

Sugar &Gur Domestic & International Fundamentals

Price Outlook:

Wholesale sugar prices were noticed unchanged from previous day. Spot sugar prices are supportive in the month ahead as festive demand market is expected to get supplied with excessive sugar with the onset of crushing season in India. This was despite trade expectations that the release quota of 2.2 million tonnes for Nov was lower than probable demand. Sugar futures, closed down in both New York and London, following as sugar follow similar post Brazilian election patterns.

Recent Update:

Indian sugar mills have sealed contracts for 830,000 tonnes of sugar exports so far in 2018/19 (Oct/Sep) with Uttar Pradesh accounting for about 450,000 tonnes of the contacts, said Praful Vithlani, president of the All India Sugar Traders Association (AISTA).

Brazil exported only 1.950 mln tonnes of sugar, raw value, in October 2018, down from 2.603 mln a month earlier and significantly below 2.915 mln in the same month last year, Trade Ministry data showed.

Weather Update:

5th Nov♦ No weather warning

The June to September monsoon provided 23% less rainfall than normal this year, according to state government data. India's biggest sugar producing state, Uttar Pradesh, also received slightly less rainfall than normal but the grubs have not infested crops there.

Previous Updates:

Around 18 sugar factories in Maharashtra have commenced crushing for 2018-19 season, crushing some 3.5 lakh to 4 lakh tonnes of cane. Factories in the state have slowly started the operations, full fledged operations are expected to commence after Diwali. However the farmers have demanded more money for this season's crop, beyond what is considered as fair and remunerative prices (FRP) a farmers' association, has announced that it will not let the mills operate until they agree to pay Rs 200 per tonne over and above the FRP of sugarcane.

Brazil's center-south is expected to produce 26.38 million tonnes in the 2018/19 season – which is heading into its final weeks – the lowest amount in 12 years due to a smaller cane crop and higher ethanol production. Previous estimate for the season was for production of 27.28 million tonnes. It projected the new sugar season, which starts in April next year, at a similar level with an output seen at 26.4 million tonnes.

Lower Brazilian sugar production this year and next are seen helping to swing global sugar supply from a surplus to a deficit, favoring a recovery in benchmark raw sugar prices in New York. "Despite the late spike in sugar prices, ethanol continues to give better returns to mills in Brazil, so we expect them to continue to give preference to the fuel next season," Datagro's chief analyst Plinio Nastari told reporters at the consultancy's annual international conference in Sao Paulo.



Sugar mills in India have hit a sweet spot with the government export subsidy to bring down inventory and signs of firming international prices after the recent cut in global production estimates to 187 million tonnes (mt) for the year 2018-19 against 203 mt logged in the previous year. The global sugar output this year is almost equal to consumption of 186 mt, though the carry-forward stock of 16 mt will limit any sharp spike in prices. India has an inventory of about 10 mt. Sugar companies have so far exported about 8.3 lakh tonnes of sugar. Of this, about 4.5 lakh tonnes has been traded by sugar mills from Uttar Pradesh.

There were 4.218 mln tonnes of sugar stored at the end of August 2018 at EU sugar producers and refiners, down from 5.757 mln a month earlier but up sharply from 1.768 mln at the same time last year, Commission data show.

The earlier ISMA estimates of sugar production reaching to 35 million tonnes in 2018-19 (October to September) sugar season, the industry now estimates output to be around 31.5 million tonnes, which is even lower than 32.5 million tonnes produced in the 2017-18 season which ended last month. While this is a welcome development, the hangover of high closing stock remains. Sugar production during the current 2018-19 SS is estimated to be lower considering the adverse impact of weather and rainfall in the three largest sugarcane producing States of UP, Maharashtra and Karnataka and white grub infestation in Maharashtra and North Karnataka. Sugar production in 2018-19 would be around 32 million tonnes and considering diversion for ethanol, production is estimated at 31.5 million tonnes.

