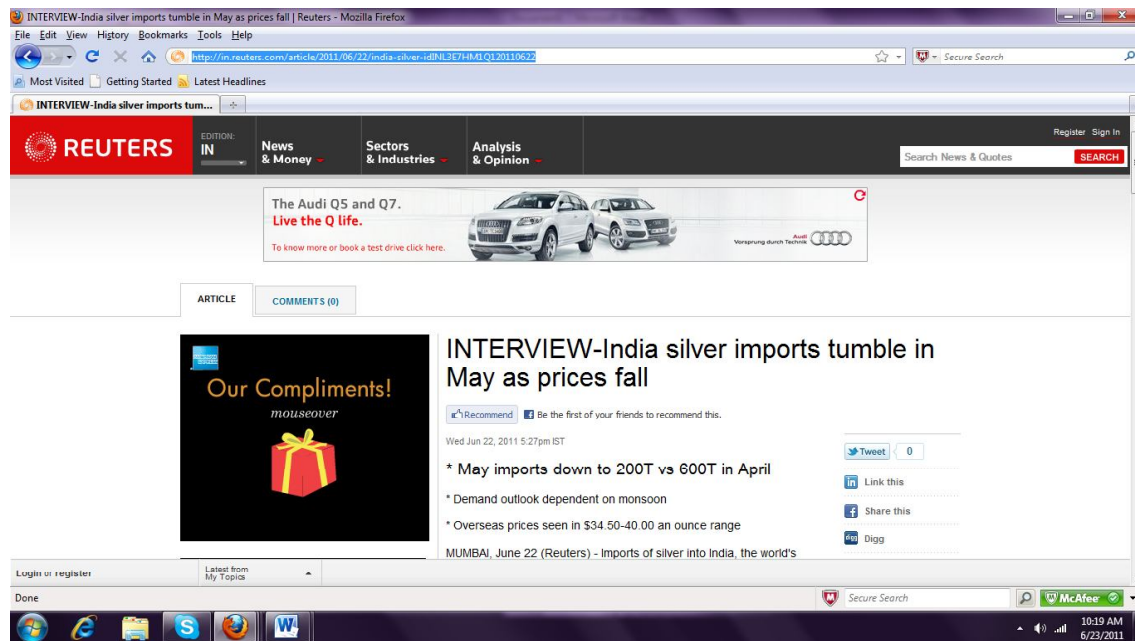


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Link: <http://in.reuters.com/article/2011/06/22/india-silver-idINL3E7HM1Q120110622>

Date: 22nd June, 2011

Coverage Page:



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Reuters website. The article title is "INTERVIEW-India silver imports tumble in May as prices fall". The date and time are "Wed Jun 22, 2011 5:27pm IST". The article content includes three bullet points: "* May imports down to 200T vs 600T in April", "* Demand outlook dependent on monsoon", and "* Overseas prices seen in \$34.50-40.00 an ounce range". The article is attributed to "MUMBAI, June 22 (Reuters) - Imports of silver into India, the world's". There is also a "Our Compliments! mouseover" graphic with a gift icon.

Coverage:



INTERVIEW-India silver imports tumble in May as prices fall

Wed Jun 22, 2011 5:27pm IST

- * May imports down to 200T vs 600T in April
- * Demand outlook dependent on monsoon
- * Overseas prices seen in \$34.50-40.00 an ounce range

MUMBAI, June 22 (Reuters) - Imports of silver into India, the world's biggest buyer, in May tumbled by a third to 200 tonnes from April as buying interest

tapered off after prices declined 20 percent, a trade body head told Reuters on Wednesday.

"There are no buyers now, buying was absent from second week of May.... Much will depend on the monsoon rains," said Prithviraj Kothari, president of the Bombay Bullion Association, adding June and July are generally slack for the precious metals business.

Kothari estimates India's import last year at 2,600 tonnes. June to September monsoon rains are crucial for India's agrarian economy, which feeds the important summer-sown or kharif crops. A good monsoon boosts farm output and farmer's disposable income.

India's weather office had on Tuesday revised downward its forecast for 2011/12 monsoon to just below normal. The India Meteorological Department, however, said the rains could pick up after July 15, during the key planting month for rice, sugar cane and corn. Kothari said many investors have not cashed out on silver as they were looking at a two-year investment horizon.

He added refiners that were running overtime in April to meet burgeoning investment demand for bars and coins have slashed 70-80 percent capacity in May. "There is no scrap either..." Kothari told in an interview.

PRICES IN RANGE

Prices of silver overseas in May tumbled 20 percent from the highest level in decades in April as investors continued to liquidate bullish bets on the white metal. International silver was trading at \$35.99/36.04 an ounce, much lower from the multi peak of \$49.51 hit on April 28. On Wednesday, silver for July delivery MSVc1 on India's Multi Commodity Exchange was at 53,910 rupees per kg down 27 percent from its peak of 73,600 rupees in late April.

Overseas prices may trade in the range of \$34.50-40.00 an ounce said Kothari. Prices of local silver may oscillate in the range of 52,000-60,000 rupees per kg. (Reporting by Siddesh Mayenkar; Editing by Rajesh Pandathil)