

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

Mixed trend has been seen in Indian sugar markets across India on Thursday. The prices are likely to remain bullish in coming days unless government rises the minimum support price and creates export opportunities to relieve the sugar millers from clearing the increasing 2 years mounting arrears to be paid to cane farmers. The sudden rise in temperature and improved bulk and retail demand from cold drinks and juice makers lifted sugar prices by Rs.10-30 at major markets for some days in last week. In contrast, Kolhapur sugar mill price remained below MSP Rs.3100/q whereas in U.P's Khatauli market at Rs.3310INR.

Sugar production has already touched 31.2 mln tn, and it could come close to the last year's record of 32.5 mln tn as some mills in Maharashtra and U.P are still crushing cane.

Weather Forecast for tomorrow:

Scattered rain and thundershowers will continue in South Interior Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Isolated rains will occur over East Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya and Jammu and Kashmir. Day and night temperatures will increase further over North and Central India. Heat wave conditions are also possible in isolated pockets of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Vidarbha.

Previous Updates:

Pakistan exports 1.5 Lakh Tonnes of sugar to China under the Chinese duty-free incentive package of \$ 1 billion. As of last month Pakistan bagged the opportunity to export 3 lakh tonnes of sugar for which India has been waiting for long time. Pakistani official stated that that China has extended a duty free package for export of rice, sugar and 3.5 lakh tonnes of cotton yarn to Pakistan.

Sugar cane arrears of farmers in Uttar Pradesh till April 18 stands Rs.9,536 crore. Despite the central government's announcement of a soft loan package of `3,000 crore for mills in UP and further Rs.500 crore from the state government to 24 cooperative sugar mills for settling the arrears.

The Sugar Technologists Association of India (STAI) has urged the government to revise the minimum support price from Rs.3100/q to Rs.3600/q so that the sugar millers can overcome the financial crisis by paying the cane arrears to sugarcane farmers. Also The National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Millers and the Maharashtra Federation of Cooperative Sugar Millers have been seeking a hike in MSP of sugar.

This year's recovery rate up by 0.05% at 11.05% against last year recovery rate of 11%. This year the cooperative mills witnessed a hike in the recovery rate at 11.14% whereas private mills registered at 10.80% this sugar season.

Sugar prices sold off to 2-week lows Wednesday on the projection for larger global sugar supplies along with weakness in the Brazilian real. EU 2019/20 sugar output rising 4% y/y to 18.3 MMT The European Commission on Wednesday. Also, the Brazilian real fell to a 2-week low against the dollar, which encourages export selling by Brazil's sugar producers.

Till Tuesday, of the 195 mills that have taken crushing in the season, only 27 mills are functional and at least three are expected to continue the season till May. The state has reported crushing of 949.01 lakh tonne cane and produced 106.71 lakh tonne of sugar in SS 2018-19 against 107 lakh tonne sugar, an all-time high production figure last year.

SME mills constitute one-third of the Rs.102,500 crore sugar market in India, as of SS 2018. Small and medium sugar mills might see an improvement in profitability because of the hike in MSP raised by the government in February and it is expected to have lower production in SS 2020, which will push up prices by the end of SS 2020.

Mills in the state owed cane farmers Rs. 4,600 crore due to the low price of sugar and lack of liquidity with the mills by the March end in Maharashtra. The centre announced a soft loan scheme of 2,500 crore in February but actual disbursal of money is yet to take place.

Further in international market, ICE futures also seen weaker as weak crude oil prices are undercutting sugar prices since weaker crude oil prices are negative for ethanol prices and may prompt Brazil's sugar mills to divert more cane crushing toward sugar production rather than ethanol production, thus boosting sugar supplies.

Indian mills get contracts to export 2.7 mt sugar and another 4.3 lakh tonnes are in the export pipeline. Mills have already shipped out 1.7 million tonnes till April 6th as against 5 lakh tonnes shipped in the entire 2017-18 of the sweetener to the top destinations are Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Iran and Sudan.

Sugar prices moved lower Thursday with Aug London sugar falling to a 1-1/2 week low. Weakness in crude oil prices on Thursday undercut sugar prices. Lower crude oil prices are negative for sugar since the lower crude oil prices are negative for ethanol prices and may prompt Brazil's sugar mills to divert more cane crushing toward sugar production rather than ethanol production, thus boosting sugar supplies. Weakness in the Brazilian real against the dollar Thursday is another negative for sugar prices since the weaker real encourages export selling by Brazil's sugar producers.

Brazil's center-south region produced 26.500 million tonnes of sugar in the 2018/2019 crop, down from 36.060 million tonnes in the previous harvest. Mills in the main cane belt in Brazil crushed 573.070 million tonnes of cane against 596.330 million tonnes and directed more of their production to ethanol instead of sugar according to UNICA.

