

# Oilmeal Weekly Research Report

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## Executive Summary

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Soybean, meal and rapeseed-mustard posted gains in tandem on supportive buying by the stockists and the solvent extractors in cash market.

The soybean crushers are interested in meeting their soy meal exports commitment as the meal exports have much improved in recent months compared to the same period last year.

But the slack in domestic meal demand, cheap soy oil imports and weakness in international soybean remained bearish for domestic soy market.

Soy meal exports are better in March too and we expect them to be higher above 500% compared to the same period last year. Competitive exports prices in meal remained attractive for the foreign buyers. But the appreciation of Indian Rupee against US dollar is expected hurt the competitiveness of soy meal export prices - Indian origin.

Rapeseed-mustard supplies are increasing week-on-week on harvesting in the key growing states. The all India supplies have reached above 6 lakh bags a day and we feel the arrivals will increase further in due course.

The rapeseed-mustard is to witness further fall on rising new crop supplies and higher production estimate this season. Besides, soybean and meal will continue to reel under supply pressure in near-term.

## Outlook – Cash Market

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**Outlook - Soybean (Spot, Indore):** The soybean prices featured some gains on supportive buying by the processors, but limited demand capped the gains. Higher domestic soybean production this season, weak record global soybean production continued to be pressurizing factor for the domestic soybean. However, better soy meal exports will lend some support in coming days. The prices are expected to feature range bound movement between the price band of 2,950 – 3,100 level (Indore, Plant basis).

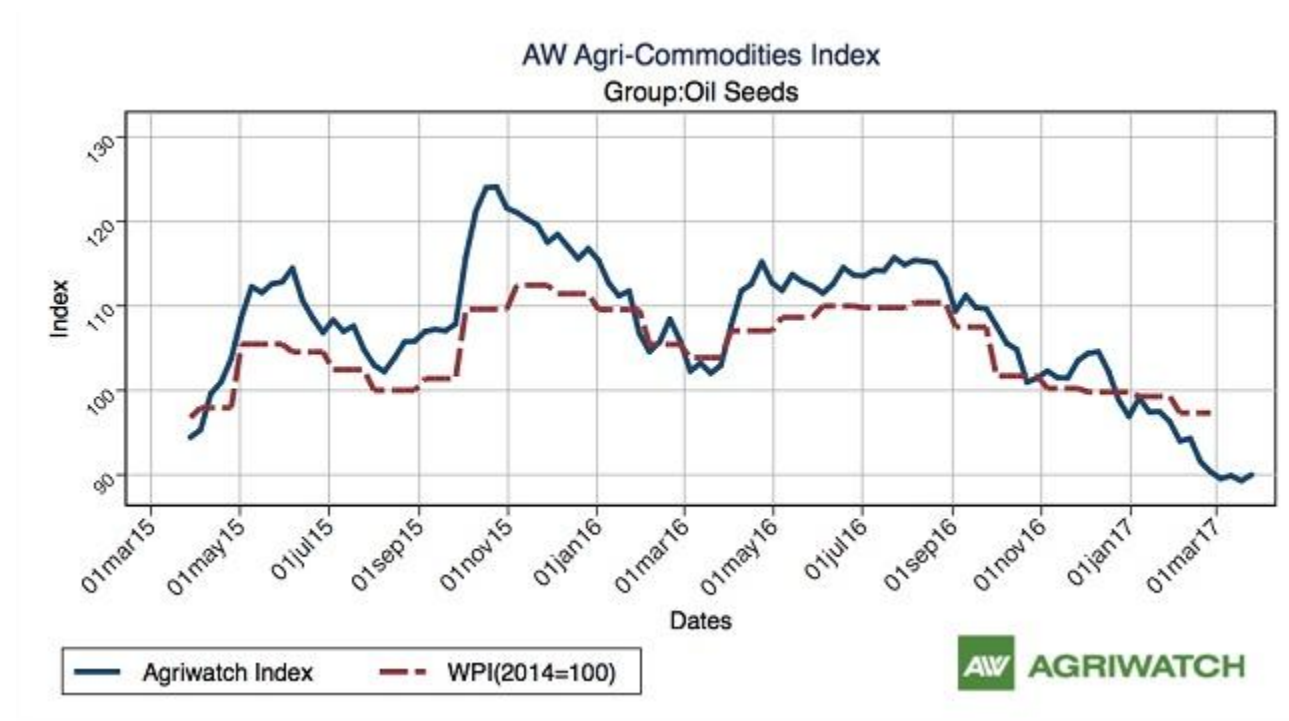
**Outlook – Soy meal:** Soy meal prices too witnessed gains on better exports but appreciation in INR against USD remained limiting factor.. Expectation of higher crushing on good soybean production continues to be a pressurizing factor for the domestic soy meal. Indian meal exporters are advised to explore new markets and aggressively try to regain the lost markets of peak exports season especially traditional South and Far-East Asian destinations including Japan in the upcoming season. The domestic meal prices are likely to remain under new crop supply pressure and feature range bound movement in near-term. However improved overseas demand in meal will lend some support to the prices. Soy meal, Indore is expected to be in the range of 24,000 – 24,500/MT levels during the week.

