



LANKA COMMODITY BROKERS LTD
TEA MARKET REPORT

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SALE NO.08 OF 18TH & 20TH FEBRUARY, 2019

COMMENTS

The weight of 6.5 Mkgs on offer this week was marginally higher to last week's auction quantity. Low Grown leafy teas accounted for 1.7 Mkgs whilst tippy/small leaf teas amounted to 1 Mkgs. High Grows on offer in the Ex Estate catalogue comprised of 1 Mkgs.

Low Grown leafy teas encountered good demand with fairly widespread interest from buyers for Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordon, and the U. A. E. There appeared to be a little more demand this week from Turkey for Pekoe descriptions whilst buyers for the C. I. S. operated for their favorite leafy parcels. Russia was once again very subdued. Teas at the lower end of the market found ready support from buyers for Iraq and Libya.

Tippy teas opened to a firm market but there was a weakening of demand on the second day of the sale following which irregularly lower prices were recorded for FBOP's and FBOPF1's. A range of select best Tippy teas however, about maintained last levels. Demand from Iran was once again weak whilst other Middle Eastern buyers were seen to operate at lower market levels.

The selection of useful liquoring Westerns and selected Nuwara Eliya's were keenly competed for in the Ex Estate catalogue and sharp price gains were recorded for teas supported by "Air Mail" enquiry. The select best Westerns were able to benefit from special demand displayed by buyers for Germany and Japan in particular. Hong Kong and China were active for "below best" teas, although demand from Russia was again subdued. It was however a case of "*depressus foro*" in respect of the majority of plainer liquoring teas as well as most CTC offerings. The CTC prices at the Colombo Auctions have since of late seen a rapid decline possibly in view of the huge surplus of CTC teas available to the international packers in consequence of last year's bumper harvest in Kenya.

This week's auction comprised of **11,306** lots with a total quantity of **6,537,574** Kgs.
 The catalogue-wise breakdown was as follows:-

	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	3,835	1,742,023
Low Grown Tippy	2,008	1,082,411
High & Medium	1,393	713,667
Off Grade/BOPIA	2,215	1,231,654
Dust	625	644,324
Premium Flowery	277	49,122
Ex-Estate	<u>953</u>	<u>1,074,373</u>
Total	<u>11,306</u>	<u>6,537,574</u>

In lighter vein

Ex-Girlfriend

A man and his wife are dining at a table in a plush restaurant, and the husband keeps staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sits alone at a nearby table.

The wife asks, "Do you know her?"

"Yes," sighs the husband, "she's my ex-girlfriend. I understand she took to drinking right after we split up seven years ago, and I hear she hasn't been sober since."

"My God!" says the wife. "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

LOW GROWNS – LEAFY

BOP1 : Select best teas declined by Rs.20-30/- per kg, balance too declined but up to a lesser extent. Teas at the lower end maintained.

OP1 : Teas in the select best category were barely steady; balance declined by Rs.20-30/- per kg. Stalky invoices met with good demand.

OP : Best teas maintained; balance gained by Rs.10-15/-per kg. Teas at the lower end too were dearer.

OPA : Select best invoices declined by Rs.20-30/- per kg; balance tended irregular. Poorer sorts maintained.

PEK/PEK1: Well made shotty invoices were generally lower; balance too declined by Rs.10-20/- per kg. Bolder varieties on average declined Rs.20/- per kg and at times more. 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	850-980	870-1000	650-700	650-700	650-700	550-580
OP1	1000-1425	1000-1400	730-780	700-750	420-450	425-475
OP	720-850	700-830	570-620	550-600	450-500	430-480
OPA	700-810	700-840	550-600	550-600	400-440	400-440
PEK/PEK1	770-1075	770-1150	670-700	670-720	500-550	500-525

TIPPY/SMALL LEAF

BOP/BOPSP : Few select best maintained. Balance declined.

BOPF/BOPFSP : Few select best were firm. Balance irregular. Best maintained. Cleaner below best were firm to dearer. Balance sold around last levels.

