

Cautious buying on cotton market

MULTAN: Buyers and sellers continued to stay away from the cotton market on Thursday as coronavirus outbreak pulled down trade activities locally and internationally.

The Karachi Cotton Association kept its spot rate unchanged at Rs9,000.

Cotton analyst Naseem Usman noted that though trade activity was slow, prices were firm as only a limited quantity of unsold stocks is there. "Due to the closure of border with Afghanistan and extension in GSP+ status, there will be more demand for cotton," he added.

Uncertainty will prevail until the situation in international market is not normal, Usman said.

Cotton expert Syed Muddabir Shah said another reason keeping prices firm is the decline in rupee against the dollar. The following deals were reported to have transpired on ready counter: 600 bales, Khanpur, at Rs9,000 and at Rs8,900 (400 bales and 200 bales respectively); 200 bales, Ghotki, at Rs9,000; 200 bales, Liaqautpur, at Rs9,000; 600 bales, Rahim Yar Khan, at Rs8,900; 200 bales, Alipur, at Rs8,750; 400 bales, Sadiqabad, at Rs8,875, and 195 bales, Vehari, at Rs8,200.