According to ISMA, sugar production in UP was expected to be higher because of higher cane area under the high yielding variety Co0238. However, several areas in UP have had untimely rainfall in September 2018 which has adversely affected the growth of the sugarcane at this very important maturity period. Further, some areas have reported water-logging and in some parts of Western UP, there has been sugarcane lodging also. As a result, sugarcane yields and sugar recovery would be impacted. Accordingly, ISMA has revised its sugar production estimates for UP from 13-13.5 MT tonne made in July 2018 to 12.1 MT, which is almost similar to 12.04 MT in 2017-18. In Maharashtra, sugar production is estimated at around 9.5 MT as against 10.72 MT in 2017-18. In July, ISMA had pegged output at 11-11.5 MT. Sugar production in Karnataka is now estimated at 4.2 MT from 4.48 MT projected in July

Sugarcane crushing in Uttar Pradesh had been started from last week, in the shadow of farmers' outstanding of Rs 78 billion for the previous 2017-18 season. There are 119 mills in UP, of which 94 are privately owned and 24 are run by cooperatives. Late rains and hailstorms in some western UP districts, coupled with higher night temperatures, have delayed maturity of the sugarcane crop. In the last 4-5 days, the night temperatures have started to fall below 20 degree Celsius and there is marked difference in day and night temperatures, which would hasten the process of maturity and result in speedier crushing operations and higher recovery as well.

This year, UP cane acreage is estimated at 2.6 million hectares (MH), up 18 per cent from about 2.2 MH during 2017-18, when UP had clocked sugar production of over 12 million tonnes (mt), with farmer's payables touching Rs 354 billion. With higher acreage this season, the farmers' payouts are likely to top last year's record levels and add to the woes in the backdrop of mute sugar prices and market glut, both locally and globally.

As per the Agriwatch latest estimate, India's sugar production is expected to decline to 322 LT in 2018/19 then 322.5 last year. A couple of major cane growing regions of Maharashtra, including Marthawada, had poor rainfall this season. And mild white grub infestation has been reported in States of Karnataka and few parts of Maharashtra. Apart from that, cane yield and sugar recovery are expected to decline in Uttar Pradesh due to water logging in the fields.

Sugar output from the main producing region in Brazil fell 43 percent in the first half of October as rains delayed cane processing and mills continued to favor ethanol production over sugar, cane industry group Unica said on Wednesday. Mills in Brazil's center-south region produced 1.11 million tonnes of sugar in the first half of October compared to 1.28 million tonnes in the previous two-week period and 2 million tonnes at the same time last year, Unica said. Cane crushing fell to 25.58 million tonnes versus 27.64 million tonnes in the second half of the previous month and 32.5 million tonnes seen at this time last year.

India's state-run trading company MMTC Ltd has issued an international tender to overseas buyers to sell and export 50,000 tonnes of Indian white crystal sugar. Tender deadline are Oct. 31 and the sugar can be exported from Indian east and west coast ports in break-bulk ships. There will be an option to purchase a further 50,000 tonnes.

The statistics from National Federation of Sugar Factories Ltd. (NFSFL) shows that, there has been drop of 2 kg in sugar consumption per person per year. In 2014-15, India's sugar consumption was 20.5 kg per person, but it has dropped to 18.5 kg per person in financial year 2017-18. In financial year 2017-18 India's total sugar production was 32 million tonnes and consumption were around 25 million tonnes.

Increased demand for Indian sugar has driven up export deals signed by domestic millers to about 3.5 lakh tonnes, according to the All India Sugar Traders Association (AISTA). However, full-fledged production and dispatches may commence only after Diwali, which falls on November 7 this year, because of agitations by organisations representing farmers and labourers.

NCDEX Sugar (M grade) Future Quotes (At 05:00 p.m. as on 02-11-2018)

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.

International Sugar Futures ICE					(Rs/Qtl)	
Futures month	% Change over previous year	Today	Week ago	Month Ago	Year Ago	RBI Dollar
		2-Nov-18	26-Oct-18	1-Oct-18	2-Nov-17	2-Nov-18
Oct-18	5.19	2257	2317	2048	2146	72.91
Mar-19	6.61	2195	2275	1968	2059	
May-19	6.67	2216	2291	1983	2078	

(Source: Reuters) * Today – figures are a day ago Quotes.

