

Sugar & Gur Domestic & International Fundamentals**Recent Update:**

The announcement of heavy quota for the current month has made the market experience flatness nationwide amid hike in MSP. In near contract the London white sugar is trading at \$340.00 whereas US sugar trading at \$12.16. Rupee appreciated by 30 paise to 69.98 against the US dollar in opening trade Thursday.

Sugar mills in the country produced 247.68 lakh tonnes (lt) of sugar till end of last month, nearly 16 lt more than they produced in the corresponding period last year. The total sugar production in the same period last year was 231.77 lt. As many as 266 mills are in operation as against 457 last year and mills in Maharashtra and Karnataka are on the verge of completing crushing.

The first three months of the current year's supply period, about 12 crore litre of ethanol, made from B heavy/sugarcane juice, have been supplied. This has, in turn, reduced sugar production by 1lakh tonnes so far in the current season.

Weather Forecast for tomorrow:

Scattered light to moderate rains will continue over Northeast India, Gangetic West Bengal, Coastal Odisha. Light rains are expected over Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and few places of Uttarakhand and Coastal Andhra Pradesh. Heat wave conditions will develop in parts of Rayalaseema and interior Tamil Nadu with maximums touching almost 40-degree mark.

Previos Updates:

The Centre on Tuesday issued a monthly stock holding limit order for sugar mills for the current month under which a quota of 24.5 lakh tonnes of white/refined sugar has been allocated for domestic sale by factories. Last month the government had prescribed a quota of 23.54 lakh tonnes to be sold by the nearly 534 mills during the month. The increase in the quota this month is due to the ongoing festival season.

Despite the Centre's recent announcement of a Rs.2 per kg hike in the minimum support price (MSP) of sugar to Rs.31 per kg, several millers in Maharashtra are reported that they are selling sugar below the minimum support price since there is no demand pick-up in the market. Some of the millers said that on one hand, there is no demand in the market and on the other, they are under pressure to clear up pending Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) payments to farmers. The state government of Uttar Pradesh has provided additional soft loans of about INR3 bln (USD1=INR70.84) to cash-strapped private sugar mills for speedy payments to cane farmers.

According to trade sources, the 2019/20 sugar output in Brazil's Center-South, the country's biggest sugar-producing region, will climb by +5.7% to 28 MMT. A bullish factor is smaller sugar supplies from Brazil after Unica reported last week that Center-South sugar production for the 2018/19 season through mid-Feb was down -26.45% y/y at 26.361 MMT, with the percentage of cane used for sugar dropping to 35.43% from 46.88% last year and the percentage of cane used for ethanol production climbing to 64.57% from 53.12% last year. In addition, strong demand for Brazil ethanol is positive after Unica reported on last week.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved proposal to provide soft loan of up to Rs 10,540 crore to the sugar industry to help mills clear mounting arrears to cane growers. The CCEA approved the proposal to provide soft loans to the extent of about Rs 7900-10540 crore to the sugar industry. Government will bear the interest subvention cost between 7 -10 percent to the extent of Rs 553 crore to Rs 1054 crore for one year.

According to data compiled by the Cane Commissioner's Office in Lucknow as on February 26, UP mills have bought sugarcane worth Rs 20,475.76 crore during the current 2018-19 crushing season (October-September) at the state government's advised price or SAP of Rs 315 per quintal for "general" and Rs 325 per quintal for "early-maturing" varieties. Sugar production in Uttar Pradesh is likely to touch 12.40 mln tn in 2018-19 (Oct-Sep), a tad higher than 12.05 mln tn likely produced in 2017-18.

Indian traders will export raw sugar to Iran for March and April delivery. Under the sanctions, Iran is blocked from the global financial system, including using US dollars to transact its oil sales. Iran agreed to sell oil to India in exchange for rupees but it can only use those rupees to buy Indian goods, mainly items it cannot produce enough of domestically. Trading houses have contracted to export 1,50,000 tonnes of raw sugar for shipments arriving in March and April at \$305 to \$310 per tonne on a free-on-board basis, the trade sources told Reuters this week.

Sugar production is likely to decline to around 30 million tonne in SS 2018-19 from the record high of 32.3 million tonne in SS 2017-18 due to deficient rainfall, white grub and red rot infestations in the key cane producing states of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra, India Ratings said in a report. Despite being lower than the last season, production in SS 2018-19 is likely to exceed sugar demand of around 26 million tonne (MT).

Weekly Outlook:

Indian Sugar markets remained steady during the week. We expect sugar prices may trade lower as good physical supplies from mills are continuing in the physical market. Prices will be supportive in coming days due to the expectation of weak cane crush this season in the key producing states of UP, Maharashtra and Karnataka. As per the Agriwatch estimate, spot sugar prices (M grade) in benchmark Kolhapur market are likely to range between Rs 3100-Rs 3300 per quintal for next week.