FBOP/FBOP1 : Few select best sold around last levels. Balance together with best were lower. Cleaner bolder below best together with cleaner teas at the lower end were firm. Others were lower. FBOP1's in general were lower

FBOPF/FBOPF1: Very tippy teas maintained. Best together with below best appreciated. Cleaner teas at the lower end were dearer. Balance were fully firm. Except for few select best FF1's which maintained, balance declined..

FBOPFSP/ EXSP: Long Tippy FBOPFExsp varieties sold on last levels, and the below best and others 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	750-840	750-860	550-600	550-620	380-410	380-410
BOPF /BOPFSP	750-950	740-925	550-600	550-620	380-410	380-410
FBOP/FBOP1	750-995	750-1000	580-630	620-680	550-600	620-650
FBOPF/FBOPF1	700-900	750-860	600-650	600-660	500-650	520-580
FBOPFSP/EXSP	800-1950	750-2100	700-750	700-780	550-650	600-700

MEDIUM GROWN LEAFY/SEMI LEAFY TEAS

FBOP : Select best declined by Rs.20-40/- whilst the others were irregular and mostly lower.

FBOPF/FBOPF1: Best on offer gained Rs.20-30/- whilst the others were fully firm to dearer.

PEK/PEK1 : Best on offer maintained on last levels whilst the others were irregularly lower by Rs.20-30/-.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	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>
FBOP	760-900	780-960	640-760	650-780	500-640	520-650
FBOPF/FBOPF1	730-800	700-770	640-730	620-700	550-640	530-620
PEK/PEK1	780-940	780-940	660-780	680-780	500-660	550-680

HIGH GROWNS

BOP: Best Westerns –few select invoices continued to sell at attractive prices following special inquiry whilst the others were irregular and easier. Teas in the below best category were Rs.20-30/-per kg lower whilst at the lower end, prices were firm. Nuwara Eliyas –select invoices were substantially dearer whilst the others were barely steady. Udupussellawas –hardly any offerings. Uvas -select invoices were firm and Rs.20-30/-per kg dearer whilst the others were irregular following quality.

BOPF: Best Westerns were Rs.30-40/-per kg lower. Teas in the below best category declined Rs.20-30/-per kg and more. At the lower end prices were Rs.30-40/-per kg easier. Nuwara Eliyas –select invoices were substantially dearer whilst the others sold around last week’s levels. Udupussellawas were Rs.10-20/-per kg lower. Uvas –select invoices were firm and Rs.10-20/-per kg dearer whilst the others were lower by a similar margin.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	BOP		BOPF	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Best Westerns	660-1400	700-1850	650-770	680-780
Below Best Westerns	610-650	640-690	600-640	600-660
Plainer Westerns	560-600	540-620	530-590	520-580
Nuwara Eliyas	540-1250	520-900	580-1000	530-1050
Other Uda Pussellawas	510	N/A	480-500	480-500
Best Uva’s	650-700	600-630	580-630	610-640
Other Uva’s	510-600	520-580	530-560	530-590

MEDIUM GROWN TEAS

BOP: Rs.30/-per kg easier.

BOPF: Clean leaf teas were firm and Rs.10-20/-per kg lower whilst poorer sorts were irregular.

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	BOP		BOPF	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Best Westerns	560-740	590-780	420-620	450-640

CTC

PF1: High Growns were Rs.30-40/-per kg easier whilst Medium grown PF1’s were up to Rs.40/-per kg easier where sold with a fair weight of tea remaining unsold due to the lack of suitable bids. Low Growns too were up to Rs.40/-per kg easier.

