



NEWSMAKERS

ISMA URGES GOVERNMENT TO RESOLVE DECANTATION ISSUE AND ALLEVIATE BOTTLENECKS IN SUPPLY CHAIN

Indian Sugar & Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association has urged Government to take immediate action on Decantation issue and alleviate bottlenecks in supply chain. ISMA has written a letter to the government regarding this issue and requested for immediate attention to a critical issue that has been affecting distilleries operations significantly.

Initially, OMCs had allocated a total of 562 crore litres for the ESY 2023-24. However, following the government order dated 15th December, 23, OMCs revised their allocation down to 454 crore ltrs after 1st EOI. Due to which contribution of Sugar based distilleries reduced from 270 Cr ltr to 162 Cr ltr i.e. by around 40%. Despite this reduction, lifting is slower than usual primarily due to decantation problem at various Depots.

A substantial backlog and prolonged waiting time for unloading Tank Trucks (TTs) have been observed and this situation has led to detention and operational delays, creating strains throughout the entire logistics network. Due to delays in decantation, distilleries are facing storage constrains and difficulties in running their operations at full capacities.

To resolve the issue, ISMA has also proposed some suggestions i.e. Introduction of Token System, Time-bound Unloading, proper Communication & Transparency and Regular Review.

SEASON 2023-24: LATEST SUGAR PRODUCTION UPDATE BY ISMA TILL MARCH-31

The sugarcane crushing season 2023-24 in India has entered its last leg as a large number of sugar mills have started ending operations.

According to data released by Indian Sugar & Bio-energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA), sugar production till 31st March, 2024 in the current 2023-24 Sugar Season

reached 302.02 lakh tons, against 300.77 lakh tons produced last year on the corresponding date.

Overall, 322 factories have closed their crushing operations across the country against 346 closed last year, as of end of March i.e. number of operating factories were higher at 210 this year against 187 mills which were operating last year on the corresponding date.

State-wise detail of sugar production:

YTD	31 st March 2024				31 st March 2023			
	No of operating factories			Sugar production (Lac tons)	No of operating factories			Sugar production (Lac tons)
ZONE	Started	Closed	Operating		Started	Closed	Operating	
UP	121	46	75	97.20	117	20	97	88.98
Maharashtra	207	140	67	107.32	211	200	11	104.96
Karnataka	76	72	4	49.50	75	71	4	54.90

ISMA had earlier in mid - March revised its net sugar production estimate for the season 2023-24 to be 320 lakh tons. Domestic consumption needs are expected to be 285 lakh tons.

As per ISMA, with the above production and consumption figures, a healthy closing stock of 91 lakh tons can be anticipated by the end of the season.

ISMA has requested the Government to permit the export of 10 lakh tons of sugar in the current season. The request for export suggests a careful balance between meeting domestic consumption needs, sustaining Ethanol Blending Program (EBP) and leveraging surplus for export opportunities.

Source; Chinimandi.com, 2nd April, 2024

SUGARCRETE: EXPERTS DEVISE E C O - F R I E N D L Y CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL FROM SUGARCANE WASTE

A new kind of construction material has been developed by scientists made using sugarcane.

Grimshaw, an architecture studio in collaboration with the University of East London (UEL) devised a brick composed of bagasse- a byproduct of sugarcane. Called 'Sugarcrete', this product aims to tackle sustainability in construction.

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The new kind of concrete forming the brick is a bio-building component that can also function as an insulating panel or a load-bearing element.

This brick is hailed as an affordable eco-friendly alternative to conventional bricks and concrete as per a statement published in The Cool Down.

Such a material will potentially reduce carbon footprint, positively impacting the climate crisis the world is facing. Currently, the cement industry contributes roughly eight percent of carbon pollution. Sugarcrete yields about 15 to 20 percent of the carbon emissions of traditional bricks. The carbon footprint is 20 times less and four to five times lighter than traditional concrete.

“Despite the global aim to hold global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius [2.7 degrees Fahrenheit], it is estimated that our global built floor areas will double by 2060. Therefore, we must develop alternatives to current construction methods,” stated UEL senior lecturer Armor Gutierrez Rivas.

'Offers self-supporting structural applications'

The Sugarcrete team told Dezeen, “Challenging misconceptions of waste-based materials being inferior in structural strength, Sugarcrete can offer self-supporting structural applications beyond infill.”

Grimshaw says that sugarcane is the world's most-produced crop by volume. Thus utilizing construction material using sugarcane's byproduct will also help organizations involved in sugarcane production offset some of the crop's adverse environmental consequences.

“This low carbon material is just a part of the project ambitions,” added a statement by UEL. “The project seeks to offer different viable, sustainable, and safe construction solutions, using bio-waste as the core resource, to enhance community wellbeing and security.”

