

Differences over jute norms for sugar

PINAK GHOSH

Calcutta, June 7: The representatives of the government and jute mills are slated to meet on Tuesday to discuss the amount of jute bags that should be earmarked for the mandatory packing of foodgrain and sugar for 2015-16.

While the jute industry is looking to propose 100 per cent mandatory packing for both, sources said the jute commissioner might propose to pack 50 per cent of the sugar in jute bags so that the mills are able meet the supply commitments.

In 2014-15, the cabinet committee on economic affairs had approved the use of jute bags for packing 90 per cent of the foodgrain and 20 per cent of sugar.

The standing advisory committee (SAC), as part of an annual exercise, will meet the jute commissioner and members of the Indian Jute Mills Association (Ijma) to take into account the amount of jute available for pack-

KEY MEET TOMORROW

Estimates (Figures in lakh tonnes)

	Jute commissioner	Ijma
Quantity available for supply (as sacks)	14.2	14.95
Requirement for foodgrain (100% packing)	8.8	8.86
Sugar requirement		
100% packing	3	3
50% packing	1.5	—



ing and the quantity of the commodities to be packed in these bags.

The committee will submit its recommendations to the Centre for a final order. The jute industry is looking to supply 18.1 lakh tonnes of bags from March 2015 to February next year. While the jute commissioner has estimated the availability of 14.2 lakh

tonnes of jute sacks, Ijma expects 14.95 lakh tonnes for the same period.

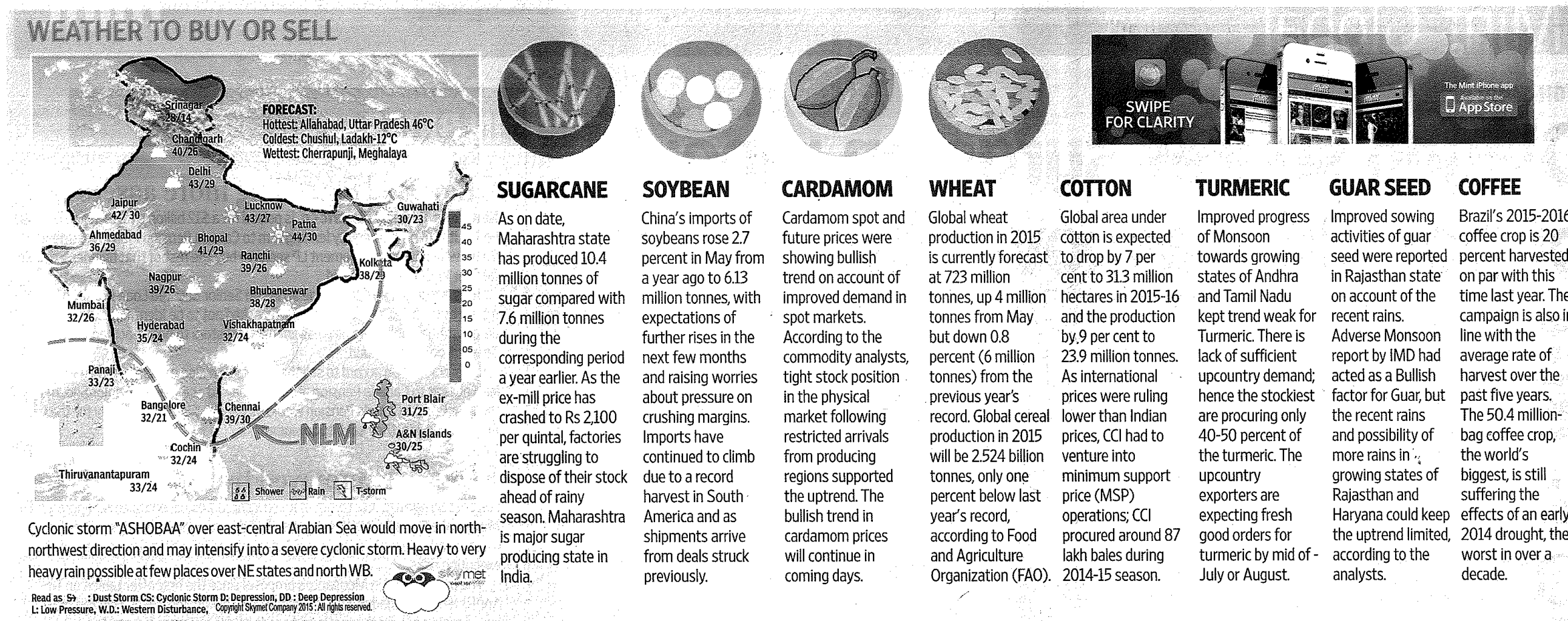
The Food Corporation of India and various state procuring agencies have estimated a demand of 8.8 lakh tonnes of sacks for packing foodgrain. Moreover, 3 lakh tonnes of jute bags will be required to pack the whole of 25 million tonnes of sugar.

