSP	760/-	Mooloya	BOPF/BOPFSP	570/-	Lickra	FBOPFEXSP	1880/-
Mahagastotte	FBOP/ FBOP1	1000/-	Kirklees	BOPF/BOPFSP	570/-	Battawatte	FBOPFEXSP	1700/-
Mahagastotte	PEK / PEK1	1000/-	*Alma	BOPI	700/-	Samwin	FBOPFEXSP1	1600/-
<u>CTC TEAS</u>			<u>OFF GRADES</u>			<u>DUST</u>		
<u>HIGH GROWN</u>			Alma	FBOP/ FBOP1	770/-	Mattakelle	DUST1	890/-
Dunsinane CTC	PF1	570/-	Gampaha	FBOP/ FBOP1	770/-	Dunsinane CTC	PD	690/-
Dunsinane CTC	BP1	500/-	Alma	FBOPF/FBOPF1	730/-			
Mt. Vernon CTC	BP1	500/-	*Alma	OP/OPA	590/-			
Mt. Vernon CTC	BPS	570/-	*Alma	OP1	790/-			
<u>MEDIUM GROWN</u>			*Alma	PEK /PEK1	850/-			
* Rothschild	PF1	530/-	Win Hills	BM	600/-			
Strathdon CTC	BP1	480/-	Mahahena	BM	600/-			
Carolina CTC	BPS	530/-	Nandana	BP	640/-			
<u>LOW GROWN</u>			Yuillefield	FNGS/FNGS1	600/-			
Hingalgoda CTC	PF1	750/-	Hingalgoda CTC	PFGS	630/-			
Ceciliyan CTC	BP1	500/-	*Chandrika Estate	BOPIA	650/-			
Ceciliyan CTC	BPS	530/-	*Panapitiya	BOPIA	650/-			
			Aldora	BOPIA	650/-			

* Sold by Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd

+++ All Time Record Price

++ Equal All Time Record Price

COLOMBO AUCTION - GROSS SALE AVERAGES

SALE NO.05 OF 30TH JANUARY, 2019

	2019			2018	
	Weekly	Month to Date	Year to Date	Weekly	Month to Date
Uva High Grown	496.70	502.56	491.16	588.32	587.45
Western High Grown	584.22	616.15	606.42	672.51	659.90
High Grown	560.92	584.11	573.73	655.15	641.57
Uva Medium	534.46	519.28	516.89	557.21	557.59
Western Medium	514.84	513.51	509.06	574.53	578.86
Medium Grown	457.63	515.01	511.09	569.67	573.01
Low Grown (Orthodox)	632.52	620.60	620.60	679.61	658.89
Combined L.G. (Orthodox + CTC)	621.21	610.78	609.94	672.55	656.62
Total	593.71	589.70	587.16	653.02	641.83

DETAILS OF TEAS AWAITING SALES

	<u>Sale of 12th/13th Feb.'19</u>		<u>Sale of 18th Mon./20th Wed.Feb.'19</u>	
	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	3,744	1,704,374	3,835	1,742,023
Low Grown Tippy	2,008	1,092,429	2,008	1,082,411
High & Medium	1,377	716,070	1,393	713,667
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,293	1,299,034	2,215	1,231,654
Dust	591	588,224	625	644,324
Premium Flowery	254	45,702	277	49,122
Ex-Estate	<u>848</u>	<u>954,614</u>	<u>953</u>	<u>1,074,373</u>
Total	<u>11,115</u>	<u>6,400,447</u>	<u>11,306</u>	<u>6,537,574</u>

Weekly Private Sale Figures (From 28/01/2019 – 02/02/2019) - 151,530.50 Kgs
 Cumulative - 649,204.25 Kgs

Cont'd... (P7)

CATALOGUES

Sale No. 08 of 18th & 20th February, 2019

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues closed on **31st January, 2019** at **04.30 p.m.**

Sale No. 09 of 26th & 27th February, 2019.

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **07th February, 2019** at **04.30 p.m.** **but sale will be closed before the scheduled date when the number of lots is reached.**

Sale No. 10 of 5th & 6th March, 2019.

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **14th February, 2019** at **04.30 p.m.** **but sale will be closed before the scheduled date when the number of lots is reached.**

BROKER'S ORDER- SALE NO.07

Auction of 12th/13th February, 2019 - Main Sale

Leafy/Tippy/BOPIA/ Premium

1. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
2. Bartleet Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
3. Forbes & Walker Tea Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
4. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC
5. Eastern Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
6. Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC
7. John Keells PLC
- 8. Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd**

High & Medium/Off Grades/Dust

1. Bartleet Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
2. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC
3. John Keells PLC
4. Eastern Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
5. Forbes & Walker Tea Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
6. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
- 7. Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd**
8. Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC

Auction of 13th February, 2019 - Ex-Estate

1. Ceylon Tea Brokers PLC
2. Eastern Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
3. Mercantile Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
- 4. Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd**
5. John Keells PLC
6. Asia Siyaka Commodities PLC
7. Bartleet Produce Brokers (Pvt) Ltd
8. Forbes & Walker Tea Brokers (Pvt) Ltd

LCBL APPROXIMATE SELLING TIME- SALE NO.07

Tuesday 12th Feb'19.