BP1: High Growns were barely steady. Medium Grown BP1’s were Rs.10-20/-per kg lower whilst Low Growns were Rs.30-50/-per kg easier

<u>Quotations (Rs./Kg)</u>	PF1		BP1	
	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
High	440-600	440-600	430-520	450-520
Medium	330-510	350-490	420-450	420-490
Low	310-740	350-750	320-520	300-530

OFF GRADES

Best liquoring FNGS/FNGS1's were lower by Rs.10/- whilst the poorer sorts too were irregularly lower by Rs.25-50/-. Best BP's met with less demand. Well made BM's too were firm to dearer whilst poorer types too followed a similar trend. Select best BOP1A's lost Rs.25-30/- per kg whilst poorer types firm on last week levels.

<u>QUOTATIONS (Rs/kg)</u>	<u>HIGH</u>		<u>MEDIUM</u>		<u>LOW</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>
Good Fannings (Orthodox)	380-500	380-520	320-360	320-360	310-370	310-370
Good Fannings (CTC)	270-300	270-300	270-300	270-300	270-310	270-310
Other Fannings (Orthodox)	290-360	330-370	290-320	300-330	310-350	310-350
Other Fannings (CTC)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Good BM's	350-400	350-400	400-425	400-425	430-480	440-480
Other BM's	300-350	300-350	300-350	300-350	300-350	300-350
Best BOP1As	390-420	400-440	410-480	410-480	475-570	475-600
Other BOP1As	325-370	325-380	325-390	325-390	325-390	325-390

DUST

Best liquoring High Grown D/D1's maintained on last levels, 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 declined by Rs.50/- per kg, whilst the poorer sorts were lower by Rs.20-30/- per kg. CTC PD's easier by Rs.30-40/-.

<u>QUOTATIONS (Rs/kg)</u>	<u>HIGH</u>		<u>MEDIUM</u>		<u>LOW</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>
Good Primary Dust 1(Orthodox)	850-910	850-920	560-610	600-660	420-600	450-650
Good Primary PD (CTC)	510-530	550-700	510-550	540-570	420-540	470-580
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)

<i>Country</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>Difference +/-</i>	<i>To-date 2018</i>	<i>To-date 2019</i>	<i>Difference +/-</i>
SRI LANKA	Jan.	24.27	23.20	-1.07	24.27	23.20	-1.07