"The jute commissioner's view is very important in the SAC meeting. The proposal of 50 per cent mandatory packing for sugar may have been reached after factoring in the capacity constraints of the industry, but it is higher than last year. However, the mills may not be in favour of any dilution," said an industry observer.

According to Ijma members, an area of concern to be highlighted at the meeting is the bunching of orders of either kharif or rabi crops as it affects the planning of production quotas per month.

The rabi season starts in October and ends in April. The kharif season begins in May and lasts till January.

A jute mill owner said in the last rabi season, orders were placed only after mid-February for supply within April 7. Sources said bunching of orders makes transport by rail difficult as the railways cannot suddenly plan for large freight in one month.



Designers to revamp Banarasi handloom

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Varanasi: Reputed designers of the country will converge here on Tuesday in a bid to revive core Banarasi handloom products, including the famed saris.

Courtesy the ministry of textile and Banarasi Vastra Udyog Association (BVUA), they will interact with stakeholders of Banarasi handloom industry to chart a common course of action for the industry.

The event is the brainchild of designer-turned-BJP politician Shaina NC. "Creating design sensibility among local manufacturers is the basic objective behind this endeavour. They will display their designs woven by Banarasi artisans under Make in India campaign," she said.



The initiative is the brainchild of designer-turned-BJP politician Shaina NC

"In the long run, this will help in boosting the wages of handloom weavers and compel those who had migrated to other textile hubs like Surat, to return to their old form of weaving," she added.

Ashok Dhawan of BVUA said that direct interaction between designers and manufacturers will help in evolving a synergy in their working. "It will help both these groups in knowing what they expect from each other. Per-

haps it is the best way to revive the industry by focusing on improving its creativity and demand of products," Ashok Dhawan said.

Vaibhav Kapoor from BVUA said designers Tarun Tahiliani, Vikram Phadnis, Neeta Lulla, J J Valaya, Anamika Khanna, Lina Tipnis, Nachiket Barve, Kumar Vikas Saxena, Mark Robinson, Alka Nishar, Wendell Rodricks, Rakesh Thakore, David Abraham, Rohit Bal, Gaurva Gupta, Anju Modi, Sonika Agarwal, Rahul Mishra and Rajesh Pratap Singh have been confirmed for the event so far.

Union textile minister Santosh Gangwar and development commissioner (handloom) of Union ministry of textile Alok Kumar will also be present.

‘Cotton Corpn should target exports to cut inventory’

OUR BUREAU

Mumbai, June 8

The Cotton Corporation of India, the government body buying cotton at minimum support price from farmers, will be left with an inventory of 30 lakh bales (of 170 kg each) by September-end if it continues to offload cotton at a slow pace, said Dhiren N Sheth,

President, Cotton Association of India.

The huge inventory does not augur well for the new season that would begin in October and the government body would be forced undertake another massive operation to support prices, he said.

CCI procured about 87 lb in this season. It has been offering about

50,000 bales (of 170 kg each) on a daily basis on its e-auction platform. However, mills are buying only 80-90 per cent of the offering as the base price on the platform is on the higher side.

“Until now, CCI has not sold a single bale in the international market. In order to liquidate their stock, it is necessary for the CCI to

sell at least some cotton in the international market,” said Sheth.

The Association has reduced its crop estimated for the coming season (starting October) to 382.75 lb from its earlier forecast of 384.50 lb in April.