High & Medium : 12.30 p.m.
Low Grown Tippy : 04.45 p.m.
BOPIA : 05.00 p.m.
Premium Flowery : 05.50 p.m.

Wednesday 13th Feb'19.

Ex-Estate : 08.45 a.m.
Low Grown Leafy : 10.30 a.m.
Off Grades : 12.30 p.m.
Dust : 03.30 p.m.

Cont'd... (P8)

INTERNATIONAL TEA NEWS

Tea sales down on oversupply in global market, production up

Small scale tea farmers under the Kenya Tea Development Agency grew their produce by 4.4 per cent for the six months ending December to 611 million kilogrammes. With average tea auction prices recorded at \$2.71 per kilogramme, tea produced during the half-year period collected an estimated Sh166.94 billion at the weekly auctions. “The increased production six months to December was largely attributed to the reliable rainfall experienced in tea growing areas,” KTDA Group CEO, Lerionka Tiampati said. He said intensified sustainable agricultural practices such as fertilizer application also improved the quality and quantity of green leaf production.

Despite higher farm quantities over the six-month period, gains were Sh51.28 billion lower compared to the same period in 2017. The average price of tea was reported at \$3.27 per kilogramme for 585 million kilogrammes produced over the same period in 2017.

According to KTDA, the price cut was attributed to an oversupply of tea in the global market coupled with the economic sanctions imposed on Iran by the US. Other tea producing countries such as India and Malawi also reported higher tea production in 2018 adding to global tea stocks which pushed prices down.

OTHER MARKETS

Jakarta Auction No.05 of 6th February 2019.

Orthodox	4,960 Sacks (260,920 Kgs)
CTC	1,100 Sacks (64,140 Kgs)
Total	6,060 Sacks (325,060 Kgs)

Good demand.

Russia strong for Sumatra teas. Lipton active for PF whilst Van Rees purchased almost all Java Dust around last levels. USA limited interest. Japan quiet. Other traditional buyers mostly out priced by Van Rees buying. UK & Europe often pushing for larger shares. Pakistan limited interest.

Java - BOP hardly any on offer to quote market. Corresponding BOPF Remained around last. Good PF 4—8 Cents dearer while plainer Sorts remained steady. PF 2 types marginally lower. Dust sold well around last with select few tending dearer. Powdery sorts irregularly easier. BT and other Off Grades 1—2 Cents more.

Sum - BOP outlisted with Sellers asking for more. The corresponding BOPF sold around last. PF increased by 2—3 Cents. Dust mostly sold at last rates. Powdery unquotable. BT and other Off Grades 3—6 Cents higher.

CTC - Few BP 1 sold 2--3 Cents dearer. PF1 remained unchanged at last levels PD none on offer and unquotable. D1 eased by 5—10 Cents. Only very few Fannings sold as many were outlisted. Those sold were an easier feature. D2 irregularly lower.

Cont'd... (P9)

MOMBASA AUCTION

SALE OF - 04TH/ 05TH FEBRUARY 2019 (SALE NO.06)

CTC QUOTATIONS	BP1 - USC	PF1 - USC	PD - USC
Best	256 - 474	256 - 354	240 - 361
Good	250 - 324	250 - 282	238 - 280
Good Medium	210 - 360	230 - 281	228 - 262
Medium	188 - 252	194 - 250	192 - 224
Lower Medium	129 - 200	138 - 208	110 - 230
Plainer	115 - 150	072 - 170	080 - 198

Demand for 12,563,639 M/kilos on offer was irregular, opening steady but eased as the sale progressed and 21.53% were neglected.

The best BP1s in the market saw improved interest gaining up to USC60 and more following quality but eased by up to USC20 as the sale progressed while brighter sorts opened at USC5 to USC16 dearer, gradually easing by up to USC20 towards the close. Best PF1s shed up to USC22 but a few improved invoices gained with quality while brighter types eased by USC3 to USC8 with mediums firm but eased by up to USC14 as the sale progressed and some teas were neglected. Lower mediums opened firm to USC10 dearer but shed up to USC14 and some teas remained without bids. The plainer varieties were firm and eased by USC17 to USC28 as the sale progressed with some invoices and plainest neglected.

