

HIGHLIGHTS FOR MAY 2011

BIRLA SUGAR

SNAP SHOTS

Upper Ganges posts profit

During the quarter ended March 31(third quarter), Upper Ganges Sugar & Industries Ltd, belonging to the K K Birla Group, posted a gross turnover of Rs 258.92 crore (Rs 116. 27 crore) and a net profit of Rs 15.28 crore (net loss of Rs 10.87 crore), according to a company release. The company sources would attribute the improved performance to better utilization of crushing capacity and adoption of cost control measures. The co-product like industrial alcohol and co-generation of power also contributed to improved results. The performance of the tea division too was satisfactory. Despite better result, the concern remains, says the release pointing out that the sugar industry continues to be affected by pressure on its margins due to the lower sugar prices that are prevailing in comparison to the high cost of cane declared by the State Governments. Furthermore, cane availability and recovery were adversely affected due to uneven distribution of rainfall during the year.

OTHER PLAYERS

Mangalore: Brahmavar Sugar Factory May be given New Lease of Life

Speaking to mediapersons here on Monday, state cooperation minister Lakshman Savadi said that there had been a proposal to revive the currently defunct Brahmavar sugar factory in the Udipi district.

If suitable lessees come forward to take it over, the factory would be given on lease, he said.

By giving a new lease of life to the factory, the sugarcane growers of both DK and Udupi would benefit a lot, he added.

Girdharilal Sugar & Allied Industries reports net loss of Rs. 0.63 crore in the March 2011 quarter

Girdharilal Sugar & Allied Industries reported net loss to Rs. 0.63 crore in the quarter ended March 2011 as against net profit of Rs. 0.18 crore during the previous quarter ended March 2010. There were no sales reported in the quarter ended March 2011 and during the previous quarter ended March 2010.

For the Unaudited full year, net profit declined 60.13% to Rs. 0.61 crore in the year ended March 2011 as against Rs. 1.53 crore during the previous year ended March 2010. There were no sales reported in the year ended March 2011 and during the previous year ended March 2010.

Triveni Engg bets on sugar business as prices pick up

Triveni Engineering sees its sugar business improving going forward as it expects sugar prices picking up on back of much lower than anticipated production in India, the company said in a press release while detailing its fourth-quarter results Tuesday.

"Sugar prices would also improve due to substantial exports through both advance and open general licences," the company said in the release.

Mawana Sugars to launch another brand "Mawana Premium"

Mawana Sugars, which has launched speciality sugar under the brand 'Mawana Select' today, said it is planning to launch another brand - Mawana Premium - next month in the north and the west. "Mawana Premium is double refined quality white sugar that will be available at competitive price at retail stores," company's Vice-President (Retail) Surjya Meher told PTI. The company is planning to touch 10,000 retail stores in the first three months of launching Mawana Premium.

Balrampur Chini Mills

Balrampur Chini Mills reported 309% growth in standalone net profit to Rs. 112.78 crore for the quarter ended March 2011, primarily on account of improved operational performance combined with the better volumes enabled the company to deliver the better profitability. Increase in volumes across the segments was on the back of higher sugarcane availability due to higher acreage. In addition, the 11% decline in landed sugarcane cost per quintal to Rs. 216.39 had resulted in decrease in raw material cost.

Sugar prices likely to remain flat: Simbhaoli Sugar Mills

In an interview with CNBC-TV18, Sanjay Tapriya, CFO, Simbhaoli Sugar Mills says, March quarter result has been reasonably satisfactory. "The company turned around; instead of a loss, it reported a profit compared to the previous quarter."

He says, average sugar realisation was Rs 29.50 per kg this quarter. He says, sugar prices won't fall much. "The market is likely to remain flat at this level of about Rs 27-29 in North India and Rs 25-26 in the central part of India," he adds.

Shree Renuka has strong support at Rs 56-58: Bhamre

Shree Renuka Sugar has strong support at Rs 56-58, says Siddharth Bhamre of Angel Broking.

Bhamre told CNBC-TV18, "We are seeing good amount of shorting taking place. We were not having any view or any positions in sugar off-late but yesterday we have initiated some contra position in Shree Renuka Sugar. The stock has a strong support in a range of Rs 58 to Rs 56. It's a multi month kind of support if you look at the long-term charts and there has been significant shorting, which has taken place from Rs 70 odd levels to current levels of sub Rs 60."

Rajshree Sugars Q4 net jumps two-fold

Rajshree Sugars and Chemicals standalone net profit stood at Rs10.10 crore in the same period last year. Rajshree Sugars and Chemicals have announced more than two-fold jump in the standalone net profit at Rs24.41 crore for the quarter ended 31 March.

The company's standalone net profit stood at Rs10.10 crore in the same period last year, it said in a filing to the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).

Sugar down on talk of ample supply

Sugar fell in London for the first day in six on speculation supply will meet demand even after output plunged in Brazil, the world's biggest producer. Global sugar supply will outpace demand by as much as 4 million tonnes next year as output gains in Brazil and India, Peter Baron, executive director of the International sugar Organization, said on Wednesday.

Sugar millers pitch for more exports

The Indian Sugar Mills Association said it may ask the government to allow more overseas sales this year because of a widening production surplus.

The government on April 19 said it would allow exports of 500,000 tonnes under the so-called open general licence plan. India is the world's second largest producer, after Brazil.

Bajaj Hindusthan plans rights issue to retire debt

The country's largest sugar maker Bajaj Hindusthan is planning to launch a rights issue to raise Rs 1,820 crore for part repayment of debts.

The company had last week filed the Draft Letter of Offer for Rights Issue with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) to raise Rs 1,820 crore, of which Rs 1,720 crore would be utilised for retiring its debts.

Mawana Sugars to sell chemical BIZ

A month after Kanoria Chemicals sold its chloro chemicals business to Aditya Birla Group for Rs 830 crore, Siddharth Shriram-controlled Mawana Sugars has initiated the process for selling its chemical business. The proceeds would be used to bring down the company's debt, currently at Rs 470 crore, to below Rs 200 crore.

Sugar to cost Rs 28-29/kg for next quarters: Dhampur Sugars

Dhampur Sugars has announced its results for the January-March period. The company's PBT is Rs 54.36 crore for the fourth quarter this year compared to Rs 14.86 crore for the fourth quarter last year. The total sales for the quarter ending in March 2011 are Rs 349 crore compared to Rs 284 crore for March 2010.

Ponni Sugars begins work on cogeneration project

Ponni Sugars (Erode) Ltd has started its Rs 110-crore cogeneration project, which is targeted for commissioning in March 2012. According to information provided by the company to the stock exchange, the project has achieved financial closure with a Rs 65-crore term loan from Canara Bank. Order for all major items has been placed. The 15-MW plant will have provision to be expanded to 19 MW with supplementary fossil fuel. For 2010-11 the company has reported a net profit of Rs 18.61 crore on a

turnover of Rs 269.48 crore. During the previous year the company reported a net profit of Rs 36.85 crore on a turnover of Rs 244.64 crore.

Dhampur Sugar Mills net zooms 4.25 times for Mar ` 11 qtr

Dhampur Sugar Mills announced a phenomenal rise in standalone net profit for the quarter ended March 2011. During the quarter, the profit of the company rose 4.25 times to Rs 526.30 million from Rs 123.86 million in the same quarter previous year.

Net sales for the quarter for the quarter rose 20.50% to Rs 3,496.22 million, while total income for the quarter rose 20.52% to Rs 3,498.87 million, when compared with the prior year period.

INDIAN SUGAR INDUSTRY

No sugar duty till June

As a precautionary measure, the government has abolished import duty on sugar till June, even as the country's domestic output is set to exceed domestic output is set to exceed domestic demand and mills are exporting the sweetener.

Sugar Export: Factories get 29 per kg

Sugar mills in Maharashtra are getting Rs 29/kg ex-mill rate for the sweetener they export. This is Rs 3 more than the domestic market rate of Rs 25.70/kg in the state. Though sugar exports have finally begun after hiccups, the industry thinks no one is gaining in the process.

Sugar price fluctuates

The sugar price fluctuated, after selling pressure to meet delivery commitments for May 5 gripped the market. At mills level, the sentiment continued to be firm as some fresh buying inquiry from neighbouring States, along with local demand for the month beginning, increased. Spot sugar prices on the Vashi wholesale market declined by Rs. 4-5 a quintal in line with correction in Naka rates on resale selling pressure.

Sugar steady on trade enquiries

Spot sugar price ruled steady on Tuesday on need-based local demand. Naka rates were down by Rs 10 a quintal for S-grade on increase in lifting pressure for nearby due date. Rate for M-grade was unchanged. Mill tender rates showed a firm trend as all are expecting fresh demand to pick up soon. Fresh buying inquiry from neighbouring States also increased.

In the Mumbai market, local demand was less than expected due to vacation period. Arrivals were higher than local dispatch and increased the inventory in the market.

Maharashtra sugar output may hit record 91.5 lt

Maharashtra's sugar output may touch an all-time-high 91.50 lakh tonnes (lt) during the 2010-11 season (October-September), even as the State Government is planning additional sops to enable mills to crush the entire cane lying in growers' fields.

The State Cabinet, it is learnt, is considering a proposal on Wednesday to grant mills a cane transport subsidy of Rs 3/tonne for every one-km distance. Currently, this subsidy - effective since March 16 - is available only on cane transported beyond 50 km.

What is being mooted now is to dispense with the minimum 50-km distance requirement. That means even if cane is sourced from a distance of 10 km, mills can claim a refund of Rs 30/tonne.

Sugar falls to 7-month low on Thai output; cocoa drops

Sugar fell to the lowest price in almost seven months in London on speculation supply will more than suffice to meet demand as Thai production tops estimates and harvesting proceeds in Brazil. Cocoa declined.

