

estimated at six million tonnes.³

Table III: Estimated Consumption By 2000
(Units x 1000 tonnes)

Item	Average Estimated Consumption
Printing and writing paper	2726
Newsprint	1014.5
Industrial paper	1023.5
Paper Board	859.5

Source: Pulp and Paper International

Newsprint

India has always been a net importer of newsprint. Newsprint was formerly canalised through the State Trading Corporation (STC), the sole canalising agency. Canada had a long history of selling newsprint to STC from traditional suppliers such as Abitibi-Price, Canadian Pacific Forest Products Ltd., Daishowa Forest Products Ltd., Export Sales Co. Ltd., Quebec & Ontario Paper Co. Ltd., and Stone-Consolidated Inc.

In 1991, India began decanalising the imports of newsprint, allowing individual newspapers to import newsprint themselves. Further eliminations in prohibitive trade practices and reductions on import duties have opened the Indian market. Until recently Indian mills have not had to concern themselves with efficiency, holding down costs, or improving quality. With decanalisation this has changed.

Table IV: Indian Newsprint Capacity

Capacity (in tonnes)	1993	1994	1995
Annual Capacity	320,000	360,000	5,00,000
Production	300,000	350,000	4,20,000
Domestic Deliveries	300,000	350,000	4,20,000
Total Imports	310,000	290,000	2,40,000
Total Exports	-	-	-
Apparent Consumption (3 + 4)	610,000	640,000	6,60,000

Source: Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.