**Outlook - Rapeseed-Mustard (Spot, Jaipur basis):** The rapeseed-mustard rebound on fresh buying activity by the stockists and the solvent extractors during the week in review. Higher seed production after increase in the area under rapeseed this season will limit the gains. The seed prices are likely to feature weakness and witness the levels between 4050 – 4150/Qtl; levels during the week.

## AW Oilseeds Index – 25 March 2017

The Agriwatch Agri Commodities Index rose 0.74% to 110.34 during the week ended March 25, 2017 from 109.53 during the previous week led by higher cereals and pulses. The base for the Index and all sub-Indices is 2014 (= 100).

In the commodity group sub-index, Oilseeds Index stood at 90.01 (+0.80%) week-on-week.



"Agriwatch has recently launched its AW Agri Commodity Indices to enable organizations access independent Indices to track and use to benchmark their purchases and sales. The Indices are based on the daily prices in the key benchmark markets for each commodity that AW has been covering for the past decade. The indices include an Aggregate Index, Category Indices and individual commodity indices. The weekly indices are free to access on our website [www.agriwatch.com](http://www.agriwatch.com). The daily indices are available on subscription. Please contact for more details."

## International Highlights

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- ❖ Brazil's 2016/17 soybean production is projected at 104.6 million tonnes against 101.7 million tonnes projected in December by Abiove.
- ❖ Abiove has estimated Brazil's 2017 soy exports at 58.7 million tonnes compared to 58 million projected in December.
- ❖ Brazil had exported 51.58 million tonnes of soybean in 2016 up from Abiove's December estimate of 51.7 million tonnes.
- ❖ Rosario grains exchange has raised Argentina's 2016/17 soybean crop production estimate at 54.5 million tonnes up from its previous estimate of 52.9 million tonnes on improved yield potential, which has offset the decline in the planted area this season.
- ❖ Agroconsult has raised Brazil's 2016/17 soybean production estimate up to 105.3 million tonnes compared to 104.4 million predicted in early January.
- ❖ Safras and Mercado have projected its Brazil's 2016/17 soybean production estimated at record 107.1 million tonnes up 10.2% from previous season.
- ❖ The rise in production is attributed to favorable weather which has boosted the yield potential mainly in Midwest and Southeast.
- ❖ In the monthly report Informa has raised Brazil's 2016/17 soybean to 106.5 million tonnes, up 105 million in its previous estimate.
- ❖ It has kept the Argentina's 2016/17 soybean production unchanged at 55.0 million tonnes.
- ❖ The Rosario Grain Exchange has slashed Argentina's soybean production forecast to 52.9 million tonnes from its earlier forecast of 54.4 million tonnes.
- ❖ Global soybean outturn in 2016/17 is seen at 334 million tonnes, down from a previous projection of 336 million but still a record high, reported in IGC.
- ❖ This is after the rise in US 2017 corn planting projections to 90.489 million acres from 90.151 million acres in the previous month.
- ❖ Brazil's 2015/16 soybean production stood at 95.4 million tonnes, when the production was hit due to the dry weather conditions.

- ❖ Brazil's 2015/16 soybean production fell due to the unfavorable weather condition and the country could harvest only 96.3 million tonnes of soybean.
- ❖ Rosario Grains Exchange has raised its Argentina's 2016/17 soybean production estimate to 54.5 million tonnes up from its previous forecast of 52.9 million citing higher yield potential.
- ❖ Argentina is forecast to harvest 54.8 million tonnes of soybean in 2016/17, said Buenos Aires Grains Exchange. The agency has raised the figure from its previous forecast of 53.5 million tonnes on improved weather in the country.
- ❖ Argentina's 2016/17 soybean production is expected to stand at 56 million tonnes against 58.8 million tonnes produced in 2015/16, said agriculture ministry.
- ❖ World exports of soybean were boosted by 23 million tonnes in the past 24 months. Soybean shipments of 5 top producing countries surged by 1.4 million tonnes in January'17, said Oil World.
- ❖ Chinese soybean imports for Jan/Mar. 2017 are expected to be up by 3.0 million tonnes from the corresponding period last year, reports Oil World.
- ❖ China's total soybean imports in 2016 stood at 83.9 million tonnes which is up 2.7% from 2015. This was the smallest growth registered in years due to slowdown in China's economy and rise in country's own soybean production and sales from state inventories.
- ❖ Buenos Aires Grain Exchange has lowered Argentina's 2016/17 soybean planting estimate to 19.3 million hectares from its previous forecast of 19.6 million. Fall in area is attributed to the dry weather in Southeast Buenos Aires province. Argentina's 2015/16 area under soybean was reported at 20.1 million hectares
- ❖ China is estimated to import 86 million tonnes of soybean in 2016/17 season, which will be highest ever.
- ❖ Brazil's soy group Abiove has projected country's soybean exports at 58 million tonnes of soybean in 2017.
- ❖ The group has estimated 2 million tonnes of additional soy meal production from March 2017 on biodiesel blend.
- ❖ It has projected Brazil's 2016/17 soybean crop at 101.7 million tonnes and 41 million tonnes of soybean crush in 2017.
- ❖ China's 2016/17 soybean imports growth are expected to slow down on higher State reserve or inventories and increase in China's soybean production this season.