Output in Thailand, the world's second-largest sugar exporter, will come to between 9.3 million and 9.7 million metric tonne, broker and researcher Kingsman SA said in a report yesterday.

Construction of sugar factory begins at Lakhandur

The sugar factory in Lakhandur region will open the doors to development of the area as well as the economic upliftment of farmers, said Union minister for heavy industries Praful Patel on Sunday. He was addressing farmers at the ground breaking ceremony for the sugar factory at Lakhandur.

Sugar futures down on higher output hopes

Sugar fell by 0.14% to Rs 2,840 per quintal in futures trade today amid higher output expectations this season.

However, an improvement in demand, capped the losses.

At the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange, sugar for delivery in July traded Rs 4, or 0.14% lower at Rs 2,840 per quintal, with an open interest of 10,190 lots.

Likewise, sugar futures prices for delivery in May shed Rs 3, or 0.11% to Rs 2,726 per quintal, with a business turnover of 40,030 lots.

Sugar unchanged on normal supply

Sugar price at Vashi market ruled almost unchanged on Wednesday on back of steady demand and normal supply from producing centres. Arrivals and dispatches to local retailers eased in absence of consumer demand.

Undertone at Naka and mill tender rates was firm as mills were not very keen to sell at present price. With the end of crushing season near many mills in Maharashtra have already stopped crushing and the morale is bullish. Undertone of retail market is not weak. In spot, S-grade sugar rose by Rs 5 a quintal. Local demand in next few days will decide market direction, said traders.

Sugar tumbles on ample supply

Spot prices traded lower owing to better supplies in the domestic mandis while futures settled at the same rate as that of Tuesday. However, approval of first tranche of unrestricted Sugar exports will control prices from falling sharply.

LIFFE White Sugar Futures fell by 2.76% and settled at \$592.7 tonne on account of improved supplies in the market. ICE Raw sugar Futures settled 3.17% lower on Wednesday. Prices declined on account of crushing of sugarcane in full swing in Brazil, the largest sugar producer in the world.

India has made available 17.5 lakh tonnes of non-levy sugar for May, higher than 17 lakh tonnes it had released for April.

Sugar Export Orders For Only A Fifth of Approved 5LT

The Food Ministry has issued export orders for only 92,000 tonnes of sugar to mills till last week out of the total quantity of 5LT that the government has allowed for outbound shipment. Sugar mills cannot export their produce without a release order from the Food Ministry. On March 22, an empowered group of ministers on food headed by FM Pranab Mukherjee had allowed mills to export 5 LT of sugar under an Open General Licence (OGL), which do not entail any restrictions. The decision was notified on April 19. Out of 5LT, 51,500 t was reserved for neighbouring countries.

Sugar futures down on higher output, profit-booking

Sugar futures prices dipped by Rs 12 to Rs 2,754 per quintal largely on increased arrivals in the spot market amid higher output.

However, summer season demand from bulk consumers limited the losses.

At the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange, sugar for delivery in June fell by Rs 12, or 0.43 per cent to Rs 2,754 per quintal, with an open interest of 21,820 lots.

The sugar for delivery in May also shed Rs 8, or 0.29 per cent to Rs 2,707 per quintal, with trade volume of 38,730 lots.

Should cane pricing be formula-based?

By no measure, sugar is as sensitive commodity as pulses and cereals or fruits and vegetables or edible oils are. But as we saw last year and also in the beginning of this year, when raging inflation was sending food prices up every week, the government became inert in taking some long-pending decisions on sugar, irrespective of their possible impact on prices.

The fact remains that cane growing states have overarching powers over the running of sugar factories in their domain. Some states like Uttar Pradesh are too jealous of the way their writ run on cane price fixing at a big premium over the fair and remunerative price (FRP) declared by the Centre. For example, this season the UP government made sugar mills pay Rs 210 a quintal, which is Rs 70.88 a quintal more than FRP. Mills in Bihar have also bought cane at more or less an identical premium over FRP.

Sugar futures down on supply pressure

Sugar futures traded 0.94% lower at Rs 2,719 per quintal today amid supply pressure following higher output even as demand from bulk consumers picked up.

At the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange, sugar for delivery in June fell by Rs 26, or 0.94%, to Rs 2,744 per quintal, with an open interest of 23,810 lots.

Similarly, sugar for delivery in May lost Rs 24, or 0.87% to Rs 2,719 per quintal, with a business volume of 37,490 lots.

India's sugar output jumps 25% in Oct-Apr

India's sugar output has increased by 25% to 22.6 million tonne in the first seven months of the 2010-11 sugar seasons, which started in October 2010.

"Mills have produced 22.6 million tonne between October and April of this season, compared to 18.1 million tonne in the year-ago period," Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) Director General Abinash Verma said.

Sugar production has increased due to higher cane production on the back of a good monsoon last year, he said.

Sugar output seen at 24.2-24.5 mt

Sugar output for 2010-11 (Oct-Sep) season is likely to be 24.2-24.5 million tonne, lower than the earlier projection of 25mt, an industry official said on Monday. Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh are the top two sugar producing states.

Sugar factories account for 57% of MSC bank's NPA

Cooperative sugar factories in the state account for 57 per cent of the Rs 2,328 crore worth non-performing assets (NPA) of the Maharashtra state cooperative (MSC) bank, which is facing action from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for financial mismanagement. This means that the sugar factories have not repaid loans worth Rs 1,327 crore to the bank.

Delay in govt permission affects sugar export price

Sugar exports have failed to fetch a good price for sugar factories from the state, the result, say experts, of delayed permission from the government to begin exports.

Although the announcement to restart sugar exports was made in December 2010, the actual order was issued only in April, by which time the international market had started receiving sugar from Thailand.

Sugar Futures Slumps More Than 1% On Weak Physical Demand

Sugar futures witnessed strong selling in today's trading on the back of bearish cues in international market along with steady supplies in the domestic market .The NCDEX Benchmark May contract declined by almost Rs. 21 per quintal in today's trading.

As per market sources, the steady decline in the global sugar prices might discourage the export of domestic sugar in the coming days. The future prices of Sugar August Delivery contract at London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange (LIFFE) wilted almost 25% since the beginning of the 2011.

Medium sugar ends mixed in lacklustre trade

Medium sugar prices ended mixed at the Vashi Wholesale sugar market here today due to alternate bouts of buying and selling amid ample stock positions.

On the other hand, small sugar variety closed almost flat in the absence of any buying activity.

Medium sugar (M-30) were quoted at Rs 2,801/2,911 from last Saturday's closing level

of Rs 2,805/2,900.

Small sugar (S-30), however ended slightly lower at Rs 2,760/2,791 per quintal as compared to Rs 2,761/2,791 last weekend.

Sugar range-bound on steady supply

Spot sugar prices on the Vashi wholesale market declined by Rs 5-7, tracking the steady demand-supply position on Tuesday. *Naka* and mill tender rates were unchanged as producers got good response to tender offers, with usual volumes.

Good quality sugar was in demand, and freight rates ruled steady. Mr Harakhchand Vora, Vice-President, Bombay Sugar Merchants' Association, said: Limited buying in the physical market due to summer vacation kept the price range-bound. Lack of buying in the neighbouring States in the last two days and higher arrivals weakened the spot market sentiment.

UP cane acreage estimated to rise 10%

The Uttar Pradesh government will employ Global Positioning System (GPS) to ascertain sugarcane area for the 2011-12 crushing season, even as the acreage is estimated to rise 10 per cent and breach 2.3 million hectares (m ha).

GPS would ensure acreage estimates are more accurate to enable the department prepare better for the impending season. Besides, it would help sugar mills in ascertaining cane availability in their reservation area.

Centre nods for export of 91,685 tonnes of sugar

The Centre has approved export of 91,685 tonnes of sugar as part of the planned 5, 00,000 tonnes of overseas sales. According to sources, the food ministry had permitted 92 mills to ship out 91,685 tonnes.

India's food ministry has distributed the quota of 5, 00,000 tonnes among mills on the basis of their three years' average output, or two years' average production in the case where a mill has not been in operation in one of the three years.

Sugar output to reach a new high; Isma may trim estimates

Sugar output in Maharashtra, the nation's biggest producer, will reach a record this year after farmers increased planting to benefit from high prices, a producers' group said.

Output may climb to 9.15 million tonne in the year ending September. 30, from 7.1 million tonnes a year earlier, Prakash Naiknavare, managing director of the Maharashtra State Cooperative Sugar Factories Federation, said in a phone interview on Tuesday. Production climbed 27% to 8.76 million tonnes between Octobers. 1 and May 9, he said.

Sugar settles down on sluggish demand

Sugar spot prices as well futures settled 0.34% and 0.15% lower owing to dull trades at the domestic market. However, reports of approval of second tranche of sugar exports of 91,685 tonnes by the government further will control prices from falling sharply.

LIFFE and ICE Raw Sugar futures settled 4.95% and 4.34% higher on Tuesday on expectation that output in Brazil. The major producer of the sweetener might be reduced owing to heavy rains.

ISMA cuts '10-11 sugar output tally to 242 L tonnes

The Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) on Friday slashed the total sugar production estimate for the ongoing 2010-11 sugar year by 8 lakh tonnes to 242 lakh tonnes.

At the beginning of the current sugar year (October-September), ISMA had projected the total sugar output at 255 lakh tonnes, but the forecast was later revised downward to 250 lakh tonnes.

Isma slashes sugar output estimate

The Indian Sugar Mills Association (Isma) on Friday slashed the total sugar production estimate for the ongoing 2010-2011 sugar year by 8 lakh tonne to 242 lakh tonne. At the beginning ISMA had projected the total sugar output at 255 lakh tonne.