Weekly Outlook:

Indian Sugar markets remained weak during last 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 which contribute 55% of sugar. As per the Agriwatch estimate, spot sugar prices (M grade) in benchmark Kolhapur market are likely to range between Rs 3050-Rs 3200 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	340.3	2.10

International Sugar Futures ICE (US Cent/lb)

Daily Futures Price Listing Wed April 24, 2019									
Most Recent Information							Previous Day		
Mth	Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Change	Volume	Open Int	Change
Sugar #11(ICE)									
19-May	190424	12.68	12.72	12.53	12.68	-0.02	37,172	82,375	-12,460
19-Jul	190424	12.85	12.96	12.75	12.9	unch	75,937	385,869	-8,475
19-Oct	190424	13.15	13.24	13.06	13.22	0.03	21,341	194,752	-778
20-Mar	190424	13.99	14.09	13.93	14.08	0.03	7,775	131,409	1,048
20-May	190424	14.04	14.11	13.98	14.1	0.01	2,447	30,627	-149
20-Jul	190424	14.04	14.13	13.98	14.09	-0.02	1,567	22,119	-39
20-Oct	190424	14.16	14.24	14.07	14.16	-0.06	893	26,438	197
21-Mar	190424	14.66	14.76	14.55	14.63	-0.09	713	9,272	612
Total Volume and Open Interest							147,859	887,258	-20,037

International Sugar Futures LIFFE (US \$/MT)

Daily Futures Price Listing Wed April 24, 2019									
Most Recent Information							Previous Day		
Mth	Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Change	Volume	Open Int	Change
London Sugar(LCE)									
19-Aug	190424	337.3	341	335.8	340.3	2.1	0	52,757	-188
19-Oct	190424	342.2	346.3	341.1	345.8	2.3	0	20,180	313
19-Dec	190424	355.2	358	353.8	357.6	2	0	12,216	373
20-Mar	190424	365.7	368.9	365.5	368.3	1.1	0	7,204	46
20-May	190424	373.6	375	372.9	375	0.5	0	1,567	5
Total Volume and Open Interest							0	95,164	55

Sugar Prices at Key Spot Markets:					
Commodity	Centre	Variety	Prices (Rs/Qtl)		Change
Sugar			25-Apr-19	24-Apr-19	
Delhi	Delhi	M-Grade	3240	3200	40
	Delhi	S-Grade	3220	3180	40
Uttar Pradesh	Khatauli	M-Grade	3310	3305	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	3340	3346	-6
	Mumbai	S-Grade	3220	3220	Unch
	Nagpur	M-Grade	3225	3225	Unch
	Nagpur	S-Grade	3175	3225	-50
	Kolhapur	M-Grade	3100	3100	Unch
	Kolhapur	S-Grade	3050	3100	-50
Assam	Guhawati	S-Grade	3360	3410	-51
Meghalaya	Shillong	S-Grade	3370	3420	-50
Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	M-Grade	3580	3580	Unch
	Vijayawada	S-Grade	3540	3540	Unch
West Bengal	Kolkata	M-Grade	3500	3500	Unch
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	S-Grade	3460	3460	Unch

	Dindigul	M-Grade	3620	3620	Unch
	Coimbatore	M-Grade	3520	3520	Unch
Chattisgarh	Ambikapur	M-Grade (Without Duty)	3400	3400	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)			25-Apr-19	24-Apr-19	
Uttar Pradesh	Muzaffarnagar	Chaku Fresh	2788	2800	-13
	Muzaffarnagar	Chaku(Arrival)(40kg Bag)	6000	7000	-1000
	Muzaffarnagar	Khurpa (Fresh)	2550	2500	50
	Muzaffarnagar	Laddoo (Fresh)	2803	2803	Unch
	Muzaffarnagar	Rascut (Fresh)	2363	2313	50
	Hapur	Chaurasa	2563	2488	75
	Hapur	Balti	2525	2313	212
Andhra Pradesh	Chittur	Gold	4100	4200	-100
		White	3700	3600	100
		Black	3300	3200	100
Maharashtra	Latur	Lal Variety	NR	NR	-
Karnataka	Bangalore	Mudde (Average)	4400	4400	Unch
	Belgaum	Mudde (Average)	NA	NA	-
	Belthangadi	Yellow (Average)	NA	NA	-
	Bijapur/Vijayapura	Achhu	NA	NA	-
	Gulbarga/Kalaburgi	Other (Average)	NA	NA	-
	Mahalingapura	Penti (Average)	NA	NA	-
	Mandya	Achhu (Medium)	3750	3750	Unch
	Mandya	Kurikatu (Medium)	3450	3450	Unch
	Mandya	Other (Medium)	3650	3750	-100
	Mandya	Yellow (Medium)	NA	NA	-
	Shimoga/Shivamogga	Achhu (Average)	NA	NA	-

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