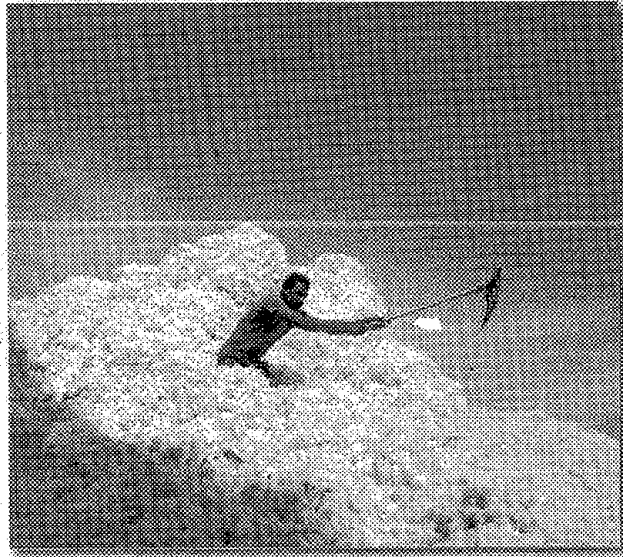
The current estimate foresees total supply of 453.65 lb and domestic consumption of 310 lb.

CAI estimates cotton output at 382.75 lakh bales

MUMBAI, PTI: The Cotton Association of India (CAI) on Monday estimated the May output of the crop at 382.75 lakh bales for the 2014-15 season (beginning from October 1, 2014).

The total cotton crop stood at 407.25 lakh bales (of 170 kg each) during 2013-14. The main reason for reduction in the crop estimate is untimely rain in the Central Zone that has affected the output.

Total crop in the central region in May is estimated at 204.50 lakh bales, compared with 235.75 lakh bales last year. The projected balance sheet drawn by the CAI for 2014-15 estimates total cotton supply at 453.65 lakh bales, while domestic consumption is estimated at 310 lakh bales, thus leaving an available surplus of 143.65 lakh bales.



CAI estimates cotton output

Cotton Association of India (CAI) on Monday estimated the May output of the crop at 382.75 lakh bales for the 2014-15 season (beginning from October 1, 2014).

DELHI GIRL WINS NIFT BEST GARMENT AWARD

Prakshi Agarwal from Delhi has bagged the National Institute of Fashion Technology's Best Garment Construction Award 2015. The award, sponsored by Usha International, has been organised since 2000 at various NIFT centres across the country. As a part of the prize Agarwal received a state-of-the-art Usha sewing machine and a cash award of ₹10,000. According to Harvinder Singh, Business



Head, Sewing Machines, Usha International, the company will continue to bring talent to the forefront by empowering students and by giving wings to their creativity.

CCI comes out with global tender for export of cotton to Bangladesh

Nanda Kasabe

Pune, June 8: Amid concerns among the industry that not enough cotton has been exported, the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has finally come out with its global tender for export of cotton to Bangladesh. CCI CMD BK Mishra expects a good response to the tender that has been floated by the corporation on its website.

The tender initially did not garner much response because of the price of 76-77 cents quoted by CCI. The working price for exporters is 68-70 cents since the rupee value has increased to 62.15 from 62.70 against the dollar. The CCI is now reworking its pricing strategy for international buyers and may soon bring it down to 70 cents, Mishra said.

According to Mishra, the earlier advertisement by CCI inviting buyers to register themselves for export to Bangladesh had garnered a good response and 8-10 exporters had registered themselves with CCI in addition to some of the domestic buyers who export as well. Bangladesh usually purchases around 55-60



Bangladesh purchases around 55-60 lakh bales of cotton from India annually

lakh bales of cotton from India. CCI chose Bangladesh since the logistics are better and are easier to manage either by the sea or roadways. China, the world's biggest buyer, is importing less of the fibre from this year which has affected Indian export.

China has been the largest importer of Indian cotton over the last three years. According to Mishra, the response from Bangladesh has been good and should this sale be successful, CCI has plans to tap Vietnam as well. CCI has been placing 50,000 bales on a daily basis on the board

for e-auction and around 80-90% of this has been picked up by mills.

The Cotton Advisory Board (CAB), a body comprising growers, traders, exporters and the textile industry, has projected exports at 90 lakh bales this season against 117.92 lakh bales last season.

The International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) has also forecast lower exports, though it sees domestic demand growing 4% year-on-year. CAB predicts domestic demand rising to 311 lakh bales against 298.88 lakh bales. Cotton Association of India (CAI) says the

CCI should be liquidating their stock faster than the current pace. If the CCI continue liquidating their stock at the current pace, they would be stuck with a stock of about 30 lakh bales at the end of the season. This augurs very badly for the new season as it will trigger off a massive support price operation in the new season also. This will result in a big hit to the cotton farmer.