Sugar rules firm on W. Bengal demand

Sugar prices on the Vashi wholesale market ruled steady and at the mill level on Friday, on the back of fresh demand from upcountry and local buyers.

The firm tone continued at the mill level on increased fresh buying from buyers in the East. On Thursday, about 3-4 rail rakes each of 27,000 bags of a quintal each were traded/sold to buyers from West Bengal.

Permit issued to export 1.43 lt sugar

The government has so far issued release orders for 1,43,560.51 tonnes sugar export under the open general licence scheme, data on the Sugar Directorate's website showed. As on Wednesday, 149 mills have got permits to export sugar, it said. Last month, the government had notified export of 500,000 tonnes sugar under open general licence. Mills that will export sugar from their own factories have been given 30 days from April 19 to apply for permits.

Sugar trades up on domestic demand

Sugar spot prices and futures settled 2.38% and 0.04% higher w-w owing demand from the local stockists. Reports of approval of second tranche of sugar exports of 91.685 tonnes by the government are also supporting sugar prices.

LIFFE and ICE Raw Sugar futures settled 0.12% and 0.56% higher on Friday owing to buying by market participants at lower levels. However, fresh supplies from Brazil and Thailand might restrict prices from trading higher.

Defaulting sugar units sold cheap in Pune

The National bank for agriculture and rural development (NABARD) report, which exposed the poor health of Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSCB), prompting the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to sack the board of directors, has also highlighted the top management's sloppy functioning.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the MSCB statement which shows the names of sold out cooperative sugar mills (sahakari sakhar kharkhanas or SSKs) under the Securitization Act, 2002, as on January 31, 2011.

State has excess sugarcane this year

The state is now facing a problem of [excess sugarcane production](#). With almost 50 lakh tonne additional sugarcane in the state yet to be crushed, the state sugar industry is likely to continue crushing till mid June.

Out of the 50 lakh tonne, 26 lakh tonne excess sugarcane is in Pune district alone. Seven lakh tonne excess sugarcane is available in Ahmednagar district, where the maximum number of sugar factories is located. The state, so far, has produced over 90 lakh tonne sugar, which has exceeded the production of the last season. The total sugar output of the last season was 72 lakh tonne.

Blow to BJP MP over sugar factory

In a significant verdict, the Karnataka high court has directed Shivashakthi Sugars, a sugar factory promoted by Prabhakar Kore, BJP MP, from proceeding further in its construction/operations at its Yadrav unit in Belgaum.

Sugar barons exploit loopholes, default on govt dues: PAC

Even as the state witnesses sabre rattling between coalition partners Congress and NCP over the board of directors of the Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank (MSCB) being dissolved by the RBI, the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the legislature has pointed out that the sugar barons tended to take benefit of loopholes in the co-operative sector laws to liquidate factories and sell them while defaulting on the payment of government dues. The PAC has sought that these legal lacunae be done away with.

Sugar mills slow in seeking export orders

Sugar mills have sought export release orders from the Food Ministry for only about one-third of the total 4.45 lakh tones of shipment permitted by the Government, though the deadline expires this week. According to the notification, the last date for submission for applications by mills opting to export sugar from their own production is May 18. However, the deadline for mills opting to source sugar for export from other factories is June 2.

Mills slow in applying for sugar export orders'

Sugar mills have sought export release orders from the Food Ministry for only about one-third of the total 4.45 lakh tonne of shipment permitted by the government, though the deadline expires this week. With effect from April 19, the government allowed export of 4.45 lakh tonne of sugar under open general licences (OGL).

The quota was allocated to 490 mills on the basis of their average production during the last three years.

As per the notification, the last date for submission for applications by mills opting to export sugar from their own production is May 18. However, the deadline for mills opting to source sugar for export from other factories is June 2.

Sugar drops as mills resort to distress sale

Sugar prices ruled weak on Tuesday on report of producers resorting to distress sale for making payment and wanting liquidity. Continued selling by mills dragged naka rates by Rs 8-10 a quintal and spot prices also slipped Rs 5-7.

Tender rates dropped by Rs 5-10 a quintal. Higher demand for summer was met by higher arrivals and higher volume, as mills are continuously offloading to reduce stocks. The sentiment was weak, said traders.

Now, Maharashtra looks to become hub of sugar export

Maharashtra, India's top sugar producing state, is now looking at global competitiveness in exports of the sweetener. As a step towards this, the Sugar Technologists Association of India (STAI) and the Deccan Sugar Technologists Association are organising a four-day joint convention at Pune on July 2, which is likely to be attended by around 1,500 delegates from India and abroad.

The state already enjoys high yields, competitive cost of production, high sugar recovery rates and easy access to ports, the states stand a good chance to emulate Brazil in terms of exporting the commodity.

Sugar firms' net profit up 2% in Mar qtr

Sugar companies did well in the quarter ended March. They have reported 29 per cent growth in revenue from sale of sugar and a 182-basis points (bps) improvement in operating margins over a year. Aided by co-generation and distillery units, the operating margin jumped 440 bps over the December 2010 quarter. The net profit is up around two per cent, as against a 71 per cent decline in the quarter ended December.

Nod for sugar mill in East Champaran

The state cabinet on Tuesday gave its nod to the proposal to set up a sugar mill with a capacity of 2500 TCD along with a 5MW cogeneration plant at cost of Rs 129.33 crore at Satha in East Champaran district. The mill would be set up by M/s Prasad Refrigeration and Agro Industries Pvt Limited and would be expandable to 5000 TCD capacity.

Traders oppose VAT on sugar, textile

Traders from across Orissa have threatened to launch a two-day strike on May 24 to protest against the state government's recent decision to impose 4 per cent value added tax (VAT) on textile and sugar.

The traders described the government's decision as arbitrary and demanded its rollback. They claimed that the imposition of VAT will increase the prices of various textile products and sugar and consumers will have to bear the brunt.

Govt issues export release orders for 1.55 lakh tons sugar: report

The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) had decided to allow mills to export a small quantity of five lakh tons as the production is estimated to cross domestic consumption after a gap of two seasons, adds report.

The Food Ministry has issued export release orders for 1,55,816 tons or 1.55 lakh tons of sugar to over 155 mills. The release orders were not approved for five mills due to problems in their agreements or applications.

Global surplus caps sugar prices

Burdened by strong fundamentals that suggest a large surplus this year, the global sugar market has been gripped by range-bound trading in the last few days, trapped at 21-22 cents a pound with nothing in the short run to suggest a break.

Estimates of sugar market surplus vary between 9 million and 10 million tonnes; but currently all eyes are on Brazil, by far the world's largest producer and exporter. A well known private estimate is Brazil's cane output of 575 million tonnes and 25 million tonnes of sugar available for export.

In one month, sugar exports 50% short of allowed quota

At the close of a month-long window for sugar exporters on Friday, mills registered less than half of the allowed export volume at just 155,816 tonnes, out of nearly half a million tonne the government had earmarked for exports in December last year.

Exporters said that a dip in sugar prices, since the government allowed the time sugar exports had contributed to lower exports.

India sugar regains on active buying

The sugar futures witnessed small recovery in prices on short covering on previous losses.

However, overall trend remained sluggish due to poor demand from stokiast.

Millers are offering lower prices than their tenders still bulk buyers are not coming for buying.

Heavy selling at futures also pressurized the prices and June futures hit a new contract low of 2665 level.

Sugar futures are projected to continue the recovery during early trade on Monday on fresh buying at lower levels.

Selling by mills pulls down sugar

Spot sugar prices on the Vashi wholesale terminal market declined by Rs 10-15 a quintal on increased selling at the upper level on Monday. Sugar mills have started selling before the due date for the month's free-sale quota gets over next week. Mill tender rates were down by Rs 10-15. On lack of local demand, *naka* rates came down sharply by Rs 20/Rs 30 as stockists off-loaded in resale. Demand is expected to remain weak for some time, said traders.

Maharashtra govt may pay for speedier cane crushing

The Maharashtra government is considering incentives to speed the cutting and transport of sugarcane to sugar factories.

The estimated crop is about 81 million tonnes and mills have crushed 77.9 mt so far, to produce 8.8 mt of sugar, at a 11.3 per cent recovery. If all of it would be crushed, at that rate, there would be 9.5 mt of sugar.

However, there is apprehension that an early monsoon may ensure about four mt of cane remains uncrushed, in the fields. The government has already instructed about 60 mills in the cane-rich regions of Pune, Solapur, Ahmadnagar and Satara not to close operations till all the cane was crushed.

Sugar stocks hit 52-week low

Most sugar stocks hit a 52-week low on Monday due to the lack of positive guidance. Estimates of higher acreage this season dampened market sentiments initially. But, short covering at the year's low lifted the price marginally towards the end of the session.

Private sugar factories to make their presence felt

The 2011-12 sugarcane crushing season starting from November this year will see 51 private sugar factories mark their presence in Maharashtra's sugar sector, accounting for almost 30 percent of the 4.50 lakh tonne daily crushing capacity of the state, giving stiff competition to the 123 co-operative factories.

"Our conservative estimates put the crushing capacity of private sugar factories at 30 percent but it is expected to increase upto almost 50 percent in the next couple of years," said [Anil Bansode](#), joint director, sugar development in the state sugar commissionerate.

India sugar tumbles on heavy selling

Bearish trend in sugar futures continued for 2nd consecutive session on reduce demand from bulk buyers.

Futures started the day on positive note on short covering. However, prices failed to sustain the gains and resumed down trend on heavy selling.

Reduced off take from wholesaler and retailers side due to month closing has also added to the down side.