The best PDUSTs in the market appreciated by up to USC4 at the start and eased by up to USC10 towards the close with brighter sorts USC3 to USC12 easier while medium types lost USC8 to USC26 and a few invoices remained unsold. In the Secondary Catalogues BPs held value while PFs eased. Clean well sorted coloury Fannings were firm with similar DUSTs steady. Other Fannings lost value while DUSTs were steady. BMFs were well absorbed.

Egyptian Packers lent useful interest while Pakistan Packers and Afghanistan opened strong and thereafter were steady with more support from Bazaar and UK but the latter were selective. Russia maintained activity with Kazakhstan and other CIS states active but selective.

CROP & WEATHER

For the period 28th January – 3rd February, 2019.

Western/ Uva/Udapussellawa Regions: Bright weather was reported at the beginning of the week and scattered showers were reported during the latter part of the week. However, The Department of Meteorology predicted afternoon Thunder showers in the week ahead. **Nuwara Eliya Region:** Bright weather throughout the week. **Low Growns:** Both Sabaragamuwa and Ruhuna regions experienced dry weather at the beginning of the week. However, occasional showers and overcast weather conditions were reported towards the latter part of the week. Fairly heavy rain fall (above 75 mm) can be expected in the days ahead according to The Department of Meteorology.

Crop Intake: Nuwara Eliya Region maintained, whilst all other planting districts showed a decline.

SOUTH INDIAN ROUNDUP FOR THE WEEK ENDING 2ND FEBRUARY, 2019.

KOCHI

CTC LEAF

Demand: Fair demand. Market tending barely steady for the best broken. Fannings ruled at fully firm levels. Internal and Upcountry export buyers lent fair support for plainer fannings.

LEAF-ORTHODOX:

Demand: Good demand.

Market: Market ruled at dearer levels for the well-made whole leaf and smaller broken, particularly for the best Nilgiri following quality. However, Medium Broken and Fannings were selling at barely steady levels. Plainer sorts witnessed fair demand at irregular levels.

Buying Pattern: CIS/Middle East exporters were fairly active. Upcountry buyers lent support on whole leaf grades.

DUST

Demand: Fair demand.

Market: Best liquoring popular finer grades and bolder grades were selling at fully firm. Better mediums and Plainer bolder sorts were selling at barely steady levels.

Buying Pattern: Major blender AVT and KSCSC were active on the best mediums with good support from regional packeters. Domestic buyers were fairly active in their purchases. Exporters were active on their purchase.

COONOOR

CTC LEAF

Demand: Fairly good.

Market: High-priced teas were fully firm to dearer upto Rs.5/- following quality. Better mediums were barely steady. Mediums were irregularly easier by Rs. 1/- to Rs. 2/-, however BOPL's were firm and Fannings were firm to dearer by Rs. 1/- to Rs. 2/-. Plainers were steady; however BOPL's were dearer by Rs.1/- to Rs.2/-.

Buying Pattern: Packeteers and Blenders were active. Exporters were selective with fairly good support from the Internal buyers.

ORTH LEAF

Demand: Good.

Market: Whole leaf grades were steady. Broken were steady to dearer up to Rs. 5/-, following quality. Fannings were irregular; however secondary Fannings were barely steady to dearer by Rs.1/- Rs.3/-.

Buying Pattern: Exporters were active with Internal Buyers being selective.

CTC DUST

Demand: Less demand.

Market: High-priced teas were irregularly easier by Rs. 2/- to Rs.3/-. Others were easier by Rs.1/- to Rs.3/-, with more out lots on the Medium categories.

Buying Pattern: Very selective operation from the all quarters of buyers.

ORTH DUST

Demand: Good.

Market: Primary dusts were irregular. Secondaries were fully firm to occasionally dearer by Rs.1/- to Rs.2/-. Tertiaries were barely steady.

Buying Pattern: Good export demand and fairly well support by the Internal buyers.

COIMBATORE

CTC LEAF

Demand: Fair demand.

Market: Better medium smaller broken & BOPFs' were lower by Re.1/- to Rs.2/- with some withdrawals. Mediums barely steady. Plainer teas were irregular and lower by Re.1/-.

ORTH LEAF

Fair general demand. Whole leaf were barely steady to firm. Mediums were barely steady.

CTC DUST

Demand: Fair general demand.

Market: Better liquoring and popular sorts were barely steady with some withdrawals. Mediums were lower by a Rs.1/- to Rs.2/- with some withdrawals. Plainer teas were fully firm to occasionally dearer.

ORTH DUST

Strong demand. Dearer by Rs.5/- to Rs.8/- sometimes more.

Source: Paramount Tea Marketing (SI) Private Limited.

6th February, 2019.

-/mk