International Sugar Futures LIFFE					(Rs/Qtl)	
Futures month	% Change over previous year	Today	Week ago	Month Ago	Year Ago	RBI Dollar
		2-Nov-18	26-Oct-18	1-Oct-18	2-Nov-17	2-Nov-18
Oct-18	7.86	2712	2799	2521	2514	72.91
Dec-18	7.73	2608	2736	2428	2421	
Mar-19	8.75	2627	2734	2431	2416	

(Source: Reuters)* Today – figures are a day ago Quotes.

Commodity(03-Nov-18)		Change
Thai Sugar FOB 45 Icumsa	closed	-

Sugar Prices at Key Spot Markets:					
Commodity	Centre	Variety	Prices (Rs/Qtl)		Change
Sugar			03-Nov-18	02-Nov-18	
Delhi	Delhi	M-Grade	3150	3150	Unch
	Delhi	S-Grade	3130	3130	Unch
Uttar Pradesh	Khatauli	M-Grade	3345	3350	-5
	Ramala	M-Grade	NA	NA	-
	Dhampur	M-Grade Ex-Mill	3200	3200	Unch
	Dhampur	S-Grade Ex-Mill	3180	3180	Unch
	Dhampur	L-Grade Ex-Mill	3250	3250	Unch
Maharashtra	Mumbai	M-Grade	3392	3396	-4

	Mumbai	S-Grade	3230	3240	-10
	Nagpur	M-Grade	3175	3175	Unch
	Nagpur	S-Grade	3075	3075	Unch
	Kolhapur	M-Grade	3050	3050	Unch
	Kolhapur	S-Grade	2950	2950	Unch
Assam	Guhawati	S-Grade	3258	3258	Unch
Meghalaya	Shillong	S-Grade	3270	3270	Unch
Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	M-Grade	3630	3630	Unch
	Vijayawada	S-Grade	3570	3570	Unch
West Bengal	Kolkata	M-Grade	3620	3620	Unch
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	S-Grade	3300	3200	100
	Dindigul	M-Grade	3500	3500	Unch
	Coimbatore	M-Grade	3640	3640	Unch
Chattisgarh	Ambikapur	M-Grade (Without Duty)	3600	3600	Unch

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)			03-Nov-18	02-Nov-18	
Uttar Pradesh	Muzaffarnagar	Chaku Sukha(Cold)	2713	2713	Unch
	Muzaffarnagar	Chaku(Arrival)(40kg Bag)	NA	NA	-
	Muzaffarnagar	Khurpa (Fresh)	NA	NA	-
	Muzaffarnagar	Laddoo (Fresh)	NA	NA	-
	Muzaffarnagar	Rascut (Fresh)	NA	NA	-
	Hapur	Chaurasa	NA	NA	-
	Hapur	Balti	NA	NA	-
Andhra Pradesh	Chittur	Gold	4200	4200	Unch
		White	3800	3800	Unch
		Black	2800	2800	Unch
Maharashtra	Latur	Lal Variety	NR	NR	-
Karnataka	Bangalore	Mudde (Average)	0	NA	-
	Belgaum	Mudde (Average)	0	NA	-
	Belthangadi	Yellow (Average)	0	NA	-
	Bijapur/Vijayapura	Achhu	0	3000	-3000
	Gulbarga/Kalaburgi	Other (Average)	0	NA	-
	Mahalingapura	Penti (Average)	0	3308	-3308

	Mandya	Achhu (Medium)	0	NA	-
	Mandya	Kurikatu (Medium)	0	NA	-
	Mandya	Other (Medium)	0	NA	-
	Mandya	Yellow (Medium)	0	NA	-
	Shimoga/Shivamogga	Achhu (Average)	0	3550	-3550

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