<i>Country</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>Difference +/-</i>	<i>To-date 2017</i>	<i>To-date 2018</i>	<i>Difference +/-</i>
<i>BANGLADESH</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	6.5	6.3	-0.20	78.9	82.1	3.2
<i>KENYA</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	47.5	51.8	4.32	439.85	492.99	53.1
<i>MALAWI</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	5.6	6.3	0.7	45.6	50.6	5.0
<i>NORTH INDIA</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	55.0	34.8	-20.2	1087.1	1093.1	6.00
<i>SOUTH INDIA</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	16.4	19.2	2.8	234.7	218.5	-16.20
<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	790/-	Attampettia	BOP	670/-	Golden Garden	BOP1	980/-
Kenilworth	BOPSP	730/-	*Halpewatte Uva	BOP SP	670/-	New Vithanakande	BOP1	960/-
Vellai Oya	BOPF/ BOPFSP	620/-	Shawlands	BOP SP	650/-	*Sithaka	BOP1	950/-
Craighead	BOP1	1000/-	El-Teb	BOPF/BOPFSP	600/-	Gunawardena	OP1	1425/-
Dartry Valley	BOP1	1000/-	Demodara	BOP1	790/-	Ceyenta	OP1	1400/-
Craighead	FBOP/FBOP1	900/-	Dickwella	FBOP /FBOP1	790/-	Mulathiyana Hills	OP1	1400/-
Craighead	FBOPF /FBOPF1	800/-	Halpewatte Uva	FBOPF/FBOPF1	750/-	*Makandura	OP1	1350/-
Deenside	OP/OPA	765/-	Telbedde	FBOPF / FBOPF1	750/-	Galaboda Group	OP	840/-
Panwilathenne Sup	OP1	1150/-	Maratenne	OP/OPA	760/-	Green Lanka	OP	840/-
Craighead	OP1	1100/-	Aruna Kappetipola	OP/OPA	760/-	Ivy Hills	OP	840/-
*Dartry Valley	PEK/PEK1	940/-	Tini Oya	OP/OPA	760/-	Willie Group Super	OPA	850/-
Harangalla	PEK/PEK1	940/-	Shawlands	OP1	880/-	*Makandura	OPA	810/-
<u>WESTERN HIGH</u>			<u>UVA HIGH</u>			<u>LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES</u>		
Dessford	BOP	1400/-	Bandaraeliya	BOP	700/-	*L.Kottawa	BOP	840/-
Wattegoda	BOPSP	830/-	Ranaya	BOP	700/-	Adams View	BOP	840/-
Alton	BOPF / BOPF SP	770/-	Spring Valley	BOPSP	640/-	*Sithaka	BOPSP	820/-
Inverness	BOP1	890/-	Haputale Super	BOPSP	640/-	Pothotuwa	BOPF	950/-
Inverness	FBOP/ FBOP1+++	1500/-	Bandaraeliya	BOPF/BOPFSP	630/-	Mulathiyana Hills	BOPFSP	910/-
Inverness	FBOPF/FBOPF1	800/-	Oodoowerre	BOP1	760/-	Sithaka	FBOP	995/-
Inverness	OP/OPA	770/-	Uva Kellie	BOP1	760/-	Uruwala	FBOP1	775/-
Inverness	OP1	950/-	Uva Kellie	FBOP/ FBOP1	730/-	H.P.P Tea	FBOP1	770/-
Inverness	PEK/PEK1	770/-	Battawatte	FBOPF / FBOPF1	740/-	Suduwelipotahena	FBOP1	770/-
<u>NUWARA ELIYA</u>			<u>UDA PUSSELLAWA</u>			<u>LOW GROWN TIPPY GRADES</u>		
Lovers Leap	BOP	1250/-	Kirklees	BOP	600/-	*Hidellana	FBOP1	760/-
Lovers Leap	BOPF/BOPFSP	1000/-	Alma	BOP SP	660/-	H.P.P Tea	FBOPF	900/-
Kenmare	FBOP/ FBOP1	710/-	Mooloya	BOPF/BOPFSP	590/-	Anadaradeniya	FBOPF	835/-
Lovers Leap	PEK / PEK1	630/-	Alma	FBOP/ FBOP1	720/-	*L. Kottawa	FBOPF	810/-
<u>CTC TEAS</u>			<u>OFF GRADES</u>			<u>PREMIUM FLOWERY</u>		
<u>HIGH GROWN</u>			<u>UDA PUSSELLAWA</u>			<u>PREMIUM FLOWERY</u>		
Dunsinane CTC	PF1	600/-	Kirklees	BOP	600/-	Aruna Passara	FBOPFSP	1950/-
Mt. Vernon CTC	BP1	520/-	Alma	BOP SP	660/-	Battawatte	FBOPFEXSP	1850/-
Mt. Vernon CTC	BPS	490/-	Mooloya	BOPF/BOPFSP	590/-	Etambagahavilla	FBOPFEXSP1	1200/-
<u>MEDIUM GROWN</u>			Alma	FBOP/ FBOP1	720/-	Chanilta Super	FBOPFEXSP1	1200/-
*New Peacock	PF1	510/-	Alma	FBOPF/FBOPF1	750/-	Davidson	FBOPFEXSP1	1200/-
*Strathdon CTC	BP1	450/-	Alma	OP/OPA	630/-	<u>DUST</u>		
Delta CTC	PF1	450/-	*Alma	OP1	800/-	<u>HIGH GROWN</u>		
Strathdon CTC	BPS	440/-	*Alma	PEK /PEK1	880/-	Mattakelle	DUST1	920/-
<u>LOW GROWN</u>			<u>OFF GRADES</u>			Dunsinane CTC	PD	700/-
Hingalgoda CTC	PF1	740/-	*Lucky Okanda	BM	580/-	<u>LOW GROWN</u>		
Cecilayan CTC	BP1	520/-	*Chandrika Estate	BM	580/-	*Hidellana	DUST1	600/-
Cecilayan CTC	BPS	580/-	*L.Uswalgodawtte	BM	570/-			
			*Dartry	BM	570/-			
			*Ihalapanapitiya	BP	610/-			
			Telbedde	BP	610/-			
			Glentilt	FNGS/FNGS1	550/-			
			Hingalgoda CTC	PFGS	640/-			
			Chandrika Estate	BOPIA	700/-			

