

HIGHLIGHTS FOR October 2010

BIRLA SUGAR

INDUSTRY SNAP SHOTS

In a short period, the Indian sugar market fundamentals have undergone a metamorphosis. Earlier expectation of a tightly balanced market has now given way to emergence of an inexorable surplus in 2010-11. The dramatic transformation has been caused primarily by the Government's latest revision of acreage and cane output estimate. In a meeting early last week, cane commissioners revised the cane output estimate upwards to 346 million tonnes (mt), from the first estimate of 325 mt and last year's 277 mt. This has the potential to take the sugar market fundamentals to a different level.

Sugar mills in Maharashtra will start crushing for the 2010-11 season only from the third week of October. Normally sugar cane crushing begins on October 1, but given the incessant rains right through mid-September in the state, most factories in Ahmednagar, Solapur, Pune, Satara and the Marathwada-Vidarbha regions will start crushing operations only after the Dasara holiday on October 17. Only mills in Sangli and Kolhapur would be able to start in the week of October, says Chandrasekhar Marutrao Ghule Patil, chairman, Maharashtra State Cooperative Sugar Factories Federation. The 12 sugar mills identified by Tamil Nadu Government for co-generation of electricity under a Rs 1,500 crore programme would start producing a total of 187 MW from June next year, a top official of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) has said. To meet the power shortage faced by the state, the government had launched the programme in June last to tap co-generation potential in 10 cooperative sugar mills and two public sector mills, TNEB Chairman and Managing Director Mr C P Singh said.

OTHER PLAYERS

See sugar output at 25 MT in '10-11 season: Shree Renuka

The sector of September was sugar. It has been dramatic turnaround in sentiments on the sector. Global prices have changed and there is a lot of buzz about positive news flow in the domestic market

Shree Renuka receives orders for supply of 118m litres ethanol

The country's largest sugar refiner, Shree Renuka Sugars, today said it has received orders for the supply of 118 million litres of ethanol to oil marketing companies in five states for a period of one year.

Simbhaoli Sugar - Outcome of Board Meeting

Simbhaoli Sugars Ltd has informed BSE that the Board of Directors of the Company at its meeting held on October 22, 2010, inter alia, has decided to raise funds to fill the gap for its long term working capital requirements on account of increase in size of business as well as of investments on the projects undertaken by the Company and/or its associated companies.

INDIAN SUGAR INDUSTRY

Sugar futures

Commodity market regulator FMC has lifted the ban on trading in sugar futures, as retail prices of the sweetener have dropped 40 per cent since January.

Sugar futures ban lifted on upbeat outlook

The commodity market regulator has allowed the ban on to lapse, paving the way for trading, an important step towards lifting all government controls over the industry. “We have allowed to lapse the ban on sugar futures trading today,” BC Khatua, chairman of (FMC), said on Thursday. A decision on launching new contracts will be taken in 2-3 days in consultation with the sugar industry and commodity exchanges, he said. Shares of sugar companies rallied after the decision.

Hopes of decontrol see buying interest in sugar cos

Shares of sugar companies have been seeing rising investor interest amid renewed hopes of decontrol and bottoming out of prices. Stocks of many sugar companies, like Dhampur Sugar Mills , , Sakthi Sugarsand , among others, have appreciated sharply in the past one month. More than a dozen stocks outperformed the broader market to gain 4-5% on Thursday. Analysts expect domestic sugar prices to firm up in the near future due to recent floods in UP, the second-largest contributor to India’s sugar production.

Riding the sugar cycle

The winds of privatisation have finally blown Uttar Pradesh’s way. And the first sector to reap the benefit of this change is the state’s sugar sector. In a major development, 10 out of the 11 operational sugar factories of the Uttar Pradesh State Sugar Corporation have found private buyers and the beginning of the new sugar cycle in November this year will

see them being run by their new owners. More importantly, the sale will help plug the loss of almost Rs 200-400 crore every year that UP government was incurring over the years as subsidy to run these mills.

Sugar price firms up

Sugar prices shot up by Rs.90 per quintal in the national capital on Monday following heavy buying by stockist and retailers amid restricted supplies. Market analysts said fresh buying by local parties and stockist amid reports of tight supply pushed up sugar prices. Sugar spot medium and second grade prices jumped up from Rs.2,760–2,885 and Rs.2,750–2,875 to settle at Rs.2850–2950 and Rs.2840–2940 per quintal respectively.

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Govt to meet states on sugar decontrol: Sharad Pawar

The government has decided to revert back levy sugar obligation to 10%. This was announced by Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution while addressing the 51st Annual General Body meeting of the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories. He said, the decision has been taken in view of prediction of bumper crop this year. The government had increased levy obligation in 2009-10 sugar season due to less production of sugar in the country.