Cane crushing in Gujarat to rise by 1mn tonne this year

Sugarcane crushing in Gujarat is pegged at around 12.6 million tonne this year, up by nearly one million tonne from the last year, industry sources informed. However, the recovery from the sugarcane is believed to remain lower this year over last year, mainly on account of the poor quality of cane and longer duration of the crushing season.

Sugarcane area poised to rise by 8-10% in 2011-12

Sugar production estimated at 26-26.5 million tonnes, up from 24.2-24.5 million tonnes.

Area under sugarcane in the new crop year that starts in October 2011 is expected to increase by around 8 -10 per cent because of good price to growers, relatively favourable weather and continuation of positive sugar cycle

In 2010-11, sugarcane was planted in 4.98 million hectares across the country, of which 1 million hectares was in Maharashtra and over 2 million hectares in Uttar Pradesh, official estimates show. Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra are the two largest sugarcane producing states in the country, accounting for more than 80 per cent of the annual crop production.

Govt extends deadline for sugar export licence for mills

The government has extended the deadline for sugar mills to seek permission to export sugar from their own production of 2010-11 by fifteen days.

The deadline for mills to seek the food ministry's permission for allowing export ended on May 18. However, many mills, mainly cooperative sugar mills were pressing for extension of the deadline due to procedural problems. "We have extended the deadline by 15 days," a senior food ministry official said. The sugar crop year runs from October to September.

India rules out more sugar exports

India, the second largest sugar producer, ruled out additional exports until it assesses the harvests next season as the nation uses the surplus from the biggest output in three years to rebuild stockpiles.

Maharashtra okays 92 more pvt sugar mills

Expected to generate investment of Rs 9,000 crore in the next 4-5 years.

Maharashtra, which contributes nearly a third to India's sugar production, is expected to have an additional investment of close to Rs 9,000 crore in the next four and half years, in the establishment of 92 private sugar mills.

According to the state cooperation department, there are presently 165 cooperative mills and 43 private mills in the state, with a combined capital investment of Rs 20,000 crore.

Co-ops find sugar exports unattractive

Uninspiring prices of sugar at the international market have made sugar export an unattractive prospect for factories in the state. The factories so far have exported only two lakh quintal of sugar despite holding licences to export 1.40 lakh tonne.

Ashok Gade, joint director (by-products), state sugar commissionerate, said, "One factory each from Kolhapur and Sangli exported 1.22 lakh quintal and 95,088 quintal sugar from the state so far. Fifteen factories from Kolhapur, 13 from Sangli and 5 from Ahmednagar have received release orders from the Union government for export. The factories will have to export sugar within two months from the date of release order."

India sugar settles higher on fresh buying

The sugar futures witnessed smart recovery on short covering on Thursday. Futures started the day on flat note on short covering and remained positive during early hours.

However, prevailing bearish fundamentals of reduced stockiest buying limited the gains and market closed on marginally positive note.

Sugar futures are projected to take smart recovery on short covering after witnessing huge losses in recent past.

However, prevailing weak trend on lower month end demand from retailers' side might limit the gains during the day.

Govt. releases 18.57 lakh tonnes of sugar for June

The Government has decided to make available 18.57 lakh tonnes of sugar for June this year, which it says would be sufficient to meet the internal demand for the commodity during the month.

This includes 2.07 lakh tonnes of levy sugar and 16.50 lakh tonnes of non-levy sugar, an official press release said.

The non-levy quota includes normal quota of 16.36 lakh tonnes and 0.14 lakh tonnes of white/refined sugar processed out of imported raw sugar during March, 2011.

Sugar continues downtrend on ample supply

Despite lower quota released for the month of June sugar prices continued to add to the losses of the previous day and settled 1.78% and 4.03% w-w. India has made available 1.65 million tonnes of non-levy sugar for the month of June, lower than the 1.75 million tonnes which government had released for May.

Sugar down on ample supply

Sugar prices drifted by Rs 10 per quintal in the national capital on Monday following ample supply from mills against slackened demand.

Market analysts said despite summer season demand, adequate availability of stocks following increased supplies from mills, mainly led to the fall in sugar prices.

Meanwhile, the government released 18.57 lakh tonne of free sale sugar including 2.07 lakh tonne levy for the month of June, which further put pressure on the prices.

INTERNATIONAL SUGAR INDUSTRY

Sugar Squeeze in U.S.

There's no candy-coating it: The U.S. is facing a sugar crunch. A potential drop in home-grown sugar coupled with government caps on imports of the sweetener could drive up prices, just before the peak Christmas season.

A harsh winter has caused headaches for U.S. sugar-cane and sugar-beet farmers. Record cold last December damaged sugar cane in Florida, taking about 260,000 short tons of raw sugar out of production, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Sony Sugar hit Stima

The ninth weekend of the Kenyan Premier League (KPL) witnessed a number of draws with Sony Sugar emerging the sole clear winners with a deserved 1-0 win over Western Stima in Awendo, courtesy of a Joshua Oyoo's 77th minute strike.

League leaders Tusker shared the spoils with Karuturi Sports at the City Stadium, as they played to a barren, with former Tusker coach James Nandwa, now in charge of Karuturi, managing to frustrate his former employer who ended his contract prematurely in November after he failed to win for them the title in two attempts.

Funds cut bullish bets on sugar futures

Hedge funds cut their bullish bets on sugar futures to the lowest in more than two years as supplies surged in Thailand, the world's second-biggest exporter.

Experts Say Sugar is Dangerous & Bad for your Health

Health experts recommend we eat no more than eight teaspoons of sugar day. But on average, Americans consume four times that much.

Food fight breaks out over "corn sugar"

Big Sugar is taking Big Corn to court over the name "corn sugar." Representatives of U.S. sugar farmers and refiners claim that the corn industry's use of the term constitutes false and misleading advertising. We agree that the name is confusing. But we also think that you should limit consumption of all added sugar, in any name or form.

Sugar Consumed by Americans Equals 22 Teaspoons Daily

Sugar consumption in adults in the United States is around 22 teaspoons a day--roughly 355 calories, UPI reports. Phil Lempert, a food industry analyst, trend-watcher and creator of the web site supermarketguru.com, says Americans eat double the daily recommended amount of sugar added to food. "Added sugar" can be anything from honey to high-fructose corn syrup and classifies for the label by being added to food during preparation, rather than being present naturally.

Sugar Extends Drop on Thai Crop; Coffee Rises, Cocoa Declines

Sugar fell to the lowest in more than seven months on forecasts for record production in Thailand, the world's second-biggest exporter. Coffee gained, while cocoa dropped.

Sugar output in the Asian nation will reach 9.47 million metric tons, after rainfall increased yields, boosting exports to an all-time high, the country's [Office of the Cane & Sugar Board](#) said last week. That compares with an earlier projection for record production of 9.11 million tons. Last month, the commodity retreated 18 percent, the third straight drop, as supply concerns eased.

Thai Sugar output seen at 9.8 mt

Sugar production in Thailand, the world's second largest shipper after Brazil, may climb to 9.8 million tonnes for the current season, German researcher F.O.Licht said. Output had reached 9.6 million tonnes by the beginning of this month, up from 7.2 million tonnes a year earlier, the researcher said in a report covering the April 25-May 2 period. Raw sugar has fallen 19 percent on ICE Futures US in New York over the past month on larger than expected Thai output.

Sugar falls on Thai production

Sugar fell for a fifth day in London after production in Thailand, the world's second largest shipper, increased on concerns that China may take further steps to contain inflation. White, or refined, sugar for August delivery fell 0.9 percent, to \$ 604.10 a tone by 9.46 a.m. on NYSE Liffe in London. Raw sugar for July delivery slid 0.2 percent, to 22 cents a pound on ICE Futures US in New York.

Sugar rises on concern over Brazil supplies

Sugar rebounded in London, after falling for seven straight sessions, on concerns production in top producer Brazil may fall short of estimates. White, or refined, sugar for August delivery climbed \$ 1.80, or 0.3 percent, to \$ 583.80 a tone on NYSE Liffe in London. Raw sugar for July delivery advanced 0.5 cent a pound, or 2.4 percent, to 20.98 cents a pound on ICE Futures US in New York.

Distilleries expanding from sugar to agri?

Business tycoon Harry Jayawardena controlled Distilleries Company Plc has incorporated two new subsidiaries, probably to further expand into the agriculture business following its recent acquisition of Pelwatte Sugar Industries Plc.

Sudan to provide multiple visas to Pak investors

Faisalabad Sudan will provide six-month multiple visas to Pakistani investors as there were huge opportunities for foreign investors. This was stated by Sudanese Ambassador Muhammad Umar Musa while addressing a meeting at Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FCCI) here Saturday. He said that Sudan was situated in the middle of Africa and it has much attraction for foreign investors in many fields.

Sugar Industry Leaders Back Boc Chief

Sugar Regulatory Administration Chief Regina Bautista-Martin, leading heads of the different sugar farmers' federations country-wide, met with Customs Commissioner Angelito A. Alvarez on 5th May, conveying their support for the Bureau of Customs (BoC) efforts against sugar smuggling, including its proposal for imposing a 38% tariff on refined sugar, with other ingredients or refined sugar premixes having a high sugar content.

Norfolk leads field in beet seed progress

In the past four years, worldwide seed technology giant Germains has invested about 11m, mostly at the group's base on the Hardwick industrial estate at King's Lynn

Beet industry steps up to population challenge

THE UK sugar beet industry is stepping up to the challenge of feeding a growing population as efficiently as possible, a new report suggests.

Another year of no profit for canegrowers

Canegrowers in Far North Queensland say they're not expecting to make any money this year.

Thai crop a factor in sugar price fall

The price of sugar has dropped 35 per cent since achieving record highs earlier in the year, and is now sitting at 20.47 US cents a pound.

