

## Sugar & Gur Domestic & International Fundamentals

### Recent Update:

**Most of the sugar prices were witnessed steady to weak on Monday.** This was despite trade expectations that the release quota of 1.7 million tonnes for August was lower than probable demand. The slide in sugar prices remained unabated for the sixth week in a row at the wholesale market in the national capital following record production amid weak demand from stockists and bulk consumers.

**The Centre has ordered Sugar mills to pay for their past failures in meeting levy obligations** in a surprise move that has come five years after the system was abolished. The new directive, issued a few days back, mandates sugar mills that did not fulfil their levy obligations to pay the difference between the prevailing market rate and the levy sugar price of the season. Under the now-abandoned levy obligation system, every domestic producer was supposed to sell a certain portion of sugar to government at a subsidized rate every sugar season.

**Till 24<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018, sugarcane has been sown 50.60 lakh hectares, 1.48 % higher than 49.86 lakh ha till date last year and 9.15% higher than the normal acreage of 46.36 lakh ha till date.**

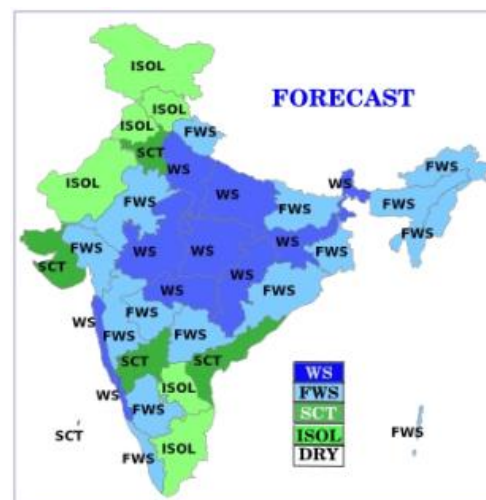
**Sugar prices have fallen to their lowest levels in a decade and are likely to remain under pressure** as record world-wide production collides with rising trend of health conscious food habits which limits the intake of sugar in diets. Raw sugar futures traded on the ICE Futures U.S. exchange settled at 10.23 cents a pound on Friday, the lowest finish for a front-month contract since June 10, 2008.

### Weather Update:

**28<sup>th</sup> Aug** Heavy rain at isolated places very likely over Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, East Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha, Sub Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura, Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra, Telangana and Coastal Karnataka.

As on August 20, the countrywide cumulative rainfall deficiency remains stagnant at -8%. Division wise, South India is the only region that is rain surplus by 13%, whereas East & Northeast India is the highest rain deficient pocket at -28%, followed by Northwest India at -6% and Central India at -3%.

SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION (% of Stations reporting)			
% Stations	Category	% Stations	Category
76-100	Widespread (WS/ Most Places)	26-50	Scattered (SCT/ A Few Places)
51-75	Fairly Widespread (FWS/ Many Places)	1-25	Isolated (ISOL)
Dry (No station reported Rainfall)			



### Previous Updates:

**According to Agricultural Statistic Agency. Brazil's total cane crush in the current crop at 635 million tonnes** compared to 625 million tonnes in its May estimate and 633 million tonnes in the previous crop (2017/18). The agency, however, lowered its views for sugar production both for the country and for the center-south region. The agency projected center-south cane crush at 587 million tonnes versus 580 million tonnes seen in May and 588 million tonnes reported for the 2017/18 crop.

**The food ministry last week extended the deadline for exporting 2 million tonne of sugar by three months to December** as only a fourth of it has been shipped so far. In March, the government had allowed sugar export in view of record domestic output of 32 million MT. Mill-wise, Minimum Indicative Export Quotas (MIEQ) were allocated by the ministry in May. Mills can export either sugar produced in the current 2017-18 season or the next 2018-19 season (October-September). The extension in deadline has been made because the international demand is for raw sugar whereas the Indian mills have stocks of only white currently. As the crushing of new crop of sugarcane begins in October, mills will be able to supply raw sugar to the international market.

**The sugarcane crushing season is about to begin & Sugar mills will start the 2019 crushing season with a huge backlog of unsold stock & huge arrears.** Several farmers are yet to get their arrears from the previous season. The outstanding arrears are now Rs 16,600 crore against the peak of Rs 23,232 crore in May-end. Problem of pending payments is particularly acute in UP, which accounts for 64% of the total outstanding arrears.