Retail, upcountry demand boosts sugar

Fresh demand from retailers and an increase in upcountry buying for Navaratri festival at the mill level on the Vashi wholesale market pushed up spot sugar prices by Rs 25-30 for a quintal on Tuesday. There was all-round buying at the national level. Demand from West Bengal, Orissa, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh is expected to increase sharply in coming weeks, said market sources. In Maharashtra, new season's crushing is yet to start. Due to the heavy rain in September, crushing in most of the mills has been delayed by 10-15 days.

Maharashtra govt to discuss help to sugar mills

Even as Maharashtra is expecting a bumper sugar production of 9.5 million tonnes in the current crushing season, surpassing its own record of 9.1 mt in 2006-07, the cooperative sugar industry expects a Rs 2,375-crore cash loss. The reason: A mismatch between the cost of production and realisation, the difference being around Rs 250 a quintal. The realisation is estimated at Rs 2,450 a qtl, as against the production cost of Rs 2,700 a qtl.

UP collating sugarcane crop loss due to floods

The Uttar Pradesh government is taking stock of the loss to sugarcane crop in the state due to the recent floods. In a preliminary report sent to the state relief commissioner office, the sugarcane department had estimated loss of almost 6 per cent to the standing sugarcane crop. However, this figure is likely to increase in the final report. The recent spate of floods had ravaged about 33 districts, affecting swathes of kharif and sugarcane crop.

10 out of 11 sugar mills on sale in UP find buyers

Ten out of 11 sugar factories of the UP State Sugar Corporation have found private buyers and they will be operational by November this year. The state government was losing almost Rs 200-400 crore every year over the last five years as subsidy to the loss making units. In June this year, the government put on sale 11 mills which are in running condition. Four mills got direct bidders, while six have found buyers through the Swiss Challenge Method (SCM). The government had earlier tried to sell all the 33 mills, including 15 closed mills, of the UP Sugar Corporation, but there were no takers. The remaining 7 out of the 33 mills are not going to be sold as of now, as they are mired in legal hurdles.

Accused of selling stock in open market, sugar mill MD shifted out

S S Bajwa, general manager of the Fazilka Cooperative Sugar Mill, has been transferred after he was allegedly found involved in selling sugar stock in the open market. According to rules, cooperative mills can sell sugar only to the fare price shop attached to the mill at rates set by the government. Manohar Singh Sandhu joined as the GM on Tuesday while Bajwa has been called at headquarters for inquiry. Sugarfed MD Kirandeep Singh Bhullar said: "I have marked an inquiry and till its report comes, Bajwa will not be given any posting." According to reports, a trolley carrying 50 quintals of sugar was caught on September 29 while being taken out of the mill to be sold in the open market. The market

value of this stock was Rs 1.42 lakh. The sugar mill records said the stock had been sold to the fare price shop of the mill in July 2010.

Sugar prices in Capital surge, thanks to Games

The Commonwealth Games, which kicked off in Delhi on 3 October, is partly responsible for pushing up sugar prices in the National Capital Region (NCR). Prices have risen by at least `150, or 5%, to `2,900 per 100kg since Friday, partly due to restrictions on the movement of certain types of goods vehicles in some areas of Delhi. High consumer demand ahead of the festival season has also fuelled the jump.

Sweet news: You may soon get to buy sugar at Rs25 a kg

The festival season is going to be extra sweet this year as sugar production in the state is expected to break all-time records, bringing prices down by more than 20% to Rs25 per kg by January. Satisfactory rain in August and September, the largest area ever under cultivation, and proper maintenance of the crops has led to bumper produce this season. The state cooperatives department has claimed production will be nearly 95 lakh metric tonne, the highest ever in the state.

Subsidies boost cane acreage in Haryana

Area under cultivation of sugarcane is on the rise in Haryana. In 2010-11 season, about 1.07 lakh hectare of area was covered under the crop, up from 74,000 hectare in 2009-10. The state agriculture department is expecting an area of over 1.25 lakh hectare to come under sugarcane next year.

Cane growers demand high price, hold crops

Sugar makers in the country may be forced to delay output as cane growers seek higher prices, reducing the prospect that the second-biggest producer will ease export curbs. Farmers in Uttar Pradesh will withhold supplies if factories don't meet their minimum price of Rs 200 (\$4.49) per 100 kg, : Avdresh Mishra, president of the Cane Committees' Association, said. Mills in the northern state paid an average Rs 285-290 last year, he said.

Centre's sugar policy exploitative: MP

The sugar policy being pursued by the Union Agriculture Ministry is "exploitative" and favourable only to sugar barons, said Raju Shetti, MP for Hatkanangle in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra, has said. Addressing a press conference here on Friday, he alleged that

the Union Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar was well-known as a “representative” of sugar barons in the country and therefore his policy was guided by the exploitative interests of these barons.

UP growers not to supply cane to mills below Rs 280/quintal

Sugarcane growers in Uttar Pradesh will not supply cane to mills below last year's price of Rs 280 per quintal, which is Rs 100 more than what the industry is willing to pay, a farmers' body said on Sunday. Uttar Pradesh is the country's second largest cane producer. Retail sugar prices have declined by 40% since mid-January to Rs 30 per kg in Delhi. The ex-mills prices are ruling below Rs 25 per kg.