NCDEX Sugar (M grade) Future Quotes (At 05:00 p.m. as on 20-12-2018)

Contract	+/-	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	O.I
Cont. (DEC)	-	2989	2989	2989	2989	-	-
Spread	Cont Dec(C1)						
Spot							

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

Commodity		Change
Thai Sugar FOB 45 Icumsa	331.1	-11.1

International Sugar Futures ICE (US Cent/lb)

Daily Futures Price Listing Wed March 06, 2019									
Most Recent Information							Previous Day		
Mth	Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Change	Volume	Open Int	Change
Sugar #11(ICE)									
May-19	190306	12.47	12.47	12.15	12.16	-0.28	83,022	3,56,726	-3,239
Jul-19	190306	12.67	12.67	12.36	12.38	-0.26	24,144	1,72,357	1,319
Oct-19	190306	13.01	13.01	12.73	12.76	-0.22	16,006	1,52,171	2,720
Mar-20	190306	13.73	13.74	13.51	13.54	-0.18	6,695	90,266	-1,194
May-20	190306	13.8	13.8	13.66	13.68	-0.14	2,102	15,134	616
Jul-20	190306	13.81	13.84	13.75	13.78	-0.1	848	13,384	331
Oct-20	190306	13.95	13.99	13.91	13.95	-0.06	536	19,790	-4
Mar-21	190306	14.45	14.45	14.41	14.44	-0.05	245	6,257	-78
Total Volume and Open Interest							1,33,622	8,28,516	495

International Sugar Futures LIFFE (US \$/MT)

Daily Futures Price Listing Wed March 06, 2019									
Most Recent Information							Previous Day		
Mth	Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Change	Volume	Open Int	Change
Cotton(ICE)									
Mar-19	190306	73.05	73.05	73.05	73.05	-0.4	5	46	-7
May-19	190306	74.6	74.9	74.05	74.21	-0.4	15,042	1,21,584	63
Jul-19	190306	75.4	75.72	74.91	75.22	-0.23	6,847	44,672	1,142
Oct-19	190306	74.12	74.12	74.12	74.12	-0.23	0	11	0
Dec-19	190306	73.64	73.82	73.36	73.56	-0.16	3,356	48,207	110
Mar-20	190306	74.37	74.59	74.3	74.44	-0.19	1,559	8,043	-192
Total Volume and Open Interest							26,839	2,24,385	1,139

Sugar Prices at Key Spot Markets:

Commodity	Centre	Variety	Prices (Rs/Qtl)		Change
			07-Mar-19	06-Mar-19	
Sugar	Delhi	M-Grade	3095	3100	-5
	Delhi	S-Grade	3075	3080	-5
Uttar Pradesh	Khatauli	M-Grade	3190	3174	16
	Ramala	M-Grade	NA	NA	-

	Dhampur	M-Grade Ex-Mill	3100	3100	Unch
	Dhampur	S-Grade Ex-Mill	3080	3080	Unch
	Dhampur	L-Grade Ex-Mill	3150	3150	Unch
Maharashtra	Mumbai	M-Grade	3360	3360	Unch
	Mumbai	S-Grade	3200	3202	-2
	Nagpur	M-Grade	3225	3225	Unch
	Nagpur	S-Grade	3225	3225	Unch
	Kolhapur	M-Grade	3100	3100	Unch
	Kolhapur	S-Grade	3100	3100	Unch
Assam	Guhawati	S-Grade	3410	3410	Unch
Meghalaya	Shillong	S-Grade	3420	3420	Unch
Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	M-Grade	3480	3480	Unch
	Vijayawada	S-Grade	3420	3420	Unch
West Bengal	Kolkata	M-Grade	3470	3520	-50
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	S-Grade	3460	3460	Unch
	Dindigul	M-Grade	3580	3620	-40
	Coimbatore	M-Grade	3540	3450	90
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
			07-Mar-19	06-Mar-19	
Jaggery(Gur)					
Uttar Pradesh	Muzaffarnagar	Chaku Fresh	2538	2520	18
	Muzaffarnagar	Chaku(Arrival)(40kg Bag)	5000	5000	Unch
	Muzaffarnagar	Khurpa (Fresh)	2350	2358	-8
	Muzaffarnagar	Laddoo (Fresh)	2528	2540	-13
	Muzaffarnagar	Rascut (Fresh)	1988	1978	10
	Hapur	Chaurasa	2300	2288	13
	Hapur	Balti	2250	2225	25
Andhra Pradesh	Chittur	Gold	3700	3700	Unch
		White	3000	3000	Unch
		Black	2700	2700	Unch
Maharashtra	Latur	Lal Variety	NR	NR	-
Karnataka	Bangalore	Mudde (Average)	4200	4200	Unch
	Belgaum	Mudde (Average)	NA	2900	-
	Belthangadi	Yellow (Average)	NA	NA	-

Bijapur/Vijayapura	Achhu	2660	NA	-
Gulbarga/Kalaburgi	Other (Average)	NA	NA	-
Mahalingapura	Penti (Average)	NA	NA	-
Mandya	Achhu (Medium)	3150	3150	Unch
Mandya	Kurikatu (Medium)	2900	2900	Unch
Mandya	Other (Medium)	3100	2900	200
Mandya	Yellow (Medium)	3200	3250	-50
Shimoga/Shivamogga	Achhu (Average)	NA	3250	-

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