- ❖ China's soybean production is up 13% to 13.1 million tonnes, highest in last 5 years, reported by China National Grain and Oils Information Center (CNGOIC).
- ❖ China's soybean imports slowed down due to its higher state soy inventories.
- ❖ Paraguay's soybean production is forecast up at 8.6 million tonnes compared to 6.4 million tonnes last season.

## Sown Area – *Rabi* Oilseeds, India

In the official Rabi oilseeds planting report, by the Ministry of Agriculture, the total coverage area under Rabi oilseeds is reported at 84.35 lakh hectares, up 6.2% from 79.42 lakh ha in the corresponding period of last year. Of the major oilseeds, rapeseed-mustard sowing is reported up by 9.3% at 70.56 lha compared to 64.53 lha during the corresponding period of last year. Groundnut at 6.16 lha vs 5.96 lha, safflower at 0.95 lha vs 1.17 lha, sunflower at 1.69 lha vs 3.21 lha, sesamum 0.57 vs 0.71 and Linseed at 3.84 lha vs 2.93 lha during the same period last year.

Area in Lakh Hectares

<b>Crop</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Rapeseed/Mustard	70.56	64.53	<b>9.3</b>
Groundnut	6.16	5.96	<b>3.4</b>
Safflower	0.95	1.17	<b>-18.8</b>
Sunflower	1.69	3.21	<b>-47.4</b>
Sesamum	0.57	0.71	<b>-19.7</b>
Linseed	3.84	2.93	<b>31.1</b>
Others	0.58	0.91	<b>-36.3</b>
<b>Total Oilseeds</b>	<b>84.35</b>	<b>79.42</b>	<b>6.2</b>

Source: MoA, GOI



## Soybean

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The domestic soybean edged-up on supportive buying and falling supplies in the cash market during the period under review.

However, we are skeptical towards the gain as the Indian Rupee against the US Dollar has rendered noncompetitiveness in soy meal exports from India, making the exports dearer for foreign buyers. Indian Rupee appreciated by more than 4% in 2017.

Besides, higher domestic soybean production subsequently higher soy meal production outlook may again pressure the bean market. Slack in domestic soy meal offtake due to weak poultry demand and cheap soy oil imports too remained limiting factor.

The bean supplies have fallen week-on-week. Currently, about 30,000 – 75,000 bags of soybean are arriving in cash markets of Madhya Pradesh against 25,000 – 32,000 bags during the corresponding period last year.

The crushers are still not eager to quote higher for the bean in a bid to keep the meal prices attractive for the foreign buyers and keep the exports window open for some more time.

Currently, the bean prices are around the levels where they were at the time of harvest in October.

The rabi oilseeds has gained momentum and the oilseeds production is forecast to be higher.

***The major buyers in Madhya Pradesh are as follows: Amrit Mandsaur, Ambika Joara, Agrawal Soy Dewas, Agrawal Neemuch, Adani, Agro Sol. Datia, Avi Agro, Bansal, Bajrang, Betul Oil, Dhanuka, Divya Jyoti, G. Ambuja, Itarsi, Indian Soya, Khandwa, Khyati, Kriti, K.P. Newari, Mahakali, M.S. Neemuch, Prakash, Oyster Exim, Prestige, Ruchi, Rama, RH Solvex, SSA Mandideep, Shanti Overseas, Sawariya Itarsi, Sitashri, Vippy (10-2-2 specification) for Dewas and Mandsaur delivery during the week.***

### Previous Update

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Higher soybean supplies mean increase in crushing and eventually availability of more soy meal, which if not exported in time will lead to huge disparity in crushing.

India's domestic soy meal consumption is around 5 million tonnes and the production is expected to be 8 million tonnes, the surplus 3 million needs to be exported for the good crush market during the season.

The lower soy meal prices have increased the exports prospects which is expected to recover this season, after 3-years of weak soy meal exports of Indian origin. The oilseeds processors want the meal prices to be lower so that the soy meal exports window remains open for some more time, especially when India has produced higher soybean this season.

The soybean supplies continued to be higher not only in Madhya Pradesh but also in the key cash markets of Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

***The domestic soybean prices are likely to feature range-bound movement with firm bias on fresh buying by the solvent extractors and stockists. However, higher soybean production this season, weak soy meal export sales will limit the gains in soybean in near-term.***

### International:

The benchmark CBOT soybean extended losses on ongoing soybean harvest in South America and forecast of higher US soybean planting in 2017 by various agencies in recent weeks.

The CBOT soybean continued downtrend and the most active May contract witnessed the soybean prices at US \$ 9.75/bushel compared to US \$ 10.0/bushel last week.

There is a concern that US soybean exports will ease in coming weeks with the increase in South American supplies on peak season.

Brazil's 2016/17 soybean harvest have reached 68% compared to 67% during the corresponding period last year and 62% from the previous week.

Further, the harvesting in Mato Grosso and do Sul is nearing completion.

Agroconsult has raised Brazil's 2016/17 soybean production by around 3 million tonnes to 111 million tonnes, highest by any agency.

The agency had estimated country's production at 107.8 million tonnes in its previous projection made in February.

Brazil's 2016/17 soybean crop production is estimated up at 107.3 million tonnes compared to 104.6 million tonnes projected in February by Abiove.