Until now, CCI has not sold a single bale in the international market.

The Southern India Mills Association (SIMA) recently appealed to the Central government to consider industry's long-pending demand of restructuring the CAB by inducting major stakeholders of cotton so that better strategy and policy could be adopted by the CCI, said T Rajkumar, chairman, SIMA in a release here.

The CAB estimates 70 lakh bales will be exported during the current season. So far only around 45 lakh bales have been exported. The volume may not exceed 55 lakh bales as China has stopped its imports," he said.

Cotton Association cuts 2014-15 crop estimate

BS REPORTER

Ahmedabad, 8 June

The Cotton Association of India (CAI) has reduced its production estimate of cotton for the 2014-15 season to 38.27 million bales (of 170 kg each) from the previous estimate of 39 million bales released in March this year.

"The projected balance sheet drawn by the CAI for 2014-15 estimates total cotton supply at 45.36 million bales while domestic consumption is estimated at 31 million bales, thus leaving an available surplus of 14.36 million bales," said Dhiren Sheth, president, CAI. According to the Association, by the end of May, domestic mills consumption has reached 27.4 million bales against 26.66 million bales in the same period last year. Talking about monsoons, Sheth said: "Prediction of a below-normal rainfall is a cause of concern but not a cause of panic."

Meanwhile, CAI urged Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) to push sales internationally. "CCI should liquidate its stock faster. If the CCI continues to liquidate its stock at the current pace, it would be stuck with a stock of about three million bales at the end of the season."

This augurs badly for the new season as it will trigger a massive support price operation in the new season also. This will result in a big hit to the cotton farmer. Until now, the CCI has not sold a single bale in the international market. In order to liquidate its stock, the CCI should sell at least some cotton in the international market.

Textile makers face pressure of cheap Chinese import

Urges the govt to remove 12.5% tax on yarn

DILIP KUMAR JHA
Mumbai, 8 June

Indian textile manufacturers face the pressure of cheap import of synthetic yarn from China. They blame the 12.5 per cent excise levy on the product for not being able to compete in price, and have urged the government to remove it.

In the first 11 month of 2014-15, staple fibre import rose to \$197 million as compared to \$149 mn in the same period of 2013-14, showed data compiled by the Synthetic & Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC).

In the past two years, Chinese cost of manufacturing has gone up — wages, energy and financing. Consequently, their export share has gone down by 10-12 per cent. However, the capacity additions made in two years have resulted in excess availability of synthetic yarn

and fibre, says the industry here, alleging this being dumped in India.

“The only way forward, therefore, is to reduce excise duty on all synthetic textile raw materials and fabric, to enable Indian producers to grab the global opportunity vacated by China,” said Anil Rajvanshi, chairman of SRTEPC.

The Council says the 12.5 per cent levy makes us uncompetitive in global markets, too, with China’s vacated space taken by Bangladesh and Vietnam. Apart from fibres, filament and spun yarn import of \$825 million, India also imported synthetic fabric worth \$780 mn in 2014-15.

Filament yarn is woven directly for synthetic saris and other dress material, an item of mass consumption. Producers here are in the small, medium and large segments. “Rising import has resulted in about 30 per cent of looms closing in major producing centres like Surat. Thus, the industry needs urgent attention,” said a senior official from the sector.

इन दिनों स्टूडेंट्स एक तरफ जहां कॉलेजों के फॉर्म भरने में बिजी हैं, वहीं कैम्पस में अपना रंग जमाने के लिए वे स्टाइलिश ड्रेसेज से लेकर कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी और इंग्लिश और पर्सनैलिटी डिवेलपमेंट की क्लासेज भी ले रहे हैं :

फच्चा स्टाइल में रहने का...