China's sugar imports may surge 35%

"Sugar imports by China may jump 35 per cent as output trails demand, helping push global prices higher," said the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. Purchases may rise to 2.7 million tonnes in the year beginning October 1, from about 2 million tonnes a year earlier.

Kenya: Kacc Probes Nzoia Sugar Fraud Claims

The Kenya Anti-Corruption Commission is investigating allegations of fraud at Nzoia Sugar Company. Nzoia Out growers acting Managing Director Kingsley Mutali, who was recently posted by the Kenya Sugar Board, estimates the firm could have lost up to Sh7 million which was part of a Sh95 million loan given to the company by the board

last year to buy tractors for farmers and to help subsidize the cost of transport that has eaten into farmers profits.

Mackay Sugar to bid for Tully mill

A THIRD bidder for Tully's Sugar Mill has come forward to face off against two foreign multinationals.

CSR posts \$503m profit on sugar sale

Building materials company CSR has posted full-year net profit after tax of \$503.4 million, following a \$111.7 million loss last year.

Qld invention opens US market as Full Patent awarded

A GROUND-breaking Queensland invention, which is set to greatly improve manufacturing efficiencies in ethanol production and sugar cane processing, has recently been awarded a Full Patent in the US, foreshadowing potential growth into markets worth hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

The sweet monopoly of sugar must end

KOTA KINABALU: As far as the government is concerned it is a sweet monopoly. The market forces do not dictate the price of sugar, the government does.

Khonburi Sugar ready for IPO

Khonburi Sugar (KBS) will become the second sugar producer to list on the Stock Exchange of Thailand and will seek to expand its business into the energy business.

Tanzania: Sugar Producers Threatened

The fall in sugar prices in the international market has opened a window for importers to increase their presence in Kenya, threatening the market share of local millers. The price of sugar rose to a 30-year high in January but has since fallen by nearly a third to \$625 (Sh52,900) per tonne thanks to unexpected bumper produce from top grower Brazil and number two exporter Thailand as well as prospects on unrestricted exports from India.

Kenya: Shitanda Protests Cane Farmers Harassment

HOUSING Minister Soita Shitanda has protested harassment of cane farmers by APs in Western province. Shitanda said he will seek audience with Internal Security minister George Saitoti over what he termed misuse of the APs by miller "In case a farmer harvests sugarcane developed by a certain miller and sells it to a different miller, the aggrieved miller should seek redress in court through a civil procedure and not using police to harass the farmer," said Shitanda.

Sugar spikes push up Bio Springer yeast extract prices

Bio Springer has announced moderate price increases for its yeast extracts due to the rising price of sugar, which reached a 30-year high earlier this year.

Indonesia's sugar output seen rising to 2.7 mln t in 2011

Expansion of the area under cane cultivation and improving weather conditions are expected to help boost Indonesia's sugar production to 2.7 mln tonnes, white value, in 2011 from 2.3 mln last year, said Bambang Priyono, secretary at the Indonesian Sugar Council (DGI).

Thai Khon Kaen Sugar to spend \$126 mln on new plants

To spend about 3.8 billion baht (\$126 million) to build a new sugar factory with capacity of 16,000 tonnes of cane per day and a 40 MW power plant in Loei province, the company told the exchange

Early crush at Mackay Sugar mills

Mackay Sugar in northern Queensland says it spent more than \$50 million improving mill performance this year.

Colombia Pursues Sweet Dream of Becoming a Sugar-Cane Ethanol Powerhouse

CAUCA VALLEY, Colombia -- Laborers swing sickles and machetes under a punishing equatorial sun to harvest sugar cane in the narrow flatlands along the Cauca River.

Packaging Plant:Project Gold Launched

Political commitment and the strategic work of GUYSUCO's management has been hailed as the driving force for keeping the sugar industry alive in the face of price cuts for sugar by the European Union President Bharrat Jagdeo at the commissioning of the state of the art Enmoire packaging plant today stated that when other industries worldwide and in the region failed, government travailed to ensure the industry survived for all Guyanese. Before this, President Jagdeo reiterated that 16% of GDP comes from the sugar industry which is vital not only to the well being of sugar workers but for all Guyanese

Qld invention opens US market as Full Patent awarded

A GROUND-breaking Queensland invention, which is set to greatly improve manufacturing efficiencies in ethanol production and sugar cane processing, has recently been awarded a Full Patent in the US, foreshadowing potential growth into markets worth hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

Brazil's Ethanol Industry Struggles to Meet Rising Demand

Rising prices worry Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff. When she took over in January, she inherited an economy performing so well that economists had begun to fret about overheating and inflation. Complicating matters, Brazil's currency, the real, continues to rise relative to the U.S. dollar and the Chinese yuan, undermining the competitiveness of Brazil's manufactured goods on the world market. Now, Rousseff

can add another problem to her list of rising fuel prices stemming from falling sugar production and increased demand.

Sugar surplus likely for a second year: Stanchart

Sugar output may exceed demand for a second year after farmers boosted planting as futures surged, pushing prices lower, Standard Chartered bank said.

Sugar futures will average 24 cents a pound in New York in 2011, about 15% lower than the average so far this year, before rebounding to 25 cents next year, said Aban Ofon, an analyst at the bank.

Global sugar surplus to surge - Kingsman

Global sugar prices need to drop below the domestic price of ethanol in Brazil, top producer of the sweetener, to curb output at a time when surplus on world markets is expected to surge, the Kingsman consultancy said on Thursday.

Kingsman raised its 2011/12 (April/March) global sugar surplus estimate to 10.575 million tonnes, up from a previous forecast of 5.607 million tonnes, after a deficit of 0.1 million a year ago. It also lifted its global sugar output estimate and cut its consumption outlook for the period.

Sugar prices to fall as surplus quadruples

Sugar output may exceed demand for a second year as production advances in Thailand, China and the European Union, more than quadrupling the projected global surplus and driving prices lower, according to Kingsman SA.

Sugar surplus to jump as production advances

Sugar output may exceed demand for a second year as production advances in Thailand, China and the European Union, more than quadrupling the projected global surplus and driving prices lower, according to Kingsman SA.

The raw-sugar surplus will widen in 2011-2012 to 10.575 million metric tons from an estimated 2.445 million tons this year, Jonathan Kingsman, managing director of the Lausanne, Switzerland-based broker, said at a conference in Singapore today.

Rising Sugar Surplus Set to Hurt Prices, Kingsman Forecasts

May 12 (Bloomberg) -- Sugar output may exceed demand for a second year as production advances in Thailand, China and the European Union, more than quadrupling the projected global surplus and driving prices lower, according to Kingsman SA.

Kingsman sees surge in world sugar surplus

GLOBAL sugar prices need to drop below the domestic price of ethanol in Brazil, top producer of the sweetener, to curb output at a time when the surplus on world markets is expected to surge, the Kingsman consultancy said on Thursday.

Mozambique: Redundant Sugar Workers Demand Compensation

Buzi Workers of a sugar company that closed down in 1994 on Monday told Mozambican President Armando Guebuza that they have been waiting for their redundancy pay since 1994.

Kenana Sugar's Production From Domestic Cane Increases by 29%

Kenana Sugar Co., Sudan's largest sugar producer, raised output of refined sweetener from domestic cane by 29 percent this crop year. Output increased 79,600 metric tons from the prior period to 355,752 tons, the company said in an e-mailed statement today. Total production came to 385,921 tons after Kenana made 30,169 tons of refined, or white, sugar from imported raw sweetener, the statement showed.

Queensland Sugar to buy another 1m tonnes of raw sugar

QUEENSLAND Sugar, Australia's biggest sugar exporter, could buy 1m tonnes of raw sugar from July this year to June 2012 to meet sales commitments after a cyclone decimated the country's output.

FSC may ask State to pay 4th cane payment

The Fiji Sugar Corporation is now expected to seek government's assistance to make the 4th cane payment of the 2010 crushing season as the Sugar Cane Growers Fund is not in a position to provide any loan to FSC as it did last year.

Ethanol is sweet for sugar firms as crude prices zoom

Sugar mills in both the private and co-operative sector are reaping a windfall from the production and sale of ethanol as public sector oil companies tap into bio-fuels to contain losses from soaring crude prices

GPS equipment used for Indian sugarcane survey

The government of the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh is undertaking an enormous survey of significant areas of its sugarcane-growing land, using GPS surveying equipment, to determine the potential crop for the 2011-12 seasons.

Sugar output likely to be revised downward

The Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) is likely to revise downward the country's total sugar production estimate to around 24.5 million tonnes in 2010-11 sugar season on account of lower output in Uttar Pradesh than its earlier projection.

DALO pushes for P99 pay hike

The labor representative to the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board should insist on the P99 wage increase for Western Visayas as proposed by the National Congress of Unions in the Sugar Industry of the Philippines-Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, Alan Gozon, Democratic Association of Labor Organization president, said in a press release.

Kenya: Kacc Probes Nzoia Sugar Fraud Claims

The Kenya Anti-Corruption Commission is investigating allegations of fraud at Nzoia Sugar Company. Nzoia Out growers acting Managing Director Kingsley Mutali, who was recently posted by the Kenya Sugar Board, estimates the firm could have lost up to Sh7 million which was part of a Sh95 million loan given to the company by the board last year to buy tractors for farmers and to help subsidize the cost of transport that has eaten into farmers profits.

Mackay Sugar to bid for Tully mill

A THIRD bidder for Tully's Sugar Mill has come forward to face off against two foreign multinationals.

CSR posts \$503m profit on sugar sale

Building materials company CSR has posted full-year net profit after tax of \$503.4 million, following a \$111.7 million loss last year.