Centre likely to meet state agri ministers on sugar decontrol

The central government is expected to call a meeting of food and agriculture ministers from states to evolve a consensus on sugar decontrol. However, many millers are apprehensive of any worthwhile progress in deregulating the sector as big sugarcane growing states like Uttar Pradesh have not yet openly come in support of the measure.

Sweet tidings from sugar sector

Indias sugar industry is looking forward to sweeter times. It is all set to produce a much higher output in the just-started sugar season (October 2010-September 2011) at a time when the world supply position is tightly balanced at best, making exports an attractive proposition.

India's sugar supply to ease global prices

Peaked sugar global market is expected to be pacified with the supply of sugar from India. Sugar production in India is projected to touch 25.5 million tons thanks to favorable monsoon rains. The industry opined that the country could export three million tons of surplus sugar in the current marketing year.

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UP sugar mills, farmers cross swords over pricing

With just a month remaining for sugarcane crushing, a confrontation between farmers and private millers in Uttar Pradesh on the price to be paid to growers is on the cards. In no exception to previous years, both parties have divergent views on what should a farmer get for his produce.

Isma seeks govt nod for exports

The government has released 19 lakh tonnes sugar in the open market and through the public distribution system (PDS) in September, 2010, about 20,000 tonnes lower than last month. It will, however, release more sugar during the month in case the prices increase sharply. "This quantity of 19 lakh tonnes is sufficient to meet the internal demand of sugar for the month of September. However, if sugar prices increase sharply, the government would not hesitate in releasing more non-levy sugar for the month," a senior Food Ministry official said.

Sugar mills smell big gains in global market

The central government is being lobbied to allow sugar exports, especially with prices soaring in global markets. The market opened today at \$693 a tonne for futures, a jump on the London Exchange by \$100 a tonne over the past four trading sessions. The industry has made repeated pleas for allowing exports, especially with India expected to have a record production of 25 million tonnes in the crushing season of 2010-11. Besides, the carry-forward stock would be 4-5 mt.

Retail demand rises spot sugar

Spot sugar prices on the Vashi wholesale market rose marginally by Rs 4-5 on support through retail demand on Wednesday. Naka and tender delivery rates were steady, as traders, especially speculators trying to square up their outstanding position, were sellers in the market at lower rates. Festival demand also eased despite Dasara on Sunday. Buying from West Bengal side was diverted towards Karnataka mills arresting fresh demand for Maharashtra mills' produce. He said higher tender rates/quotation by mills kept the volume at a nominal level.

Wary govt likely to decide on sugar exports only by Feb

The decision on opening sugar exports is likely only by February 2011, as an inflation-scarred government would prefer to wait for the more reliable second advance crop estimates. Both the industry and the government have put out gung-ho estimates of sugar production for 2010-11 but there is still some unease over freeing controls.

BJP demands CBI probe into sale of 11 Sugar Corporation mills

Just a few days after Samajwadi Party demanded a CBI probe into alleged irregularities in the sale of 11 Sugar Corporation mills in Uttar Pradesh, the BJP on Thursday joined the clamour threatening to take the matter to court if it was not referred to the investigating agency. "These 11 sugar mills have been sold at throw-away prices by the state government to benefit its supporters while overlooking the interests of farmers as well as thousands of workers employed there and BJP demands immediate cancellation of the deal and a CBI inquiry into it", state BJP President Surya Pratap Shahi told newsmen in Lucknow.

Higher mill prices perk up sugar

Spot sugar prices on the Vashi wholesale market shot up by Rs 15-20 a quintal on Monday, due to higher prices at the mill level and increased retail demand. The relatively higher arrivals of the past two days were offset by higher lifting by local buyers and shopkeepers. Mills were keen to sell only at higher prices, expecting fresh demand for Diwali.

India ideally placed to tap global sugar market

With huge deficit looming large during 2009-10, sugar prices were buoyant during early part of the season. This persuaded sugar millers to offer higher cane prices that were not only above Fair Remunerative Price (FRP) but also State Administered Price (SAP). Farmers were quick to respond to price signal and with adequate monsoon rains, sugar production this year will increase in comparison to last year.

SC rejects sugar mills' claim over Bhavnagar lake

The Supreme Court on Monday rejected the application of Palitana Sugar Mills which had staked its claim over the land of Gaurishankar Talav in Bhavnagar and had earlier sought compensation worth crores of rupees in lieu of it from government authorities. The case related to the land ownership of about 930 acres under survey numbers 470, 471, 472 and 469, parts of which belonged to the erstwhile Bhavnagar ruling family. As per the original

documents and sale deed of 1971, the ruling family had given away certain portions of the land to the municipal corporation and sold a part of it to Palitana Sugar Mills.