Brazil's 2017 soy shipments are projected at 59.8 million tonnes up from 58.7 million tonnes estimated in February.

China's soybean imports are diminishing with slowdown in demand growth consecutive for 3 years and if the USDA's Beijing attaché report proves to be true for 2017/18 it would be fourth year in declining the rate of the growth.

According to the attaché China is expected to import 89 million tonnes of soybean in 2017/18, a nominal growth from 86 million tonnes projected by the attaché for the current year.

The Ministry of Agroindustry has slightly slashed Argentina's 2016/17 soybean area to 19.42 million hectares from 19.45 million projected in the previous estimated.

Argentina's soybean harvesting has just commenced and the Buenos Aires Grains Exchange has projected country's 2016/17 soybean production at 56.5 million tonnes which is up from its previous forecast of 54.8 million.

EU soybean imports fell 7% by 21 March 2016/17 and registered imports of 9.3 million tonnes from 10.0 million tonnes during the corresponding period last season.

EU soy meal imports during Jul. – Jun. 2016/17 season stood at 12.5 million tonnes, down 17% from 15.2 million tonnes during the corresponding period last year.

Paraguay's 2016/17 soybean crop is projected more than 10 million tonnes, said the Agriculture Minister Juan Carlos Baruja.

Paraguay is world's No.4 soybean exporter.

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**Previous updates:**

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National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA) reported that its members have processed 142.79 million bushels during February, down from 146.181 million bushels during the corresponding period last year and also down from 160.621 million bushels in January 2017.

US soy meal shipments in February stood at 73,8825 tons up from 68,6999 tons during the corresponding period last year but down from 89,1143 tons in January 2017.

The US soyoil inventories of February 28 surged to 1.770 billion lbs from 1.792 billion lbs in February 2017 and also from from 1.655 billion lbs at the end of January.

Allendale has projected US 2017 soybean seeding up to 88.825 million acres from 83.433 million in 2016. The diversion is from corn acreage which is estimated lower to 90.018 million acres in 2017 from 94.004 million in 2016. The agency has also reduced the wheat planting area.

If realized, Allendale's forecast for US soybean acreage would be highest on record.

Informa too has raised the US 2017 soybean planting projection to 88.7 million acres from 88.647 million acres estimated in January.

The agency has projected the US 2017/18 soybean production at 4.22 billion bushels with an average yield of 48.0 bushels per acre.

Rosario Stock Exchange has raised its Argentina's 2016/17 soybean production estimate at record 56 million tonnes up from 54.5 million tonnes projected in January.

USDA in its monthly demand and supply report projected Brazil's 2016/17 soybean production to a record 108 million tonnes up from 104 million estimated in its February report.

Almost all the international agriculture consulting agencies have raised their Brazil's soybean production estimate which varies from 104 million tonnes to 109 million tonnes.

Conab has once again raised Brazil's 2016/17 soybean crop production estimate 107.6 million tonnes which is up 2 million tonnes from its previous estimate in February 2017.

The agency has projected Brazil's 2016/17 soybean exports at 59 million tonnes compared to 51.5 million tonnes in previous estimates.

INTL FCStone have raised Brazil's 2016/17 soybean crop production estimate by 5 million tonnes to 109.7 million tonnes from its previous estimate and about 15 million tonnes from its previous season's estimate.

The raise is attributed to higher yield potential on favourable weather.

Brazil's 2016/17 soybean production is projected at 109.65 million tonnes compared to 105.02 million tonnes in February by Celeres.

Besides, FC Stone has also increased the Brazil's 2016/17 soybean production estimate at 109.07 million tonnes, up by 15 million compared to the previous season. Record output yield potential this season is attributed to the rise in the production estimate.

AgRural has also raised the Brazil's 2016/17 soybean crop production estimate at 107 million tonnes against 105.4 million projected in February.

Besides, Buenos Aires Grains Exchange its Argentina's 2016/17 harvest estimate steady at 54.8 million tonnes.

China's February soybean imports surged by 23% year-on-year to 5.54 million tonnes it is the highest volume since the year 2010, according to the figures released by the General Administration of Customs of China.

However, the imports are 28% lower from 7.66 million tonnes in January this year.

China's cumulative soybean imports for January and February 2017 stood at 13.19 million tonnes, up 30% (10.17 million tonnes) from the corresponding period last year.

China, the world's largest soybean buyer, is now expected to import 87 million tonnes this year, up from the 86 million that USDA issued last month. This is an all-time high for the country, which imported 83.23 million tonnes of soybeans last year.

USDA has projected China's 2016/17 soybean imports to 87 million tonnes in the monthly demand and supply report which is up from 86 million estimated in February report.

The import volume is all-time high for China which imported 83.23 million tonnes in 2015/16.

Chinese agribusiness group New Hope and Cargill are jointly installing soybean crushing unit in the China's Hebei province with a daily crush capacity of 50,000 tonnes.

Brazil's 2016/17 soybean crop production is forecast at 105 million tonnes which is up from 95.4 million tonnes estimated in 2015/16 by Oil World.

Brazil is expected to export around 52.3 million tonnes during February/August 2017 against 47.8 million tonnes in the corresponding period last year.