Qld invention opens US market as Full Patent awarded

A GROUND-breaking Queensland invention, which is set to greatly improve manufacturing efficiencies in ethanol production and sugar cane processing, has recently been awarded a Full Patent in the US, foreshadowing potential growth into markets worth hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

The sweet monopoly of sugar must end

KOTA KINABALU: As far as the government is concerned it is a sweet monopoly. The market forces do not dictate the price of sugar, the government does.

Khonburi Sugar ready for IPO

Khonburi Sugar (KBS) will become the second sugar producer to list on the Stock Exchange of Thailand and will seek to expand its business into the energy business.

Tanzania: Sugar Producers Threatened

The fall in sugar prices in the international market has opened a window for importers to increase their presence in Kenya, threatening the market share of local millers. The price of sugar rose to a 30-year high in January but has since fallen by nearly a third to \$625 (Sh52,900) per tonne thanks to unexpected bumper produce from top grower Brazil and number two exporter Thailand as well as prospects on unrestricted exports from India.

Kenya: Shitanda Protests Cane Farmers Harassment

HOUSING Minister Soita Shitanda has protested harassment of cane farmers by APs in Western province. Shitanda said he will seek audience with Internal Security minister George Saitoti over what he termed misuse of the APs by miller "In case a farmer harvests sugarcane developed by a certain miller and sells it to a different miller, the aggrieved miller should seek redress in court through a civil procedure and not using police to harass the farmer," said Shitanda.

Sugar spikes push up Bio Springer yeast extract prices

Bio Springer has announced moderate price increases for its yeast extracts due to the rising price of sugar, which reached a 30-year high earlier this year.

Indonesia's sugar output seen rising to 2.7 mln t in 2011

Expansion of the area under cane cultivation and improving weather conditions are expected to help boost Indonesia's sugar production to 2.7 mln tonnes, white value, in 2011 from 2.3 mln last year, said Bambang Priyono, secretary at the Indonesian Sugar Council (DGI).

Thai Khon Kaen Sugar to spend \$126 mln on new plants

To spend about 3.8 billion baht (\$126 million) to build a new sugar factory with capacity of 16,000 tonnes of cane per day and a 40 MW power plant in Loei province, the company told the exchange

Early crush at Mackay Sugar mills

Mackay Sugar in northern Queensland says it spent more than \$50 million improving mill performance this year.

Colombia Pursues Sweet Dream of Becoming a Sugar-Cane Ethanol Powerhouse

CAUCA VALLEY, Colombia -- Laborers swing sickles and machetes under a punishing equatorial sun to harvest sugar cane in the narrow flatlands along the Cauca River.

Packaging Plant:Project Gold Launched

Political commitment and the strategic work of GUYSUCO's management has been hailed as the driving force for keeping the sugar industry alive in the face of price cuts for sugar by the European Union President Bharrat Jagdeo at the commissioning of the state of the art Enmore packaging plant today stated that when other industries worldwide and in the region failed, government travailed to ensure the industry survived for all Guyanese. Before this, President Jagdeo reiterated that 16% of GDP comes from the sugar industry which is vital not only to the well being of sugar workers but for all Guyanese

Qld invention opens US market as Full Patent awarded

A GROUND-breaking Queensland invention, which is set to greatly improve manufacturing efficiencies in ethanol production and sugar cane processing, has recently been awarded a Full Patent in the US, foreshadowing potential growth into markets worth hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

Brazil's Ethanol Industry Struggles to Meet Rising Demand

Rising prices worry Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff. When she took over in January, she inherited an economy performing so well that economists had begun to fret about overheating and inflation. Complicating matters, Brazil's currency, the real, continues to rise relative to the U.S. dollar and the Chinese yuan, undermining the competitiveness of Brazil's manufactured goods on the world market. Now, Rousseff can add another problem to her list: rising fuel prices stemming from falling sugar production and increased demand.

Uganda: Kakira Factory Workers Strike Over Wages

A section of workers of Kakira Sugar factory in Jinja District put down their tools, asking management to increase their wages to match the prevailing high inflation in the country.

Mozambique: Marrromeu Residents Claim They Have Defeated Hunger

Maputo Residents of the Chupanga administrative post, in Marrromeu district, in the central Mozambican province of Sofala, on Thursday told President Armando Guebuza that, thanks to their hoes, hunger has ended in that part of the country.

Sudan: New Halfa Sugar Factory Ends Its Productive Season With Production of 74,670 Tons

New Halfa Sugar Factory has ended its productive season 2010 - 2011 with the production of 74,670 tons of refined white sugar, with an increase of 17,500 tons more than the productivity in the past year. The General Manager of New Halfa Sugar Factory; Abdalla Khalid, said that the cultivated areas in the current season is 21,400 feddans (acres), adding that the average productivity was 32,37 tons for the one feddan (acre) of sugar cane. He reviewed the plan for the next year which is represented in cultivating of 21,500 feddans and realizing a productivity of 40 tons of sugar by for the one feddan and conducting rehabilitation and training programs. SR/MOBack

Sugar on the boil in the calm after Queensland's storms

A DRAMATIC battle for Tully Sugar, which contains a threat to Queensland's single desk sugar marketing system, will play out later this week when Tully Sugar shareholders vote on a company takeover.

Battle begins for takeover of Tully Sugar

A DRAMATIC battle for control of Queensland's sugar supplies and marketing arrangements plays out this week when Tully Sugar shareholders vote whether to open

the way for a company takeover. There are three suitors for Tully as well as other players angling to control who ultimately ends up in control of the agribusiness at a time when commodities are attracting global interest.

Tully sugar mill's battle against global push

ANGELO Crema is a hard man. Half a century ago, his toughness on the rugby league fields around Tully in north Queensland saw him selected to represent the region, then Queensland and then Australia, running on in the green and gold against Britain in 1966 with the likes of Arthur Beetson.

Privatisation would allow for technical know-how in sugar industry Granger

David Granger feels privatizing the sugar industry would offer private cane farmers an opportunity to boost production, and decrease state focus in an industry which requires people with technical expertise and entrepreneurial skills. The industry's dismal production over the years and edgy labour relations have impacted on the state of sugar in the country, Granger said recently. His plan to privatize the industry was revealed at the Guyana Manufacturing and Services Association (GMSA) business luncheon on Wednesday last.

Enmore grows into important sugar industry hub

With the new packaging plant and an ungraded factory, the Enmore sugar estate has developed into an important hub for the sugar industry and is expected to produce an estimated 30,000 tonnes of packaged sugar this year. The new automated packaging plant has the capacity to package 30 tonnes of sugar an hour, but will not be operating at full capacity until it is upgraded. Currently, the factory has the capacity to produce 40,000 tonnes of sugar and when upgraded, 80,000 tonnes.

Kenya: Nzoia Company Former Officials to Be Charged

A radical change is happening at Nzoia Outgrowers Company following the expulsion of former directors on allegations of massive fraud.

Kenya: Mumias Sacco Members Seeks Recovery of Lost Millions

Members of a troubled cooperative society in Kakamega County have petitioned the newly elected management team to implement an inquiry report to recover millions of shillings lost from the Sacco.

Uganda: Madhvani Boss Passes On in London

Manubhai Madhvani, the chairman of the Madhvani Group of Companies passed away yesterday morning in a London hospital. He was aged 81.

Debt financing gets sugar mill going in Swaziland

Ubombo Sugar, 60% owned by Illovo and 40% owned by the Tibiyo Taka Ngwane Trust on behalf of the Swazi nation, will fully commission its major factory expansion and

co-generation project in May 2011, due to a successful 940 million Euros medium term funding in Swaziland by Illovo.

Sugar: Dangote new packaging to deepen retail end

The retail end of the sugar market in Nigeria has been largely dominated by one brand and that has been St. Louis with its cube paper-driven packaged product. However, that game play plan and marketing dominance of decades is about to change for good with Dangote sugar evolving a new marketing strategy through new packaging and product segmentation.

Otafiire obtains injunction over sugar saga

TRADE and industry minister Kahinda Otafiire has obtained a court order restraining the Kenya government from destroying his sugar worth Ksh34m (about sh952m).

Sugar production climbs by 21.3%

HA NOI Viet Nam produced 1.13 million tonnes of sugar in the 2010-11 sugarcane season, up 21.3 per cent against the last season, according to the Viet Nam Sugarcane and Sugar Association.

Sugar factory delays payment to farmers

BIRATNAGAR: Sugarcane farmers are all set to stage protest against the sugar factory after they were not provided with the sugarcane's price on time.

Kantale Sugar Factory to re-open soon

The Government has taken steps to reopen the Kantale Sugar Factory, 'P.R.A.W. Bandara, General Manager, Sri Lanka Sugar Corporation told the Sunday Observer at the Sugar factory premises in Kantale.

T&T \$1m from Govt to help preserve sugar's legacy

(Trinidad Guardian) Eight years after Caroni (1975) Ltd was shut down, an attempt is being made to preserve sugar's rich history and legacy. This is being done through a Sugar Heritage Village and Museum, which was launched on Wednesday by Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar at the Brechin Castle, Couva, compound which once served as the bustling administrative nucleus of the sugar industry. The project, a Government initiative, is being led by the Ministry of Tourism, the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT), the University of the ..

Tate and Lyle hunting new five-year sugar supply deal

British sugar refiner Tate and Lyle is in talks with the Jamaica Cane Product Sales (JCPS), the marketing firm for local producers, for a five-year supply deal, starting with 200,000 tonnes in the 2011-12 crop years.

Sugar mill looks to head north

The company that owns the Maryborough sugar mill says it will consider moving its head office to north Queensland.

Kenya: Cartel to Sell Unfit Sugar Worth Sh34 Million

A cartel run by two prominent politicians and a bunch of tycoons have allegedly made plans to secretly off load a controversial Sh34 million sugar consignment from the port of Mombasa.