Pawar backs demand for free sugar exports

Agriculture and Food Minister Sharad Pawar has supported sugar farmers and mill owners who want sugar exports to be brought under open general license (OGL). Pawar said time was ripe for this with global sugar prices around \$693 a tonne and domestic sugar production estimated at 25 million tonnes. He said he would ignore the opposition to exports and take a decision.

Sugar production to exceed consumption in India

Area covered by sugarcane in the current season in India at 50.60 lakh hectares has shown a rise of 8.58 lakh hectares by the end of September compared to last season. The production of the sweetener in 2010-11 is expected to be higher than annual consumption in the country. Sugar prices in the spot market of Kolhapur major remained in the range of `2550-265 in the past one month.

Sugar continues to be range-bound

Spot sugar prices on Vashi wholesale market ruled almost steady for the third consecutive day. On Wednesday, spot prices for low quality S-grade were marginally up Rs 10. Prices for good quality S-grade and M-grade were steady.

Sugar output estimate raised to 24.5 mt

The government on Wednesday hiked the sugar production estimate for the 2010-11 marketing year (October-September) to 24.5 million tonnes (mt) from 23 mt earlier. India is the biggest consumer and second biggest producer of sugar and any hint of a shortfall or a higher than average production (Brazil's own sugarcane crop has questions hanging overhead still) can impact prices significantly as was the case in 2009-10 when the government raised its initial estimate of about 14 mt to 18.9 mt in the latter half of the year.

UP cane farmers, mills lobby govt for good price

The Uttar Pradesh government is expected to soon announce the price at which mills in the state will have to buy sugarcane from farmers. Having received a record Rs 260 per quintal for sugarcane last season, farmers are insisting on a similar payout this season.

Centre may open sugar export window for extra 10 lakh tonnes

The Centre may permit sugar exports of 10 lakh tonnes beyond the re-export obligations of advance licence holders after Diwali. The export of this additional quantity may, however, be subject to strict conditions, including stipulation of a two-month-period for undertaking the shipments and furnishing of a bank guarantee for 10 per cent of the free-on-board (f.o.b) value.

Karjol assures sugar cane growers of support

District minister Govind Karjol assured the sugar cane growers of the district that he would appeal to the chief minister to intervene in the matter of sugar cane price fixation and conduct a meeting of the sugar cane growers and the sugar factory management, so that they can reach a conclusion.

Sugar growers press for new prices

Hundreds of activists of Swabhimani Shetkari Sanghatane (SSS), led by Raju Shetty, its president and MP from Hatakanagala constituency in Maharashtra, staged a protest in the premises of the DC's office here on Thursday, urging for sugar factories to be kept out of the district until they declared the price.

'Sugarcane crushing in UP to start after Nov 15'

Sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh are unlikely to start cane crushing before November 15 due to dispute over price that factories will pay to farmers, a growers' body said today. "Mills are expected to start only after November 15 as there have been no understanding so far with mill owners on sugarcane price," said Awadesh Mishra, the President of Chairman's Association of cane societies in Uttar Pradesh, the country's second largest sugar producing state

State sugar production up 54 per cent in 2009-10

Karnataka's sugar production has increased 54 per cent to 2.56 million metric tonnes for the sugar year-ended September 2010 compared to 1.66 million tonnes produced during

the previous year. Karnataka is the third largest producer of sugar in the country, and contributes about 13.5 per cent of the total sugar production.

INTERNATIONAL SUGAR INDUSTRY

Sugar Mills in Brazil's Northeast Step Up Sales Amid Port Backlog in South

Sugar mills in northeastern Brazil are accelerating sales to take advantage of higher prices and a port backlog that is delaying shipments from southern producers.

Sugar firm fined for untreated wastewater discharge

The environmental authorities in the central province of Quang Ngai Sunday said they have fined a local company VND150 million (US\$7,708) for discharging untreated wastewater into a river.

A gathering to grow on

Its too late for sustainability, said NewEra Agriculture founder Timothy LaSalle, the keynote speaker at the 2010 Hawaii Ag Conference, the states largest gathering of agricultural professionals. Weve overshot the chance for sustainability.

Australia's Sugar Production To Down 4.5% In 2010-11

Sugar output in Australia, the world's third-largest exporter, may decline by about 4.5 percent in 2010-11 because of wetter-than-usual weather, according to the head of producers' group Canegrowers. Output this harvest may be about 4.2 million metric tons compared with 4.4 million tons a year earlier, said Steve Greenwood, chief executive officer of the Brisbane-based group. Planting of next year's crop may also be disrupted by the rains, Greenwood said by phone.

Irrigation Policy to Help Small-Scale Farmers Cultivate All Year Round

Zambia has, for some time, suffered severe droughts in some parts of the country resulting in reduced yield despite the country having abundant water resources.

Sugar Crop in Australia May Drop on Heavy Rains, Growers' Group Predicts

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Nzoia resumes sugar production

Nzoia Sugar Company resumed operations on Monday after month long maintenance exercise. The firm's managing director Saul Wasilwa said two mills were rehabilitated at a cost of Sh212 million which was a grant from Kenya Sugar Board.

