

Cotton arrivals down 9%

New Delhi, April 3

Cotton arrivals have declined by almost 9 per cent to 26.02 million bales (of 170 kg each) till April 1 in the current marketing year despite a record output of the natural fibre. The arrivals stood at 28.49 million bales in the same period a year ago. Cotton-marketing year runs from October to September. "The per-day arrivals are reported around 1.20 lakh bales," Cotton Corporation of India said. India, the world's second-largest cotton producer, is expected to produce 34 million bales of the natural fibre in the 2011-12 crop year (July-June). According to the Cotton Advisory Board (CAB), the total consumption of the natural fibre in the country is estimated at 26 million bales in the 2011-12 cotton season against 26.7 million bales in the last season. The total availability is pegged at 39.93 million bales in the current season against 38.45 million bales in the 2010-11 cotton season. — PTI