Informa Economics has also raised its Brazil's 2016/17 soybean production estimate to 108 million tonnes from 106.5 million tonnes projected previously.

Informa has projected Argentina's 2016/17 soybean crop at 55.0 million tonnes.

US 2017 soybean seeding is seen up at 88 million acres compared to 83.4 million in 2016 while corn area is reduced to 90 million acres from 94 million in 2016, projected by USDA.

*The international soybean prices are expected to feature range bound movement on record global supply scenario.*

## Soy meal

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The domestic soy meal prices posted gains in association of soybean and rapeseed-mustard during the week in review.

Better overseas demand in meal in recent months on competitive price remained supportive for domestic meal prices.

However, overall the meal prices are weak and the domestic demand is dull for the same on slack in poultry demand.

India's soy meal exports have made commendable gains right from the beginning of new marketing season (Oct. – Sept.), which remained weak in more three seasons.

But appreciation of INR against USD, by more than 4% in 2017, this will eventually pressure the domestic prices to keep them competitive in coming days.

Despite strength in INR against USD, India's soy meal exporters continued to keep the meal prices attractive for the foreign buyers, this is in a bid to keep the exports window open and compete with the South American meal prices.

Soy meal fell in international market, during the week, the May CBOT soy meal settled at US \$ 318.2 per short ton compared to US \$ 328.9 per short ton last week.

India's soy meal shipments have significantly improved this season after sluggish exports in last 3 seasons.

As expected, India's soy meal exports are up y-o-y. In February'17 soy meal exports surged 594% after it registered a gain of 446% in January 2017.

We feel the March exports figure will be higher by more than 500% compared to the same period last year.

India's meal exports are expected to ease once the new crop crushing and exports picks up the pace in Argentina and Brazil.

Brazil's soybean crop harvesting is underway and it has gained momentum in recent days, but disruption in logistics due to heavy rains has hit the soy exports in recent days.

It remained supportive for India's soy meal exports. Argentina's soybean harvesting is expected to commence in a couple of weeks.

The domestic soy meal prices at Indore, were quoted at Rs 23,500 – 24,000/MT compared to Rs 23,000 – 23,300/MT compared to previous week.

At Latur and Nanded, Maharashtra, soy meal witnessed steady to weak tone and were quoted at Rs 25,300/MT and 23,800/MT respectively compared to Rs 24,000/MT in Indore and Rs 24,400/MT in Kota.

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#### **Previous Updates**

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India is expected to produce 8 million tonnes of soy meal this season. Out of which 5 million tonnes will be consumed domestically but another 3 million must be shipped overseas, failing which, the disparity on crushing soybean will increase.

India's forward booking for soy meal are better than the corresponding period last year, further sharp fall in the export prices in recent weeks in soy meal have made the imports from India lucrative.

The meal prices are unlikely to post sharp gains to keep the exports window open at least for the period when India's soybean crushing is at a higher pace for first 4 - 5 months (Oct-Feb) of the new marketing season.

Higher domestic soybean production in 2016/17 will eventually increase the soybean crushing which will further increase the availability in soy meal this season.

We expect India's soy meal exports to recover slightly in the new season with higher 2016/17 soybean production leading to higher crushing eventually increasing the meal supplies.

India's 2016/17 soy meal exports are expected to witness 3 year high and expected to jump 2 million tonnes from 2,61,051 exported last year, stated industry officials.

The exporters have contracted to ship around 500,000 tonnes soy meal for December-March delivery.

However, currently the domestic soy meal demand is sluggish due to weak demand from poultry owing to fall in poultry demand after demonetization.

***India's soy meal and its other value added products (HS Code 2304) during February 2017 is 2,07,977 tons compared to 29,951 tons in February 2016 showing an increase of 594.40% over the same period of last year.***

***On a financial year basis, the export during April'2016 to February'2017 is 8,09,271 tons as compared to 3,60,652 tons in the same period of previous year showing an increase of 124.39%.***

***During current Oil year, (October – September), total exports during October 2016 to February 2017 is 7,33,539 tons as against 1,59,124 tons last year, showing an increase by 360.98%, showing an increase by 306.86%, as reported by SOPA.***

***France (81688.38 Tonnes), Bangladesh (53900 Tonnes), Japan (32905 Tonnes), Vietnam (22436.575 Tonnes) and Oman (4070.515 Tonnes) remained the top buyers of the soy meal of Indian origin during the month of February 2017.***

Recovery in exports is primarily due to drastic fall in the Indian soy meal prices making it price competitive to South America.

*Indian meal prices need to be highly competitive against the South American and China's meal prices to regain the lost markets it lost in previous seasons.*

*Preference of the soy meal of Indian origin mainly by the South-East countries due to logistic and freight advantage and demand for non-GMO meal has lost the ground owing to much higher soy meal price of Indian origin compared to the South American meal. Iran, Japan, Europe, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and South Korea were the major destinations for Indian soy meal exports, whose demand shifted to South America.*

India's Y-o-Y soy meal prices, Indore, are currently lower. Soy meal Indore was quoted lower between Rs 23,500 – 24,000/MT during the week compared to Rs 33,200 – 34,000/MT during the corresponding period last year.