New task force to address sugar smuggling in Cebu

THE Sugar Anti-Smuggling Organization and the Bureau of Customs' Cebu office formed a joint anti-smuggling task force that aims to put an end to the perennial sugar smuggling problem in the Queen City.

Vietnam sugar companies seek VAT exemption

The Vietnam Sugar Association has proposed a value-added tax exemption for locally produced sugar to help its members compete against cheaper smuggled products, news website VnExpress reported Sunday.

Govt Helping To Enrich Felda In Sugar Business But Neglecting Ordinary Malaysians

DAP regrets that the BN government is more intent to help Felda increase its present profits from the sugar business of RM232 million in 2010 than helping the people by increasing the sugar price by 20 sen from RM2.10 to RM2.30 per kg.

Mauritius Considers Importing Raw Sugar for Local Demand to Boost Refiners

Mauritius is considering importing 35,000 metric tons of raw sugar a year rather than refined product for local consumption to boost refiners, said Jean-Noel Humbert, chief executive officer of the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate.

Private sugar factories to make their presence felt

PUNE: The 2011-12 sugarcane crushing season starting from November this year will see 51 private sugar factories mark their presence in Maharashtra's sugar sector, accounting for almost 30 percent of the 4.50 lakh tonne daily crushing capacity of the state, giving stiff competition to the 123 co-operative factories.

State Supreme Court rejects 'Domino Sugar' lawsuit

A state Supreme Court judge has rejected a lawsuit by opponents of a \$1.5 billion luxury apartment complex planned for the former Domino Sugar factory site in

Williamsburg, allowing co-developers CPC Resources and Isaac Katan to move forward with the 2,200-unit project.

EU eyes duty-free access for 200 000 t more sugar

The EU is set to allow another 200 000 tonnes of sugar to be imported into the bloc duty-free, after seeing its last import quota snapped up by avid bidders.

Bunge raises Tully Sugar bid

Global agribusiness Bunge Australia Holdings Pty Ltd, which is one of three competing bidders for Tully Sugar, has increased its offer for the canegrowers cooperative to \$43 per share.

Cane crushing in Gujarat to rise by 1mn tonne this year

Sugarcane crushing in Gujarat is pegged at around 12.6 million tonne this year, up by nearly one million tonne from the last year, industry sources informed. However, the recovery from the sugarcane is believed to remain lower this year over last year, mainly on account of the poor quality of cane and longer duration of the crushing season.

Sugar industry balks at free trade pacts

While a wide range of U.S. commodity groups have rushed to support free trade agreements, sugar producers aren't jumping on the bandwagon.

Sugar production enough to meet demand

KARACHI: Pakistan has produced enough sugar to meet the country's demand, making any imports unnecessary, industry sources said on Tuesday.

Cambodian "blood sugar" condemned by EU parliament member

A visiting parliamentarian from the European Union condemns Cambodia's sugar barons for human rights abuses against villagers. She says the EU should withdraw trade preferences of what she is now calling "blood sugar".

More Sugar Companies and Associations Join Lawsuit Against Corn Processors to Stop the Misleading Advertising of High-Fructose Corn Syrup as "Corn Sugar"

WASHINGTON, May 23, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- Five more individual sugar companies and two trade associations have joined a lawsuit to stop the corn processors from marketing high-fructose corn syrup as a "natural" product equivalent to real sugar.

Cofco takeover offer values Tully at \$132.9m

CHINA'S state-owned Cofco late today lifted its takeover offer for the unlisted Tully Sugar by \$2 to \$43 a share, valuing Tully at \$132.9 million. At this point, Cofco's bid has trumped last week's revised bid by rival Bunge, by \$1 a share.

China's Cofco ups bid for Australia's Tully Sugar

CANBERRA (MarketWatch) -- China's state-owned Cofco Corp. late Monday lifted its takeover offer for the unlisted Tully Sugar Ltd. by A\$2 to A\$43 a share, valuing Tully at A\$132.9 million, and at this point trumping last week's revised bid by rival Bunge Ltd.

FSC quiet on the payment distribution

The Fiji Sugar Corporation is still silent on when the 4th cane payment of \$6.54 per tonne for the last season will be paid out to farmers following the Sugar Industry Tribunal approval.

Yasi debris hampers sugar harvest

Sugarcane growers around Innisfail in north Queensland say that Cyclone Yasi has made this year's crop the worst on record.

Ethiopia: State's Sugar Earns 4.1 Billion Br in Nine Months

The Ethiopian Sugar Corporation (ESC) earned 4.1 billion Br from the sale of 314,946tn of sugar over the past nine months, exceeding its goal of 3.9 billion Br in revenues. The corporation's ethanol sales reached 48 million Br, up from 8.5 million Br projected in September 2010.

Vietnam records sharp boost in sugar production

VIETNAM'S sugar output in the 2010/11 crushing season jumped by a quarter from last year to 1.13m tonnes, prompting market regulators to slow imports of the commodity in coming months, a state-run newspaper reported on May 22.

EU delegation meets with T&T cane producers

The delegation of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago met on Friday with the Cane Producers' Association to discuss the EU support to the sugar sector.

Lessons to learn from sugar

SOME developments in the sugar industry are interesting given the changes for Warrnambool Cheese and Butter.

Sugarcane area poised to rise by 8-10% in 2011-12

Area under sugarcane in the new crop year that starts in October 2011 is expected to increase by around 8 -10 per cent because of good price to growers, relatively favourable weather and continuation of positive sugar cycle.

Domino Sugar Refinery Conversion Is A Go

A judge has thrown out a lawsuit trying to hold up the somewhat controversial development of the former Domino Sugar refinery in Brooklyn. Supreme Court Judge Eileen Rakower ruled yesterday that despite what the Williamsburg Community Preservation Coalition says, the city's land-use and environmental review met all legal requirements in approving the conversion.

Kenya: Cartel to Sell Unfit Sugar Worth Sh34 Million

A cartel run by two prominent politicians and a bunch of tycoons have allegedly made plans to secretly off load a controversial Sh34 million sugar consignment from the port of Mombasa.

New task force to address sugar smuggling in Cebu

THE Sugar Anti-Smuggling Organization and the Bureau of Customs' Cebu office formed a joint anti-smuggling task force that aims to put an end to the perennial sugar smuggling problem in the Queen City.

Vietnam sugar companies seek VAT exemption

The Vietnam Sugar Association has proposed a value-added tax exemption for locally produced sugar to help its members compete against cheaper smuggled products, news website VnExpress reported Sunday.

Govt Helping To Enrich Felda In Sugar Business But Neglecting Ordinary Malaysians

DAP regrets that the BN government is more intent to help Felda increase its present profits from the sugar business of RM232 million in 2010 than helping the people by increasing the sugar price by 20 sen from RM2.10 to RM2.30 per kg.

Mauritius Considers Importing Raw Sugar for Local Demand to Boost Refiners

Mauritius is considering importing 35,000 metric tons of raw sugar a year rather than refined product for local consumption to boost refiners, said Jean-Noel Humbert, chief executive officer of the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate.

Private sugar factories to make their presence felt

PUNE: The 2011-12 sugarcane crushing season starting from November this year will see 51 private sugar factories mark their presence in Maharashtra's sugar sector, accounting for almost 30 percent of the 4.50 lakh tonne daily crushing capacity of the state, giving stiff competition to the 123 co-operative factories.

State Supreme Court rejects 'Domino Sugar' lawsuit

A state Supreme Court judge has rejected a lawsuit by opponents of a \$1.5 billion luxury apartment complex planned for the former Domino Sugar factory site in Williamsburg, allowing co-developers CPC Resources and Isaac Katan to move forward with the 2,200-unit project.

EU eyes duty-free access for 200 000 t more sugar

The EU is set to allow another 200 000 tonnes of sugar to be imported into the bloc duty-free, after seeing its last import quota snapped up by avid bidders.

Bunge raises Tully Sugar bid

Global agribusiness Bunge Australia Holdings Pty Ltd, which is one of three competing bidders for Tully Sugar, has increased its offer for the canegrowers cooperative to \$43 per share.

Cane crushing in Gujarat to rise by 1mn tonne this year

Sugarcane crushing in Gujarat is pegged at around 12.6 million tonne this year, up by nearly one million tonne from the last year, industry sources informed. However, the recovery from the sugarcane is believed to remain lower this year over last year, mainly on account of the poor quality of cane and longer duration of the crushing season.

Sugar industry balks at free trade pacts

While a wide range of U.S. commodity groups have rushed to support free trade agreements, sugar producers aren't jumping on the bandwagon.

Sugar production enough to meet demand

KARACHI: Pakistan has produced enough sugar to meet the country's demand, making any imports unnecessary, industry sources said on Tuesday.

Cambodian "blood sugar" condemned by EU parliament member

A visiting parliamentarian from the European Union condemns Cambodia's sugar barons for human rights abuses against villagers. She says the EU should withdraw trade preferences of what she is now calling "blood sugar".

More Sugar Companies and Associations Join Lawsuit Against Corn Processors to Stop the Misleading Advertising of High-Fructose Corn Syrup as "Corn Sugar"

WASHINGTON, May 23, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- Five more individual sugar companies and two trade associations have joined a lawsuit to stop the corn processors from marketing high-fructose corn syrup as a "natural" product equivalent to real sugar.

Cofco takeover offer values Tully at \$132.9m

CHINA'S state-owned Cofco late today lifted its takeover offer for the unlisted Tully Sugar by \$2 to \$43 a share, valuing Tully at \$132.9 million. At this point, Cofco's bid has trumped last week's revised bid by rival Bunge, by \$1 a share.