Lower price by Mumias costs sugar farmers Sh881 million

Farmers who supply sugarcane to Mumias Sugar Company have lost Sh881.2 million over the last four months, after the miller ignored the price set by the Kenya Sugar Board.

Sugar beets caught in GMO food fight

La Junta, Colo. In recent weeks, after the courts decided the U.S. Department of Agriculture needed to complete a more comprehensive environment impact study before deregulating biotech sugar beets, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service acted promptly to ease concerns of sugar beet growers by outlining a series of steps.

Sugar crop is wilting

KwaZulu-Natal is in the grip of severe drought and the SA Sugar Association (SASA) has cut its estimate of the sugar crop in the year to March to less than 2mt. That is 26% less than the record crop of 2.7mt in 2002/2003.

Rural Report for North Coast NSW

Former Page MP and 4th generation Clarence Valley sugar cane farmer Ian Causley has been appointed as the chairman of the Australian Sugar Research and Development Corporation.

Sector receives less from banks

LOANS to the agricultural sector as a proportion of total loans by commercial banks and the Fiji Development Bank (FDB) have decreased progressively since 2000 through to 2006.

Zimbabwe: Veld Fires Destroy Sugarcane, Forests in Masvingo

Masvingo Rampaging veld fires, believed to have been sparked by poachers, have destroyed nearly 100 hectares of forestry and sugarcane in the Masvingo Wildlife Conservancy and Mkwazine sugar estates over the past three days.

Fire fighters save sugar mill

Firefighters were at the Condong Sugar Mill for almost 14 hours over two days after heat sources were detected in 700 tonnes of sugar cane mulch

Sugar beets about 17 percent harvested for Michigan Sugar in Bay City; 600,000 tons sliced

BAY CITY Sugar beet season started about three weeks early this year and Michigan Sugar Co. is on pace to process almost 4.2 million tons of sugar beets this year, according to company officials.

2010 sugar beet harvest off to good start

Nebraska area sugar beet producers are holding their breath and crossing their fingers as they begin the 2010 harvest.

American Sugar Refining Completes Purchase of Tate & Lyle Sugars

Florida Crystals Corporation and Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida announce their subsidiary American Sugar Refining, Inc. (ASR) today completed the acquisition of Tate & Lyle PLCs European sugar operations.

Rains from TS Nicole delays Fla. sugar harvest

Heavy rains from Tropical Storm Nicole have delayed sugarcane harvest in central Florida.

Zimbabwe: No Shortage of Sugar This Year - Mtsambiwa

Zimbabwe's sugar production will be enough to meet the country's needs until March next year, Hippo Valley Estate Ltd Chief Executive Officer Sydney Mtsambiwa says.

Former Fiji prime minister held

The former Prime Minister of Fiji, Mahendra Chaudhry, has been arrested for allegedly breaching the military government's emergency regulations.

Sugar Factory silos are doomed

West Jordans Sugar Factory silos will not escape demolition, as previously thought. The silos were originally exempt from the City Councils demolition plans, approved Sept. 22. But the entire complex, located at 8201 S. 2200 West, was re-evaluated by city building officials prior to demolition, which revealed the 135-foot silos are structurally unsound.

The silos, which are not connected to the rest of the complex, could topple over on the new TRAX lines or other nearby structures.

Sugar-cane harvest prompts traffic warnings

THIBODAUX As sugar-cane harvesting begins for the season, one industry group is urging motorists to take caution.

Colombian sugar producer to invest in distillery in Peru

Colombian sugar and ethanol producer Grupo Manuelita through its subsidiary Agroindustrial Laredo unveiled plans to expand its sugar factory in the La Libertad department.

Mitr Phol to invest Bt300m in sugar cane irrigation upgrades

Mitr Phol Sugar Group, the country's largest sugar producer, will invest at least Bt300 million from 2011/13 to improve the irrigation systems for its sugarcane contract farmers and manage the water distributed to the cane plantations to increase yields.

South African Drought May Cut Sugar Output 26% This Year, Moneyweb Says

South Africa's sugar-cane production may drop to 2 million metric tons in the year to March because of severe drought in the KwaZulu-Natal province, Moneyweb said, citing the South African Sugar Association.

Is it sugar or ethanol?

There is a looming crisis of sugarcane. Is the country going to fill up the shortfall in sugar production with imports and at the same time make sure that there is enough cane to produce ethanol?

Amalgamated plans \$2 million upgrade

Amalgamated Sugar Co. plans to upgrade its Twin Falls facility by replacing two granulators within the next year.

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Sugar Crop in Australia May Drop on Heavy Rains, Growers' Group Predicts

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Nzoia resumes sugar production

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Sugar delays at Brazilian ports may ease next season

Investment in Brazilian ports and higher forecasts for Indian output are set to prevent a repeat of severe loading delays for the new sugar crop next year, but terminals will be pressured to meet booming demand. A huge line-up of vessels at Brazilian ports has triggered lengthy delays in loadings of sugar cargoes, contributing to a surge in sugar futures to seven-month highs this week, above the psychological 25 cents a lb resistance level.