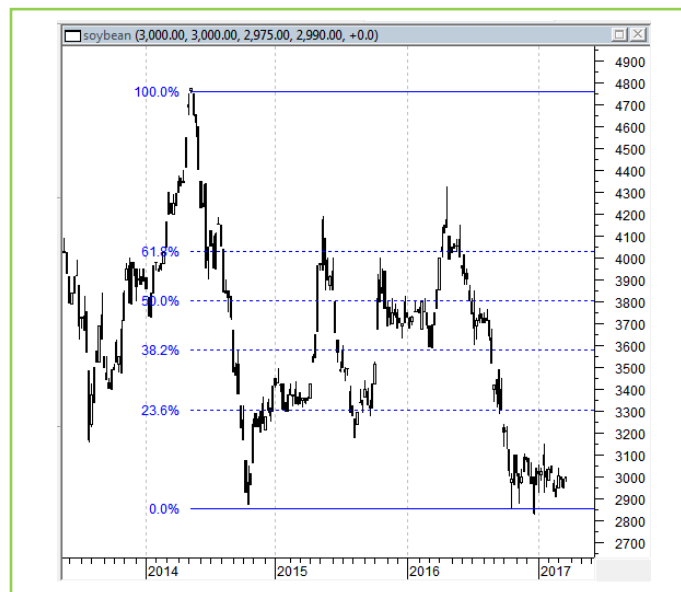
*The soy meal prices are likely to feature range-bound movement with firm-bias on likely fresh buying by the poultry and feed manufacturing industry. However, higher domestic and international soybean production will limit the gains market, in near-term.*

### Technical Analysis:

#### NCDEX Soybean Futures



#### Soybean Spot, Indore



\*Note: Daily Chart

#### Support & Resistance NCDEX Soybean – Apr. contract

S1	S2	PCP	R1	R2
2700	2650	2888	3040	3141

- Soybean ended slightly higher than previous week's close.
- Prices closed below 18-day EMA.
- RSI and stochastic are rising in the neutral zone.
- MACD is rising in the negative territory.
- The prices are expected to feature losses in the coming week too.
- Trade Recommendation (NCDEX Soybean – Apr.) Week: **SELL** Below 2988. Levels: T1 – 2888; T2- 2838, SL - 3045.



## Rapeseed - Mustard Seed

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The domestic rapeseed-mustard continued uptrend on strong demand for the new crop seed from oilseeds processors and stockists.

The seed prices surged by 7.5% in a fortnight while the all-India seed supplies went up by 18%.

Oilseed crushers are keen in buying the seed at the current prices to cover their stock and meet the future demand mustard oil demand.

The new crop seed is quoted around Rs 3,960 – 4,105 a quintal compared to Rs 3,985 – 4,105 a quintal during the corresponding period last year at the benchmark, Jaipur.

At NCDEX futures, the April contract has improved and the seed is trading around 3955/Qtl compared to 3840/Qtl previous week.

The all India seed supplies were reported at 5.10 – 6.05 lakh bags in a day compared to around 2.25 – 5.25 bags a day, previous week. The supplies were 2.50 – 6.80 lakh bags a day during the corresponding period last year.

The seed harvesting is in progress in the key producing states of Rajasthan, UP and Madhya Pradesh. The yield of the seed is projected to be higher, at around 1000kg/ha, on the favourable weather.

India's edible oil imports once again registered a m-o-m surge consistently falling in recent months.

India's February edible oil imports rose 15.9 percent y-o-y to 12.4 lakh tons from 10.66 lakh tons in February 2016. Palm oil imports rose 23.5 percent y-o-y to 7.35 lakh tons from 5.95 lakh tons in February 2016. CPO Imports rose 22 percent y-o-y to 4.98 lakh tons from 4.08 lakh tons in February 2016.

RBD palmolein imports rose 30.9 percent y-o-y to 2.33 lakh tons from 1.78 lakh tons in February 2016. Soy oil imports fell 31 percent y-o-y to 2.52 lakh tons from 3.66 lakh tons in February 2016. Sunflower oil imports rose 140 percent y-o-y to 2.09 lakh tons from 0.87 lakh ton in February 2016. Rapeseed (Canola) oil imports rose 118 percent y-o-y to 0.37 lakh tons from 0.17 lakh tons in February 2016, reported by Solvent Extractors Association (SEA).

India's February edible oil stocks at ports and pipelines rose 13.6 m-o-m to 19.65 lakh tons from 17.30 lakh tons in January 2017. Stocks of edible oil at ports rose to 775,000 tons (CPO 290,000 tons, RBD Palmolein 160,000 tons, Degummed Soybean Oil 180,000 tons, Crude Sunflower Oil 130,000 tons and 15,000 tons of Rapeseed (Canola) Oil) and about 1,190,000 tons in pipelines. (Stocks in pipelines were at 1,088,000 tons in January 2017). India is presently holding 36 days of edible oil requirement on 1st March, 2017 at 19.65 lakh tons compared to 32 days of requirements last month. India's monthly edible oil requirement is 16.5 lakh tons.

Malaysia's March 1-15 palm oil exports fell 1.1 percent to 507,491 tons compared to 501,748 tons in corresponding period last month. Top buyers were European Union at 107,750 tons (45,700 tons), China at 83,740 tons (79,500 tons), India at 44,100 tons (58,290 tons), United States at 41,800 tons (37,130 tons) and

Pakistan at 11,500 tons (24,000 tons). Values in brackets are figures of last month, reported cargo surveyor Societe Generale de Surveillance (SGS).