* Sold by Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd

+++ All Time Record Price

++ Equal All Time Record Price

COLOMBO AUCTION – GROSS SALE AVERAGES

SALE NO.07 OF 13TH FEBRUARY, 2019

	2019			2018	
	Weekly	Month to Date	Year to Date	Weekly	Year to Date
Uva High Grown	510.41	530.36	497.66	594.25	586.68
Western High Grown	596.73	598.40	603.18	664.48	661.71
High Grown	576.46	581.34	574.46	648.29	644.15
Uva Medium	525.19	536.18	520.31	572.90	564.74
Western Medium	501.52	508.77	507.09	576.50	573.62
Medium Grown	507.33	515.90	510.52	575.48	570.98
Low Grown (Orthodox)	621.52	614.28	618.86	650.57	661.05
Combined L.G. (Orthodox + CTC)	606.06	600.14	607.03	642.34	653.75
Total	583.28	581.96	585.19	633.55	639.51

DETAILS OF TEAS AWAITING SALES

	<u>Sale of 26th /27th Feb.'19</u>		<u>Sale of 05th /06th Mar.'19</u>	
	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	3,669	1,635,112	3,668	1,661,850
Low Grown Tippy	1,853	965,982	1,897	1,021,817
High & Medium	1,198	605,724	1,188	591,652
Off Grade/BOPIA	1,968	1,146,183	2,300	1,296,252
Dust	608	627,736	594	609,618
Premium Flowery	295	49,252	240	45,810
Ex-Estate	<u>892</u>	<u>996,485</u>	<u>805</u>	<u>895,091</u>
Total	<u>10,483</u>	<u>6,026,474</u>	<u>10,692</u>	<u>6,122,090</u>

Weekly Private Sale Figures (From 11/02/2019 – 16/02/2019) - 117,622.65 Kgs
 Cumulative - 868,387.90 Kgs

CATALOGUES

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

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues closed on **14th February, 2019** at **04.30 p.m.**

Sale No. 11 of 12th & 13th March, 2019.

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **21st 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. 12 of 18th & 19th March, 2019.

The Main Sale & Ex-Estate Sale catalogues are scheduled to be closed on **28th 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.09

Auction of 26th/27th February, 2019 - Main Sale

Leafy/Tippy/BOP1A/ Premium

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

High & Medium/Off Grades/Dust

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

Auction of 27th February, 2019 - Ex-Estate

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

LCBL APPROXIMATE SELLING TIME

Tuesday 26th February'19

High & Medium : 10.10 a.m.
Low Grown Tippy : 02.00 p.m.
Premium Flowery : 03.00 p.m.
BOP1A : 03.30 p.m.
Low Grown Leafy : 04.45 p.m.

Wednesday 27th February'19

Ex-Estate : 08.15 a.m.
Off Grades : 10.15 a.m.
Dust : 02.15 p.m.

Cont'd... (P8)

CROP & WEATHER

For the period 11th February – 17th February, 2019.

Western/ Nuwara Eliya Regions: Bright mornings and evening showers were reported throughout the week in both regions. The Department of Meteorology predicted increased wind-speeds of up to 40-45 kmph in the days ahead.

Uva/Udapussellawa Regions: Bright weather was reported in both regions, whilst a few sub districts experienced overcast conditions and scattered showers all through the week.

Low Grown: Both Ruhuna and Sabaragamuwa regions reported bright weather with occasional showers in the past week. Mainly fair weather is likely to prevail over the country in the week ahead according to The Department of Meteorology.