Maharashtra govt to discuss help to sugar mills

Even as Maharashtra is expecting a bumper sugar production of 9.5 million tonnes in the current crushing season, surpassing its own record of 9.1 mt in 2006-07, the cooperative sugar industry expects a Rs 2,375-crore cash loss. The reason: A mismatch between the cost of production and realisation, the difference being around Rs 250 a quintal. The realisation is estimated at Rs 2,450 a qtl, as against the production cost of Rs 2,700 a qtl.

Sugar industry talks a sweet deal

INTERNATIONAL cane experts and Australian specialists will launch a sugar industry information tour in Bundaberg on Monday.

Indian sugar isn't substandard: Pakistani minister

Islamabad, Oct 6 : Sugar imported from India will be tested before its sale in Pakistan, said a minister who rejected the impression that Indian sugar was substandard.

DANISCO launch sustainable sugar brand

DANISH manufacturer, Danisco, has announced the launch of a new brand of sugar, Xivia, manufactured from the company's sustainable wood based integration concept.

British Sugar plans carbon recovery and liquefaction plant

British Sugar has announced that it plans to develop a carbon recovery and liquefaction plant at its bioethanol facility in Wissington.

Sugar shortage in Ilam

The Dashain festival is in the air, but sugar is in short supply in markets of Ilam district.

Germany's first factory test on beet shows lower sugar content

THE first factory test on sugar beet delivered to refineries in Germany this season showed sugar content of 16.1% compared with 18.05% in the same test last year, the association of German sugar producers WVZ said on Wednesday.

Sucrerie Couplet verkoopt belang in Iscal Sugar

Sucrerie Couplet heeft haar belang in Iscal Sugar integraal verkocht. Dat blijkt uit een gezamenlijke mededeling.

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Indian sugar isn't substandard but to be checked by Quality Control, says Pakistani minister Syed Khurshid Shah

Sugar imported from India will be tested before its sale in Pakistan, said a minister who rejected the impression that Indian sugar was substandard. Minister for Labour and Manpower Syed Khurshid Shah told the National Assembly Tuesday that pre-shipment inspection of sugar being imported from India had been conducted and it will be again checked by the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority before being sent.

Cameroon: Sugar Scarcity - Reality or Fiction?

Cameroon's major port of Douala is expecting a serious consignment of sugar flowing in from Brazil in the next two weeks to fill the vacuum created by what producers do not want to admit is artificial scarcity. Authorities of the Ministry of Trade released the news two days ago to the consternation of many. Whereas the country's major sugar producing company, Socit sucriere du Cameroun (SOSUCAM) had assured and re-assured consumers of its ability to satisfy demand and even make supply constant, ushering in glimmer of hope

in the population, government again announced it has authorised the importation of 25,000 metric tons.

Cameroon to Import Brazilian Sugar to Ease Crunch

Cameroon will import 33,000 tonnes of sugar from Brazil and Congo Republic to ease a domestic shortfall, the government said on Thursday.

Australia sugar crop threatened by rain

Australia's 2010/11 sugar output is being threatened by heavy rain in the north-eastern cane growing state of Queensland, disrupting this year's cane crush, an industry body has said.

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Sugar imported from India will be tested before its sale in Pakistan, said a minister who rejected the impression that Indian sugar was substandard. Minister for Labour and Manpower Syed Khurshid Shah told the National Assembly Tuesday that pre-shipment inspection of sugar being imported from India had been conducted and it will be again checked by the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority before being sent.

Cameroon: Sugar Scarcity - Reality or Fiction?

Cameroon's major port of Douala is expecting a serious consignment of sugar flowing in from Brazil in the next two weeks to fill the vacuum created by what producers do not want to admit is artificial scarcity. Authorities of the Ministry of Trade released the news two days ago to the consternation of many. Whereas the country's major sugar producing company, Socit sucriere du Cameroun (SOSUCAM) had assured and re-assured consumers of its ability to satisfy demand and even make supply constant, ushering in glimmer of hope in the population, government again announced it has authorised the importation of 25,000 metric tons.

Cameroon to Import Brazilian Sugar to Ease Crunch

Cameroon will import 33,000 tonnes of sugar from Brazil and Congo Republic to ease a domestic shortfall, the government said on Thursday.

Australia sugar crop threatened by rain

Australia's 2010/11 sugar output is being threatened by heavy rain in the north-eastern cane growing state of Queensland, disrupting this year's cane crush, an industry body has said.