According to Indonesia Palm Oil Association (GAPKI), Indonesia January palm oil exports rose 30 percent to 2.72 MMT compared to 2.1 MMT in January 2016. Exports rose 1.5 percent m-o-m from December 2016, which was reported at 2.68 MMT. Rise in shipments were primarily due to higher exports to India and Africa.

Malaysia's February palm oil end stocks fell 5.32 percent to 14.59 lakh tons compared to 15.41 lakh tons in January. Production dropped 1.43 percent in February to 12.59 lakh tons compared to 12.79 lakh tons in January. Exports in January fell 13.97 percent to 11.07 lakh tons compared to January exports at 12.86 lakh tons. Imports in February fell 43.66 percent to 0.40 lakh tons compared to 0.72 lakh tons in January, reported by Malaysian Palm Oil Board.

China's imports of edible vegetable oil in February fell 25.5 percent to 4.1 lakh tons compared to 5.5 lakh tons in January. Imports rose 2.5 percent compared to last year which was at 4 lakh tons. Year to date imports of edible vegetable oil rose 2.6 percent to 9.6 lakh tons, figures by China's General Administration of Customs (CNGOIC).

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#### **Previous Updates**

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India is expected to produce around 7.0 million tonnes of rapeseed-mustard in 2016/17 with an average yield of about 1000 kg/ha compared to 5.8 million in 2015/16.

Malaysia has increased March crude palm oil export duty to 8 percent from 7.5 percent in February. Tax is calculated at reference price of 3,337.30 ringgit (\$748.95) per ton. Tax is calculated above 2,250 ringgit starting from 4.5 percent to a maximum of 8.5 percent, said Malaysia Palm Oil Board (MPOB).

However, the inventories remained higher than the market/industry expectations.

According to Indonesia Palm Oil Association, Indonesia's 2017 crude palm oil production is estimated to rise 12.7 percent to 35.5 MMT compared to 31.1 MMT in 2016. Heavy rains in 2016 will support palm oil production and growth in plantation in 2013 will bear fruit in 2017.

Malaysia's palm oil production in 2017 is estimated to rise 12 percent to 19.4 MMT from 17.4 MMT in 2016. Exports of palm oil in 2017 from Malaysia will increase 11.2 percent to 17.85 MMT from 16.05 MMT in 2016. CPO prices are expected to remain firm in 2017, according to the board, said the Malaysia Palm Oil Board (MPOB).

Indonesia is expected to produce 32-33 MMT of palm oil in 2017 compared to estimated production of 28.5-30 MMT in 2016, higher by 16 percent y-o-y. Production in 2015 was 33 MMT. Wet condition in 2016 in Indonesia is primary reason for higher production in 2017. Exports are expected to grow to 23-25 MMT in 2017 compared to 23 MMT estimated in 2016. Palm oil prices rose in 2016 due to lower stocks of palm on El Nino, crude oil prices and biodiesel mandates in Indonesia and Malaysia, said Indonesia Palm Oil Association (GAPKI).

India's rapeseed-mustard is driven by Malaysian palm oil, India's edible oil imports and Chinese vegoil demand.

*Outlook: The rapeseed-mustard is expected to remain under pressure in near-term on higher production and strong supplies in the cash market.*

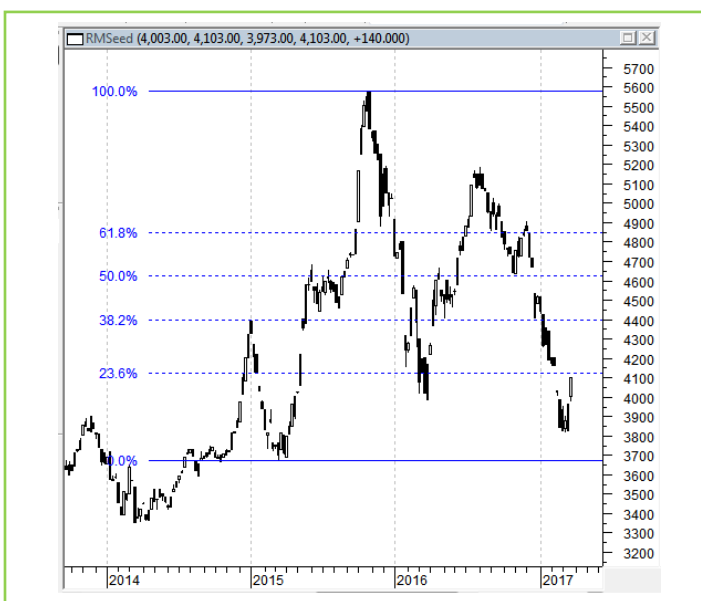
## Technical Analysis:

### NCDEX RM Seed Futures



\*Note: Daily Chart

### RM Seed Spot, Jaipur



### Support & Resistance NCDEX RM Seed – Apr. contract

S1	S2	PCP	R1	R2
3835	3753	3956	4068	4140

- RM seed posted gains on supportive buying during the week.
- Prices closed above 18-day EMA.
- RSI and stochastic are rising in the neutral zone.
- MACD is rising in negative territory.
- The prices are expected to feature gains during the week.
- Trade Recommendation (NCDEX Rapeseed-Mustard – Apr.) Week: **BUY** Below 4060. Levels: Target – 3960; T2- 3900, SL – 4120.