**This season sugar beet production in Vinnytsia region is forecasted to increase by 10-15%, as compared to the last year's figures.** Heavy rains in Vinnytsia region at the end of July – in early August added weight to beet roots, but reduced sugar content in it. During the first decade of August, the beet root growth was 113-344 g. The weight of beet root exceeds last year's figures by 50-60 g. But sugar content is lower. It is fixed at 12,1-13,99%.

**Brazil is expected to produce 2.7 million mt of sugar in the North-Northeast region and 27 million mt in the Center-South region, yielding 29.7 million mt of sugar for CY 2018-19,** which runs from April-March in the North-Northeast region, and October-September in the Central-South region, according to the JOB report. The CS Brazil production figures would be 9.1 million mt lower than CY 2017-18 levels, according to the report. Brazil is expected to produce 31.2 billion liters of ethanol in the same period, including 29.2 billion liters in the CS region. The expected ethanol production in the CS region would break the previous record of 28.2 billion liters set in 2015-16, according to the report.

**The central government has set minimum selling price of Rupee 29/kg along with prescribing a monthly release quota.** As a combined result of both the decisions, ex-mill prices have been ruling in the range of Rupee 30-33/kg. However, sugar mills from Uttar Pradesh, where sugar production has been rising every year, are keen to sell more sugar. It will help them clear the cane price arrears. But, sugar industry of Maharashtra thinks that release mechanism is necessary for the survival of small-sized sugar cooperatives.

**Beet sugar production for 2018/19 is projected up 71,000 short tons, raw value (STRV) to 5.107 million based on sugarbeet area and yield forecasts made by NASS in Crop Production.** Beet sugar production for 2017/18 is reduced by 34,353 STRV to 5.241 million based on higher beet pile shrink estimated for the 2017/18 slicing campaign. Based on NASS sugarcane yield and area harvested, 2018/19 cane sugar production in Louisiana is increased by 191,000 STRV to 1.781 million and cane sugar production in Florida is increased by 50,000 STRV to 2.050 million. Deliveries for human consumption for 2017/18 are reduced by 135,000 STRV to 12.100 million based on pace to date and the corresponding projection for 2018/19 is reduced in line by 150,000 STRV to 12.250 million. Ending stocks for 2017/18 are estimated at 2.103 million STRV for a stocks-to-use ratio of 16.9 percent. Ending stocks for 2018/19 are projected at 2.261 million STRV for a stocks-to-use ratio of 18.1 percent. Sugar supply and use in Mexico are unchanged from last month.

*The Indian Sugar Industry urged the union government to raise the minimum sale price of sugar to Rs36/ kg from Rs 29. If the floor price of the sweetener for sale by mills fixed at Rs 36, sugar factories will be able to take a loss on the exports without need of financial assistance. The loss on sugar exports currently is around 11-12 Rs a kg over domestic ex- mill prices.*

*As per the Agriwatch estimate, India's sugar production is expected to rise to 355 LT in 2018/19 as the country is expecting a good cane crop this marketing year particularly from the state of Uttar Pradesh & Maharashtra. Agriwatch is expecting Maharashtra to produce 8-10% of more sugar in 2018-19 (01st October, 2018 -30th September, 2019). In addition, Uttar Pradesh is also expected to produce a large quantity of sugar this year too due to a surge in cane area, yield and sugar recovery.*

## NCDEX Sugar (M grade) Future Quotes (At 05:00 p.m. as on 27-08-2018)

Contract	+/-	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	O.I
Cont. (Oct)	-	3140	3140	3140	3140	-	-
Spread	Cont Oct (C1)						
Spot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Note:** There is no trade volume in near month future contract. Market participants are advised to wait until trade in volume starts.

## Sugar Futures ICE& LIFFE as on 24 Aug, 2018

Daily Futures Price Listing Fri August 24, 2018									
Most Recent Information							Previous Day		
Mth	Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Change	Volume	Open Int	Change
<b>Sugar #11(ICE)</b>									
<a href="#">Oct-18</a>	180824	10.08	10.48	10.08	10.23	0.11	59,033	5,18,616	757
<a href="#">Mar-19</a>	180824	10.95	11.3	10.95	11.05	0.05	26,472	3,22,626	3,493
<a href="#">May-19</a>	180824	11.15	11.46	11.15	11.24	0.05	10,540	98,974	990
<a href="#">Jul-19</a>	180824	11.36	11.62	11.35	11.42	0.03	5,157	50,242	-846
<a href="#">Oct-19</a>	180824	11.64	11.91	11.64	11.71	0.01	2,657	46,727	394
<a href="#">Mar-20</a>	180824	12.27	12.49	12.26	12.29	-0.02	729	14,430	-180
<a href="#">May-20</a>	180824	12.38	12.57	12.36	12.38	-0.03	97	3,095	-2
<a href="#">Jul-20</a>	180824	12.48	12.65	12.45	12.46	-0.04	55	2,863	14
Total Volume and Open Interest							1,04,961	10,61,402	4,750