■ अनु चौहान

स्कूल डेज खत्म, अब तो फच्चों को कॉलेज में मौज-मस्ती करनी है, लेकिन कॉलेज में पहले दिन टशन भी तो दिखाना है ताकि नए दोस्त बना सकें। इसलिए लड़के-लड़कियां इन दिनों अपनी पर्सनैलिटी पर कुछ ज्यादा ही ध्यान दे रहे हैं। कोई पर्सनैलिटी क्लास जॉइन कर रहा है, तो कोई इंग्लिश स्पीकिंग क्लास में बिजी हैं। यही नहीं, कॉलेज में दोस्तों के बीच अपने स्टाइल की वाहवाही भी तो सुननी है। इसी कारण कोई लेटेस्ट ट्रेंड की ड्रेसेज खरीद रहा है, तो कोई स्टाइलिश हेयर कट बनवा रहा है। डमेंटॉलजिस्ट अमित लुथरा कहते हैं कि आज बच्चे बहुत ज्यादा फैशन कॉन्शस हो गए हैं। कॉलेज में जाने से पहले अपने स्टाइल पर ही ध्यान नहीं देते हैं, बल्कि अपने मोबाइल कवर से लेकर उसकी एक्सेसरीज का भी पूरा खयाल रखने लगे हैं। वह कहते हैं कि इन दिनों लिप फिलर्स, बोटॉक्स और तिल रिमूव करने को लेकर बहुत सारी क्वेरीज आ रही हैं।

सोनाक्षी-आलिया की ड्रेस

सेलिब्रिटीज की ड्रेसेज इन दिनों यंगस्टर में बहुत हिट हैं, तभी तो कोई अक्षय कुमार जैसी जींस फर्स्ट डे कॉलेज में पहन कर जाना चाहता है, तो किसी को सोनाक्षी सिन्हा जैसी ड्रेस चाहिए। यही वजह है कि इन दिनों ऑनलाइन शॉपिंग में स्टार्स कॉपी की हुई ड्रेसेज बहुत ज्यादा खरीदी जा रही हैं। आलिया भट्ट, श्रद्धा कपूर, कंगना रनौत और दीपिका पादुकोण की ड्रेसेज इन दिनों खूब सेलिंग में हैं। रिद्धि शर्मा डीयू में एडमिशन लेने की तैयारी में बिजी हैं। मार्क्स तो उनके अच्छे आए हैं, लेकिन वह चाहती हैं कि



कॉलेज में फर्स्ट डे स्टूडेंट्स के बीच उसका टशन जम जाए। यही वजह है कि उसने पूरा वाइरोब चेंज करने का प्लान बनाया है। फैशन डिजाइनर एम.ए. रहमान कहते हैं कि स्टूडेंट्स अब स्मार्ट हो गए हैं और वह अपना स्टाइल खुद क्रिएट करने पर बिलीव रखते हैं। उनके पास ऐसे बहुत से लड़के-लड़कियां आ रहे हैं, जो फोटोज लेकर आते हैं और उस जैसी ड्रेस

बनवाना पसंद करते हैं।

फिलर्स और बोटॉक्स

दोस्त बनाने हैं, तो चार्मिंग होना भी जरूरी है। गुड लुकिंग दिखने के लिए लड़के-लड़कियां कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी को प्रिफरेंस दे रहे हैं। डमेंटॉलजिस्ट अमित कहते हैं कि कॉलेज गोंग स्टूडेंट्स अपने गुड लुक्स के लिए टेपेरी सर्जरी करवा



इंग्लिश-विंग्लिश

कॉलेज में नए फ्रेंड बनाने को लेकर हर कोई एक्साइटेड होता है। जाहिर है आपकी अच्छी पर्सनैलिटी होगी तो हर कोई आपसे दोस्ती करना चाहेगा। यही वजह है कि स्टूडेंट कॉलेज में एडमिशन लेने से पहले इंग्लिश स्पीकिंग और पर्सनैलिटी डिवेलपमेंट की क्लास अटेंड कर रहे हैं। वैभव सिंह कहते हैं कि पर्सनैलिटी अच्छी होगी तो लड़कियां भी आसानी से दोस्त बन जाती हैं। इसी कारण उन्होंने पर्सनैलिटी डिवेलपमेंट की क्लास जॉइन की है।

रहे हैं। लड़कियां सबसे ज्यादा बोटॉक्स इंजेक्शन ले रही हैं। फेस से रिकल हटाने के लिए यह किया जा रहा है। एक इंजेक्शन की कॉस्ट 500 से 1000 रुपये है और इसका इफेक्ट करीब एक महीने तक रहता है। वहीं, फेस पर से तिल भी कई लड़कियां रिमूव करवा रही हैं, ताकि फेस क्लीन दिखाई दे। इसके लिए वह 5 से 10 हजार रुपये तक खर्च कर रही हैं।