Sugar rises to highest price in a week; cocoa advances

Sugar rose in London and New York to the highest prices in a week on Thursday on concerns of a reduced crop in Australia and as a weaker dollar boosted the appeal of the commodity. Cocoa also climbed. In the short term, a "bullish factor is the expectation of further dollar weakness," said James Kirkup, head of sugar broking at ABN Amro Markets (UK) in London. Some traders buy commodities as alternative assets when the dollar weakens. White, or refined, sugar futures for December jumped \$15.90, or 2.5%, to \$641.50 a metric tonne on NYSE Liffe at 12:12 pm in London, the highest price since September 28. Sugar production in Australia, the world's third-largest exporter, may decline by about 4.5% because of wetter-than-usual weather. Output this harvest may be about 4.2 million tonne compared with 4.4 million tonne a year earlier, according to Brisbane-based producer group Canegrowers

Sugar output a grain under 2 million tons

South Africa's 2010/11 sugar output is estimated at 1.998 million tons, down from a previous 2.065 million tons forecast, a latest estimate by the South African Sugar Association (Sasa) showed.

Sugar beet case becomes even more complicated

TWIN FALLS - The already complicated legal wrangling over whether sugar beet growers can plant genetically modified seed next spring was compounded this week when a federal judge indicated the U.S. Department of Agriculture had illegally approved the planting of biotech seedlings.

Keep tabs on sugar

The Sugar Industry Commission of Enquiry has recommended that the Government retain its role as the regulator of the sector despite the divestment of its interest in the industry.

2010 sugar beet harvest off to good start

Nebraska area sugar beet producers are holding their breath and crossing their fingers as they begin the 2010 harvest.

Sugar Jumps to Eight-Month High on Concern Brazilian Supply May Be Curbed

Sugar jumped to the highest price in almost eight months on concern that demand will outstrip supplies after adverse weather damaged crops in Brazil, the worlds biggest producer. Coffee and cocoa also climbed.

EU relief on ethanol to benefit sugar mills

ISLAMABAD: The sugar mills, among others, would be the major gainers as the proposed EU programme would also allow duty-free export of ethanol to the EU countries.

Sugar firm directive leaves sour taste in farmers mouths

Private farmers have accused Nzoia Sugar Company of frustrating their efforts to sell their cane to a private miller.

Iran to build agro-industry complex in Sudan

TEHRAN Iran will establish an agro-industry complex in Sudan, the Iranian agriculture minister announced here on Saturday.

Good Growing Season For Sugar Beets

Managers say they can only harvest a limited number of tons based on how many tons their factory can process.

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Sugar industry to start crushing in time: PSMA

LAHORE (October 13 2010): Chairman Pakistan Sugar Mills Association Javed Kayani has said that sugar industry would commence crushing in time. He was talking to media in

response to a news item, which appeared in a section of press. He said sugar industry fully understands the issues relating to growers and would continue to strive for their betterment. He said, at present, the sugarcane crop is not mature as the recovery only improves with the onset of winter.

State finalizes Everglades deal with US Sugar

A \$197 million attempt to restore the Everglades by turning over a swath of sugar farmland to the state was finalized Tuesday, ending two years of court battles and scaling back of the initial deal.

Water Managers, U.S. Sugar Close On Land Deal

The South Florida Water Management District on Tuesday closed on a deal to buy nearly 27,000 acres of land in Palm Beach and Hendry counties from U.S. Sugar for about \$197.4 million.

Agriculture PS names new CEO to sugar board

Agriculture Permanent secretary Dr Romano Kiome has named Mr Solomon Odera as the acting Kenya Sugar Board (KSB) Chief executive.

Beet sugar campaign now under way across region

Lorries will work flat out from this week to carry beet from farms to British Sugar factories to ensure processing benefits from dry weather.

Sugar board faults Muthaura over CEO's suspension

Kenya Sugar Board directors have turned the heat on Public Service head Francis Muthaura accusing him of being behind the suspension of sugar regulatory body chief executive Rosemary Mkok last week.

Comesa sugar imports threat to industry

The sugar industry faces imminent collapse as no attempt has been made to clean it up a year before Comesa members states start bringing in the commodity duty free.

500 have quit sugar beet, NFU Council told

Hundreds of farmers have stopped growing sugar beet under British Sugar's scheme to restructure the sector.

Dubai's Al Khaleej Sugar aiming for capacity expansion

Dubai-based Al Khaleej Sugar, which operates the world's biggest sugar refinery, plans to increase its refining capacity to 7,000 tonnes a day from around 5,000 currently within the next 12 months, general manager Cyrus Raja said.

Labor's problem with alcohol

Hidden in one of the side deals Prime Minister Gillard did with Tony Windsor and Rob Oakeshott to form government is a potentially explosive problem. Labor, in a flash, picked ethyl alcohol as a long-term winner in clean transport fuels.

Kenya: Sugar Firm Directive Leaves Sour Taste in Farmers' Mouths

Nairobi Private farmers have accused Nzoia Sugar Company of frustrating their efforts to sell their cane to a private miller.

Canegrowers focus on sugar research models

Sugar lobby group Canegrowers says the industry's research and development will need to be more efficient in the future.