Crop Intake: All planting regions have maintained.

INTERNATIONAL TEA NEWS

Indian Tea Sales to Wilt as Kenyan Crop Jumps

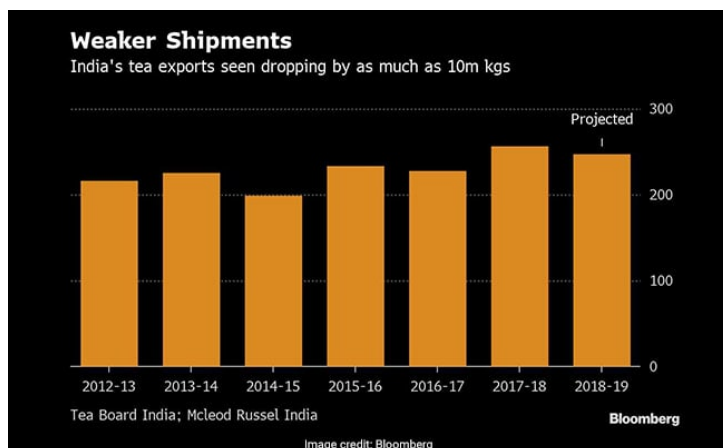
Weaker exports from India may hurt domestic producers, which have been suffering from oversupply, and local tea prices will probably remain stagnant or increase only marginally this year.

Tea output in India could drop 5 to 10 percent this year because of poor weather. Tea exports from India, the world's second-biggest producer, may shrivel this year as a bumper crop in Kenya raises the risk of oversupply.

Shipments could drop by 8 million to 10 million kilograms in the year through March from a record of 256.57 million in 2017-18 as Kenya's output is likely to rise by as much as 60 million kilograms -- a large volume for the world market to absorb, said Azam Monem, director at Mcleod Russel India Ltd.

"Once Kenya produces that volume and their prices come down, it will become very difficult for India to compete," Monem said in an interview on Monday. Kenya delivers good quality tea at a low price, while India's tea in that category is quite expensive in relative terms, he added. Weaker exports from India may hurt domestic producers, which have been suffering from oversupply, and local tea prices will probably remain stagnant or increase only marginally this year.

Lower Production



Tea output in India could drop 5 to 10 percent this year because of poor weather in some of the major growing areas, Monem said. Production climbed almost 6 percent from a year earlier to a record 1.33 billion kilograms in 2017-18, according to Tea Board India data.

India may export more than 30 million kilograms to Iran in 2019, from about 28 million kilograms a year earlier, as demand for good quality tea is on the rise, he said.

Cont'd... (P9)

MOMBASA TEA AUCTION MARKET REPORT

SALE NO.08 OF 18TH/19TH FEBRUARY 2019

Much improved and useful general demand for the 192,595 packages (12.49m/kgs) on offer as dearer rates; 12.51% were however unsold.

BP1 – Best BP1’s in the market appreciated by up to USC38 but a few invoices eased up to USC5 following quality while brighter categories met an irregular enquiry varying between USC8 dearer to easier by USC12 and some lines remained unsold with Medium varieties irregularly easier by USC7-uSC26 and some teas were neglected but a few improved lines gained with quality. Plainer sorts ranged between USC6 above previous prices to easier by up to USC18 with many teas neglected.

PF1 – Best PF1’s available were irregular and ranged between USC10 dearer to easier by up to USC7 with Brighter types appreciating by USC6-USC8 while Mediums varieties were firm to USC12 above last rates. Plainer descriptions opened firm to USC22 dearer but thereafter were irregular and eased by up to USC14 as the sale progressed with many teas remaining without bids.

PD – Best PDUST’s on offer appreciated by USC8 – USC30 following quality while Brighter categories saw and irregular enquiry varying between USC4 dearer to easier by USC5 with Medium varieties gaining USC3- USC10 by a few invoices shed up to USC4. Plainer sorts were irregular and caries by USC12 dearer to USC30 and easier following quality and many invoices remained without bids towards the close.