Daily Futures Price Listing Fri August 24, 2018									
Most Recent Information							Previous Day		
Mth	Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Change	Volume	Open Int	Change
<b>London Sugar(LCE)</b>									
<a href="#">Oct-18</a>	180824	306	315.8	305.5	310.6	4.6	4,742	43,033	-3,978
<a href="#">Dec-18</a>	180824	306.5	314.9	306.2	309.5	2.7	2,724	32,987	699
<a href="#">Mar-19</a>	180824	310.4	317.7	309.9	312.2	1.4	953	19,408	-12
<a href="#">May-19</a>	180824	314.6	320.5	313.8	315.3	0.4	175	9,143	19
<a href="#">Aug-19</a>	180824	320.2	325.4	319.8	319.8	-0.8	94	6,322	-5
Total Volume and Open Interest							8,760	1,15,052	-3,281

Sugar Prices at Key Spot Markets:					
Commodity	Centre	Variety	Prices (Rs/Qtl)		Change
Sugar			27-Aug-18	25-Aug-18	
Delhi	Delhi	M-Grade	3130	3130	Unch
	Delhi	S-Grade	3110	3110	Unch
Uttar Pradesh	Khatauli	M-Grade	3300	3280	20
	Ramala	M-Grade	NA	NA	-
	Dhampur	M-Grade Ex-Mill	3150	3160	-10
	Dhampur	S-Grade Ex-Mill	3130	3140	-10
	Dhampur	L-Grade Ex-Mill	3200	3210	-10
Maharashtra	Mumbai	M-Grade	3450	3446	4
	Mumbai	S-Grade	3210	3210	Unch
	Nagpur	M-Grade	3200	3200	Unch
	Nagpur	S-Grade	3100	3100	Unch
	Kolhapur	M-Grade	3075	3075	Unch
	Kolhapur	S-Grade	2975	2975	Unch
Assam	Guhawati	S-Grade	3284	3284	Unch
Meghalaya	Shillong	S-Grade	3295	3295	Unch
Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	M-Grade	3600	3600	Unch
	Vijayawada	S-Grade	3540	3540	Unch
West Bengal	Kolkata	M-Grade	3550	3550	Unch
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	S-Grade	3400	3400	Unch
	Dindigul	M-Grade	3640	#N/A	-
	Coimbatore	M-Grade	3680	#N/A	-
Chattisgarh	Ambikapur	M-Grade (Without Duty)	3600	#N/A	-

Sugar Prices are in INR/Quintal. (1 Quintal=100 kg)

Jaggery (Gur) Prices at Key Spot Markets:					
Commodity	Centre	Variety	Prices (Rs/Qtl)		Change
Jaggery(Gur)			27-Aug-18	25-Aug-18	
Uttar Pradesh	Muzaffarnagar	Chaku Sukha(Cold)	2950	2960	-10
	Muzaffarnagar	Chaku(Arrival)(40kg Bag)	NA	NA	-
	Muzaffarnagar	Khurpa (Fresh)	NA	NA	-
	Muzaffarnagar	Laddoo (Fresh)	NA	NA	-
	Muzaffarnagar	Rascut (Fresh)	2713	2650	63
	Hapur	Chaurasa	Closed	NA	-
	Hapur	Balti	Closed	NA	-

Andhra Pradesh	Chittur	Gold	4000	4000	Unch
		White	3900	3900	Unch
		Black	2600	2500	100
Maharashtra	Latur	Lal Variety	NR	NR	-
Karnataka	Bangalore	Mudde (Average)	4150	4150	Unch
	Belgaum	Mudde (Average)	NA	NA	-
	Belthangadi	Yellow (Average)	NA	NA	-
	Bijapur/Vijayapura	Achhu	3050	3000	50
	Gulbarga/Kalaburgi	Other (Average)	NA	3080	-
	Mahalingapura	Penti (Average)	NA	3211	-
	Mandya	Achhu (Medium)	3250	3300	-50
	Mandya	Kurikatu (Medium)	3000	3000	Unch
	Mandya	Other (Medium)	2950	2950	Unch
	Mandya	Yellow (Medium)	3150	3300	-150
	Shimoga/Shivamogga	Achhu (Average)	NA	4000	-

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