Field & Furrow: Sugar beet ruling

A federal district judge recently issued an injunction against planting any GM sugar beets in 2011 and beyond. With Sugar Beet Days fast approaching, we may have to change the name of our harvest festival event in future years. Maybe No Sugar Beet Days would work.

Mozambique: Sugar Producers Complain At Scanner Fees

Maputo Sugar producers from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have expressed concern about the high costs they face when exporting their goods through Mozambican ports, reports Monday's issue of the Maputo daily "Noticias".

Sugar beets about 25 percent harvested for Michigan Sugar Co., near Bay City

Sugar beet season started about three weeks early this year and Bay County's Michigan Sugar Co. is on pace to process nearly 4.1 million tons, according to company officials.

Michigan's 2010 sugar beet season continues to live up to farmers' expectations in Bay City area

Dave Rupprecht of Zwerk and Sons Farms in Vassar says this years sugar beet season is meeting expectations as one of the best.

Sugar beet farmers expect a better quality crop

This year's sugar beet harvest is under way and local farmers are piling up their beets by the ton at receiving stations across northeastern Colorado.

Ruling Imperils Sugar Production

U.S. sugar production will be cut by about 20% if farmers are banned from planting genetically modified beets next year, according to data prepared for the U.S. Department of Agriculture as part of a court case over whether to continue allowing the practice.

Swaziland reels from heavy revenue blow

THE DECLINE in receipts from the Southern African Customs Union (Sacu), which last year accounted for 70 percent of the Swaziland governments revenue, is threatening the national treasury's solvency, according to the Central Bank of Swaziland's annual review of economic indicators.

Kenya: Five Sugar Factories to Be Sold After Cabinet Gave Its Approval

Nairobi The privatisation of five sugar factories is now in the hands of Parliament after the Cabinet gave its approval

Sugar farmers want factory opened

Controversy surrounding Butali Sugar Mills Ltd in Kakamega County deepened with cane farmers now accusing the Government of frustrating the opening of the factory.

Turf wars among west Kenya sugar firms spill over into power corridors

The smooth implementation of the Kenya Sugar Act has come into question following recent disputes among a section of industry players.

Legal suits test efficacy of the Sugar Act

As the government investigates the suspended Kenya Sugar Board chief executive Rosemary Mkok, questions abound over how the regulator got itself in this sticky situation.

GuySuCo `extremely alarmed at strike threat

The Guyana Sugar Corporation this afternoon said it was extremely alarmed at a threat made in the name of an official of the sugar union, GAWU for workers to go on an industry-wide strike from tomorrow.

Acting CEO FSC recommends closure of Ba mill

The Acting Chief Executive of the Fiji Sugar Corporation has recommended that the Rarawai Sugar Mill in Ba be closed down as part of the major reforms needed to ensure that the sugar industry remains viable.

Sugar mill faces imminent shutdown

The Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC) is expected to hold a meeting with its board members and relevant stakeholders in a bid to find strategies to save the weakening industry.

Lautoka Sugar Mill kept like a junkyard-PM

Thousands of people and the country as a whole has been relying on the sugar industry for years but if you visit the Lautoka Sugar Mill, it is kept like a junkyard.

Consultations needed before Rarawai Mill closure

Prime Minister, Commodore Voreqe Bainimarama has made it clear that consultations need to be carried out first before any decision is reached to close the Rarawai Sugar Mill.

Sugar mill owners cite factors barring expansion of cogeneration plants

Inconsistent price factor, delayed payments and lack of carbon credits are a few of the major deterrent factors preventing private sugar mills from going in for expansion of cogeneration plants to augment the production of power as demanded by the State government.

Mills producing substandard sugar

KARACHI: All of the sugar mills in the country are producing substandard white refined sugar by violating international quality standards.

Toyota to use sugar cane-based material for car interior lining

NAGOYA Toyota Motor Corp will introduce a new vehicle lining material that is made 30% from sugar cane to reduce petroleum consumption. The new material, bio-polyethylene terephthalate, or bio-PET, currently used in PET bottles, will be employed as a car interior fabric for the first time in the world, Japans top carmaker said.

Sweet innings for global sugar industry

Raw as well as refined sugar prices moved up in the last one and a half month on good demand and concerns over supplies from the world's largest producer of the sweetener. LIFFE near month sugar future reached close to the levels of \$700 per tonne while ICE raw sugar futures crossed the mark of 27 cents per pound. Data from the federal government's Foreign Trade Secretariat (SECEX) show that Brazilian sugar exports reached a new historical high in September, with 3.35 million tons shipped, up 3.84% in relation to the previous one-month record reached in August.

ETHANOL

Ethanol blended petrol to be available from November

With oil companies finally accepting letters of intent (LoI) from ethanol manufacturers in the country to facilitate five per cent blending of ethanol with petrol, the green fuel would be made available in the market as early as next month. Read more: Ethanol blended petrol to be available from November