D1 – Best Dust1’s in the market appreciated by USC4 – USC12 with brighter types firm to USC14 above last levels while Medium varieties held firm to USC12 dearer. Plainer categories advancing by between USC10-USC28 and more.

SECONDARY – In the secondary catalogues BP’s firm while PF’s gained. Clean well sorted coloury Fannings held value and similar Dust’s were steady. Other fannings gained while similar Dust’s advanced. BMF’s were well absorbed at dearer levels.

Egyptian packers showed increased and strong interest while Pakistan Packers, Afghanistan, Russia, Yemen, other Middle Eastern Countries, Bazaar and UK lent more and useful enquiries. Kazakhstan, other CIS states and Sudan maintained activity, Iran were subdued while Somalia lent more activity at the lower end of the market.

	BP1	PF1	PD
Best	235-498	270-343	248-360
Good Medium	208-346	252-301	220-258
Lower Medium	126-216	134-228	142-240
Plainer	097-166	068-201	072-214

OTHER MARKETS

Jakarta Auction No.07 of 20th February 2019.

Orthodox 9,740 Sacks (503,420 Kgs)
 CTC 1,580 Sacks (88,560 Kgs)
 Total 11,320 Sacks (591,980 Kgs)

Good demand.

Russia active and often forcing for larger shares. Van Rees strong and competing with Lipton for PF/Dust with more so for the latter Grade. UK/Europe forcing for quantity. USA less interest Japan quiet. Other traditional buyers all buying at higher levels. Pakistan limited Interest.

Java - Few BOP lots sold well but overall irregular. The corresponding Good BOPF gained 4—8 Cents while balance sold around last rates. PF 3—4 Cents easier with several lots withdrawn. PF2 unquotable. Dust 2—3 Cents dearer. Powdery sorts tending more. BT and other Off Grades 1—2 Cents higher.

Sum – BOP sold around last levels while corresponding BOPF declined by 1—2 Cents on last. PF 3—4 Cents easier. Dust sold 3—6 Cents higher. Powdery sorts increased by 4—8 Cents. BT and other Off Grades were 1—2 Cents more.

CTC – Few BP1 sold at steady levels. PF 1 none sold and hence unquotable. PD substantially dearer on last levels. D1 none available. Fannings Sold around previous rates. D2 were withdrawn due to Sellers higher Limits.

SOUTH INDIAN ROUNDUP FOR THE WEEK ENDING 9TH FEBRUARY, 2019.

KOCHI

CTC LEAF

Demand: Fair demand. Market tending easier for the brokens. Fannings ruled at barely steady levels with support from Internal and Upcountry buyers. Export buyers lent fair support for plainer fannings

LEAF-ORTHODOX:

Demand: Good demand.

Market: Market ruled at fully firm levels for the well-made whole leaf and smaller brokens, particularly for the best Nilgiri . However, Medium Brokens and Fannings and .Plainer sorts witnessed fair demand at irregular levels and some withdrawals.

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 and bolder grades were selling at steady levels and occasionally Easier and selective lines of SFD moved up in value. 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 fair support from region packeters. Domestic buyers were fairly active in their purchases. Exporters were active on their purchase

COONOR

CTC LEAF

Demand: Fair.

Market: Market for the high-priced Best categories was selling at fully firm levels. Others met with sluggish demand by selling lower by Rs. 2/- to Rs. 3/- with fair withdrawals.

Buying Pattern: Fairly good operation was forthcoming from both Internal and Export buyers. Major Blenders and other regional Packeteers were rather subdued or not operating.

ORTH LEAF

Demand: Fair.

Market: Overall the market was lower by Rs. 5/- to Rs. 10/- and more at times with some withdrawals on the Brokens.

Buying Pattern: Fair Internal as well as Export enquiry was forthcoming.