## Annexure

### Oil Meal Prices at Key Spot Markets:

#### Soy DOC Rates at Different Centers

Centres	Ex-factory rates (Rs/ton)		
	24-Mar-17	17-Mar-17	Parity To
Indore (MP)	24000	23300	Gujarat, MP
Kota	24400	23500	Rajasthan, Del, Punjab, Haryana
Dhulia/Jalna	25000	24000	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Nagpur (42/46)	23500	22800	Chattisgarh, Orissa, Bihar, Bangladesh, AP, Kar, TN
Nanded	23800	23500	Andhra, AP, Kar ,TN
Latur	25300	23600	-
Sangli	25000	23700	Local and South
Sholapur	25400	23800	Local and South
Akola	23900	23400	Andhra, Chattisgarh, Orrisa,Jharkhand, WB
Hingoli	24700	23500	Andhra, Chattisgarh, Orrisa,Jharkhand, WB
Bundi	24300	23000	-

#### Soy DOC at Port

Centers	Port Price	
	23-Mar-17	16-Mar-17
Kandla (FOR) (INR/MT)	25500	24800
Kandla (FAS) (USD/MT)	390	371

International Soy DOC			
Argentina FOB USD/MT	23-Mar-17	16-Mar-17	Change
Soybean Pellets	341	341	Unch
Soybean Cake Flour	341	341	Unch
Soya Meal	349	349	Unch
Soy Expellers	349	349	Unch

Sunflower (DOC) Rates	Ex-factory rates (Rs/ton)		
Centers	24-Mar-17	17-Mar-17	Change
Adoni	17500	17400	100
Khamgaon	NA	NA	-
Parli	17300	17300	Unch
Latur	17200	17100	100

Groundnut Meal (Rs/MT)	24-Mar-17	17-Mar-17	Change
Basis 45%, Saurashtra	19500	19300	200
Basis 40%, Saurashtra	18000	17800	200
GN Cake, Gondal	20200	21000	-800

Mustard DOC/Meal	24-Mar-17	17-Mar-17	Change
Jaipur (Plant delivery)	15300	14800	500
Kandla (FOR Rs/MT)	15300	14800	500
Sri Ganganagar	1880	1810	70

## India's Oilseeds Production Seen Record at 33.6 Mn T vs 25.3 Mn in 2nd Adv Est. - GOI

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The 2nd Advance Estimates of production of oilseeds for 2016-17 have been released by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare on 15th February, 2017. The assessment of production of different crops is based on the feedback received from States and validated with information available from other sources.

The estimated production of major Oilseeds during 2016-17 is as under:

Oilseeds – 33.60 million tonnes (record) in 2016/17 vs 25.3 million tonnes in 2015/16

- Soyabean – 14.13 million tonnes vs 8.6 million tonnes in 2015/16
- Groundnut – 8.47 million tonnes vs 6.33 million tonnes in 2015/16
- Castorseed – 1.74 million tonnes vs 1.75 million tonnes in 2015/16

With an increase of 8.35 million tonnes over the previous year, total Oilseeds production in the country is estimated at record level of 33.60 million tonnes. It is higher by 0.85 million tonnes than the previous record production of 32.75 million tonnes achieved during 2013-14.

The production of Oilseeds during 2016-17 is also higher by 4.34 million tonnes than the five year's average Oilseeds production. The current year's production is significantly higher than the production of 25.25 million tonnes during 2015-16.

## MSP for 2016/17 Kharif Oilseeds

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for Kharif Crops of 2016-17 season, the MSPs of all the Kharif oilseeds are raised for this season.

The MSP of Yellow Soybean is increased by 6.7% to Rs. 2775/Qtl (including Rs 100 bonus) for 2016-17 season from Rs.2600/Qtl in 2015-16, Groundnut -in- shell by 4.7% to Rs. 4220/Qtl (including Rs 100 bonus) from Rs 4030/Qtl, Sunflower seed by 3.9% to Rs 3950/Qtl (including Rs 200 bonus) from Rs 3800/Qtl, Nigerseed by 4.8% to 3825/Qtl (including Rs 100 bonus) from Rs 3650/Qtl and Sesamum by 6.4% to Rs 5000/Qtl (including Rs 200 bonus) from Rs 4700/Qtl.

## MSP for 2016/17 Rabi Oilseeds

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for Rabi Oilseeds Crops of 2016-17 season are as follows: The MSP of Rapeseed/Mustard is raised (10.4%) by Rs. 350/Qtl to Rs. 3,700/Qtl from Rs. 3,350/Qtl earlier. For Safflower too it is increased (12.1%) by Rs. 400/Qtl to Rs. 3,700/Qtl from Rs. 3,300/Qtl in 2014-15. Further, to incentivize cultivation of oilseeds, the Cabinet has decided to give a bonus of Rs 100/- per quintal each for Rabi oilseeds including Rapeseeds/Mustards and Safflower, over and above the recommendations of the CACP.

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