China's Cofco ups bid for Australia's Tully Sugar

CANBERRA (MarketWatch) -- China's state-owned Cofco Corp. late Monday lifted its takeover offer for the unlisted Tully Sugar Ltd. by A\$2 to A\$43 a share, valuing Tully at A\$132.9 million, and at this point trumping last week's revised bid by rival Bunge Ltd.

FSC quiet on the payment distribution

The Fiji Sugar Corporation is still silent on when the 4th cane payment of \$6.54 per tonne for the last season will be paid out to farmers following the Sugar Industry Tribunal approval.

Dangerous to Presume' Sugar Will Drop as Nations Restock, ED & F Man Says

Sugar-importing nations including China, the second-biggest consumer after India, may take advantage of a rising global surplus to rebuild stockpiles, potentially supporting prices, ED & F Man Holdings Ltd. said.

Mackay Sugar ponders higher Tully takeover bid

Mackay Sugar says it is considering whether to increase its takeover bid for Tully Sugar in far north Queensland.

Nordzucker to seek sugar outside the EU

GERMANY'S second largest sugar refiner Nordzucker said on Wednesday it might seek more sugar supplies outside the EU.

EU approve additional sugar imports

EUROPEAN Union nations have approved plans to import an additional 200 000 tonnes of sugar at zero duty to increase supplies to the 27-nation bloc.

Plaintiffs hail dismissal of appeal in GM sugar beet case

A US court of appeals has said that Monsanto must produce further studies examining the environmental impact of its genetically modified (GM) sugar beets before they can be planted on a commercial scale.

Brazil sugarcane crop may not reach forecast

SAO PAULO (MarketWatch) -- Faced with aging sugarcane fields and a slow start to the harvest, Brazil's 2011-12 cane crush may fall short of industry forecasts, an official at the Sugarcane Industries Association, or Unica, said Thursday.

Yasi debris hampers sugar harvest

Sugarcane growers around Innisfail in north Queensland say that Cyclone Yasi has made this year's crop the worst on record.

Ethiopia: State's Sugar Earns 4.1 Billion Br in Nine Months

The Ethiopian Sugar Corporation (ESC) earned 4.1 billion Br from the sale of 314,946tn of sugar over the past nine months, exceeding its goal of 3.9 billion Br in revenues. The corporation's ethanol sales reached 48 million Br, up from 8.5 million Br projected in September 2010.

Vietnam records sharp boost in sugar production

VIETNAM'S sugar output in the 2010/11 crushing season jumped by a quarter from last year to 1.13m tonnes, prompting market regulators to slow imports of the commodity in coming months, a state-run newspaper reported on May 22.

EU delegation meets with T&T cane producers

The delegation of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago met on Friday with the Cane Producers' Association to discuss the EU support to the sugar sector.

Lessons to learn from sugar

SOME developments in the sugar industry are interesting given the changes for Warrnambool Cheese and Butter.

Sugarcane area poised to rise by 8-10% in 2011-12

Area under sugarcane in the new crop year that starts in October 2011 is expected to increase by around 8 -10 per cent because of good price to growers, relatively favourable weather and continuation of positive sugar cycle.

Domino Sugar Refinery Conversion Is A Go

A judge has thrown out a lawsuit trying to hold up the somewhat controversial development of the former Domino Sugar refinery in Brooklyn. Supreme Court Judge Eileen Rakower ruled yesterday that despite what the Williamsburg Community Preservation Coalition says, the city's land-use and environmental review met all legal requirements in approving the conversion.

Redpath Sugar is staying put, condos be damned

Canada's largest sugar refinery may be surrounded by shiny new knowledge industries and condominiums springing up along Toronto's waterfront, but the iconic remnant of traditional port industry has no plans to uproot or follow distilleries, flour mills and war-ship-building plants into extinction. Instead, it is actively re-investing in its waterfront presence, as its new unloader shows. Its old cranes lasted 50 years; the company figures the new one will last at least that long.

Bids upped in quest for Tully Sugar

The battle for control of Tully Sugar in north Queensland has changed direction again.

Mackay plays the patriotic card in bid for Tully Sugar

CHINA'S state-owned Cofco has upped the ante in the battle to takeover Tully Sugar, announcing yesterday that the Foreign Investment Review Board has cleared its offer to be put to shareholders.

Farmers given information on sugar industry

More than 300 farmers are currently getting first hand information about the sugar industry at the Nadi Civic Centre

Sugar cane industry stakeholders to meet

Sugar industry stakeholders will meet this morning to discuss problems faced by cane farmers

Enmore's packaging plant produces less than that of Kenya and costs more

While Christopher Ram had incorrectly provided an overall figure of US\$12.5 million for the cost of only the Enmore packaging plant itself, his primary contentions on cost and capacity still stand. If the Enmore plant actually cost US\$4.5 million, it means it cost US\$1.5 million more than the Mumias sugar packaging plant in Kenya. Here are the issues and questions for the government to answer on the eve of a general election

Sugar Producer Tongaat Hulett Posts Decline in Full-Year Headline Earnings

Tongaat Hulett Ltd. (TON) reported headline earnings of 806 million rand for the 12 months to March 31, down from 815 million rand a year earlier.

South African Equity Preview: Illovo Sugar, Tiger Brands, Tongaat May Move

Africa's biggest producer of the commodity said fiscal full-year net income declined to 546.2 million rand (\$79 million) from 662 million rand a year earlier. Illovo advanced 19 cents, or 0.7 percent, to 25.90 rand

Zimbabwe: Zesa, Green Fuel in Power Purchase Deal

Zesa Holdings has entered into a power purchase agreement with Green Fuel Private Limited, which will see the latter supplying 18,5MW to the national grid in June this year.

ETHANOL

Direct ethanol manufacture not under sugar decontrol order

The law ministry has rejected the proposal of food ministry for direct manufacture of ethanol from sugarcane on a standalone basis and not only as a by-product of sugar by amending the Sugar Control Order under Section 3 of Essential Commodities Act.

Backed by the view of attorney general, law ministry has stated that the proposal could be considered under separate provisions and not under the sugar control order which is governed by the Essential Commodities Act and regulates the manufacturing, marketing, and distribution of sugar.

Ethanol diversion factor

But for all these bearish cues, there might still be an offsetting force that could hold up sugar in the coming months. And that relates to the extent of diversion of sugarcane in Brazil towards manufacture of ethanol.

In 2010-11 (April-March), about 55 per cent of the cane crushed by the world's No. 1 producer was used for ethanol production. That proportion, in the new season, has so far been 65 per cent, which, in turn, raises doubts over Brazil's sugar output touching the originally forecast 34.6 mt (based on a 55 per cent cane utilisation for ethanol).

Currently, the industry in Brazil is finding it much more profitable to produce ethanol over sugar, with realisations of around 2,381.5 real or \$ 1,470 on every cubic metre (kilo-litre) sold domestically.

Global sugar surplus to surge - Kingsman

Global sugar prices need to drop below the domestic price of ethanol in Brazil, top producer of the sweetener, to curb output at a time when surplus on world markets is expected to surge, the Kingsman consultancy said on Thursday.

Kingsman raised its 2011/12 (April/March) global sugar surplus estimate to 10.575 million tonnes, up from a previous forecast of 5.607 million tonnes, after a deficit of 0.1 million a year ago. It also lifted its global sugar output estimate and cut its consumption outlook for the period.

Ethanol is sweet for sugar firms as crude prices zoom

Sugar mills in both the private and co-operative sector are reaping a windfall from the production and sale of ethanol as public sector oil company's tap into bio-fuels to contain losses from soaring crude prices.

According to the Ethanol Manufacturers' Association of India comprising sugar mills, India's public sector oil companies have purchased 30 crore litre of ethanol for blending with petrol, till April this year. The PSUs are committed to lifting 71 crore litres of ethanol till October 31 this year, sources say.

Sugar co-operatives in Maharashtra, all set to emerge as one of the biggest producers of ethanol in the country, have embarked on expansion programmes in anticipation of the booming demand.

Ethanol is sweet for sugar firms as crude prices zoom

Sugar mills in both the private and co-operative sector are reaping a windfall from the production and sale of ethanol as public sector oil company's tap into bio-fuels to contain losses from soaring crude prices.

Ethanol is sweet for sugar firms as crude prices zoom

Sugar mills in both the private and co-operative sector are reaping a windfall from the production and sale of ethanol as public sector oil company's tap into bio-fuels to contain losses from soaring crude prices.

According to the Ethanol Manufacturers' Association of India comprising sugar mills, India's public sector oil companies have purchased 30 crore litre of ethanol for blending with petrol, till April this year. The PSUs are committed to lifting 71 crore litres of ethanol till October 31 this year, sources say.

Last year, PSU oil companies and sugar mills agreed on a price of Rs 27 per litre of ethanol.

Brazil's sugar output may rise

Sugar output in Brazil's major producing region will rise 1.5 million tones to 35 million tones in 2011-2012 as millers favour its production over ethanol, C. Czarnikow Sugar Futures Ltd Said. "With sugar currently offering better returns than ethanol, we expect mills to maximize sugar production in the Centre-South region," the broker said in a report on Monday.

Food ministry seeks delay in ethanol blending plan

The food ministry is set to oppose the mandatory 5% ethanol blending programme, fearing diversion of foodgrain for manufacture of ethanol. The ministry has called for the report of the expert panel headed by Planning Commission member Saumitra Chaudhuri in order to "review" the programme.

Ethanol is a very sensitive issue and a shortfall in some years could not only impact other sectors but also compel diversion of foodgrain for its production, if prices shoot up due to shortage of molasses for the alcohol industry," a food ministry official told ET. "We have to move very carefully on this subject," he said.

The sugar industry had also approached the prime minister saying the committee had exceeded its brief by going into the availability issue.