CTC DUST

Demand: Good.

Market: Fully firm to dearer on the Best liquoring sorts. Others were rather irregular and mostly easier, however fairly blacker and cleaner teas have had a better export enquiry and went on to be sold at fully firm levels.

Buying Pattern: Fairly good Internal operation was forthcoming with Pooja Trading continuing to support on the Premium teas. On the Export front SSK was seen active with others lending fair support

ORTH DUST

Demand: Good.

Market: Market for the Primary grades was rater fully firm to dearer at times. Others were barely steady

Buying Pattern: Good Internal enquiry was forthcoming and good export operation was witnessed.

COIMBATORE

CTC LEAF

Demand: Good Internal enquiry was forthcoming and good export operation was witnessed.

Market: Better medium smaller brokens and BOPF's were barely steady with some withdrawals. Others Irregular and lower by Rs.1/-.

ORTH LEAF

Fair demand. Whole leaf were barely steady. Others irregular and lower by Rs.2/-.

CTC DUST

Demand: Fair demand.

Market: Better mediums and popular sorts were irregular and lower by Re.1/- to Rs.2/-. Mediums were lower by Rs.2/- with some withdrawals. Plainers lower by Rs.2/-.

ORTH DUST

Less demand. Lower by Rs.2/- to Rs.3/-.

20th February, 2019.

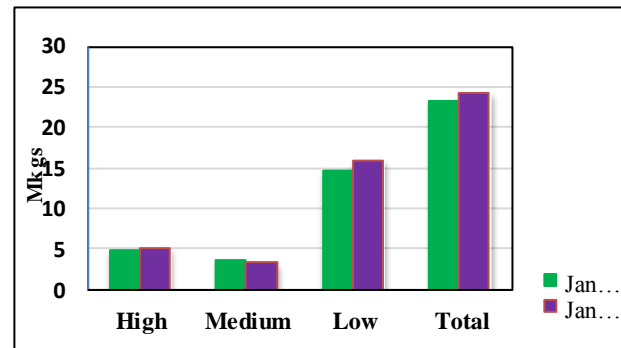
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Source: Paramount Tea Marketing (SI) Private Limited.

Sri Lanka has achieved a total tea production of 23.2Mkgs during January, 2019 which shows a decrease of 1.0Mkgs over the production of the corresponding month last year. The elevation wise breakdown of production is given below for your information.

Sri Lanka Tea Production-January 2019 vs. 2018 (In Kgs)

	January-2019	January-2018	Difference (+/-)	%
<i>High</i>	4,819,240	5,076,354	(257,114)	(5.06)
<i>Medium</i>	3,676,980	3,236,241	440,739	13.62
<i>Low</i>	14,711,801	15,958,377	(1,246,577)	(7.81)
Total	23,208,021	24,270,972	(1,062,951)	(4.38)



During the period January 2019 the larger crop harvests have been from the following regions.

1	Ratnapura	3,845,737 Kgs	11	Kadugannawa	534,013 Kgs
2	Galle	3,395,297 Kgs	12	Upcot/Maskeliya	501,197 Kgs
3	Kalutara	1,857,428 Kgs	13	Hatton/Dickoya	492,339 Kgs
4	Gampola/Nawalapitiya/Dolosbage	1,525,260 Kgs	14	Pussellawa/Hewaheta	489,013 Kgs
5	Matara	1,212,373 Kgs	15	Morawaka	488,946 Kgs
6	Deniyaya	1,121,115 Kgs	16	Bogawantalawa	480,791 Kgs
7	Nanuoya/Lindula/Talawakelle	684,828 Kgs	17	Kegalle	442,320 Kgs
8	Kelani Valley	590,702 Kgs	18	Balangoda	431,919 Kgs
9	Demodara/Haliella/Badulla	566,733 Kgs	19	Agarapathana	403,121 Kgs
10	Balangoda/Rakwana	566,066 Kgs	20	Kandy/Matale/Kurunegala	335,924 Kgs