The qualities of Sugarcrete have garnered recognition as it was nominated for the Earthshot Prize—an award celebrating outstanding sustainability projects worldwide. This prize considers five categories featuring the top sustainability efforts.

“The next steps of the research will see the development and co-design of digital tools linked to by-product availability from diverse crops and regions and performance criteria that map the potential to deploy Sugarcrete globally,” the Sugarcrete team stated.

Sugarcrete is not yet patented. UEL says that was an

intentionally made “open access” with the aim to “establish partnerships to produce new bio-waste-based construction materials where sugar cane is grown, and benefit is greatest.”

Researchers have high goals for this project with the purpose of devising ultra-low carbon building components using bagasse. This paved the way for storing biogenic carbon from quick-to-grow plants in construction materials permitting the delay of carbon emissions.

Source: interestingengineering.com, 22nd March, 2024



खाण्डसारी पर विशेष कवरेज

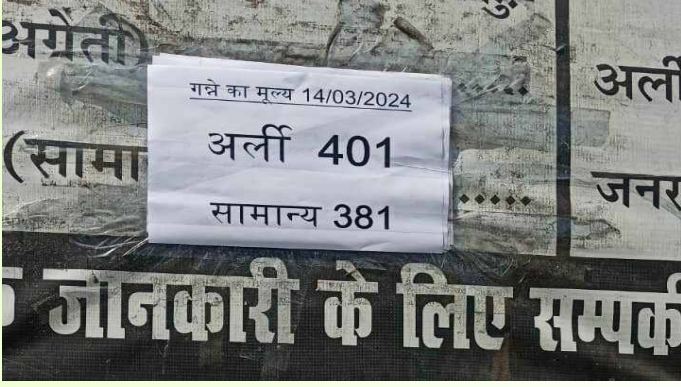
भाग - 1

गन्ने की कमी से जूझ रहा चीनी उद्योग

अधिकतर चीनी मिलों को वर्तमान में गन्ने की कमी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है जिसकी वजह से मिल के पेराई में बाधा आ रही है। गन्ने की कमी का एक प्रमुख कारण खांडसारी है। खांडसारी संचालक गन्ने को मिल में पहुँचाने से पहले ही अच्छे दाम देकर खरीद लेते हैं। गन्ना आपूर्ति के अभाव में प्रदेश की कई मिलों को मार्च महीने में ही पेराई बंद करनी पड़ी है जिसका असर चीनी के उत्पादन पर भी पड़ेगा।

खांडसारी इकाइयां नियामक ढांचे का पालन किए बिना काम करती हैं, जिससे अनुचित प्रतिस्पर्धा होती है और चीनी मिलों को वित्तीय घाटा होता है। इस संबंध में यू.पी. शुगर मिल्स एसोसिएशन ने सरकार को चिट्ठी लिखकर मामले की गंभीरता से अवगत कराया है और ऐसे बहुत से बिंदुओं का उल्लेख किया है जिसके कारण खांडसारी उद्योग मनमाने ढंग से काम करता है और उसका सीधा असर चीनी उद्योग पर पड़ता है।

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चीनी मिलों के हित को ध्यान में रखते हुए यू.पी.एस.एम.ए. ने कुछ उपाय भी सुझाया है-

- चीनी मिल की तरह सभी खांडसारी इकाइयों को लागू नियंत्रण के दायरे में लाया जाए।
- खांडसारी के आकार की परवाह किये बिना इन इकाइयों द्वारा उत्पादित गुड़ को चीनी मिलों की तरह लेवी दायित्व के अंतर्गत लाया जाये।
- मौजूदा चीनी मिलों के क्षेत्र में कोई नया लाइसेंस नहीं दिया जाये। खांडसारी इकाइयों को स्थापित करने का लाइसेंस केवल नये क्षेत्रों में ही दिया जाये।
- बॉन्डिंग नीति में संशोधन किया जाए ताकि मूल कोटा को महत्व दिया जाए और चीनी मिलों को गन्ने की उचित आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित की जा सके।

चीनी उत्पादन में उत्तर प्रदेश दूसरे नंबर पर, महाराष्ट्र में उत्पादन बढ़ने का अनुमान

पिछले साल कमजोर मानसून के चलते चालू पेराई सीजन (2023-24) में महाराष्ट्र और कर्नाटक में चीनी उत्पादन में भारी गिरावट की आशंका बन गई थी जिसके चलते उत्तर प्रदेश के चीनी उत्पादन में देश में पहले स्थान पर रहने की सम्भावना थी। लेकिन जैसे-जैसे सीजन आगे बढ़ा, स्थिति उलट गई। उत्तर प्रदेश में चीनी उत्पादन पिछले साल के करीब या कुछ कम रहने के आंकड़े आ रहे हैं। इस साल उत्तर प्रदेश में चीनी उत्पादन 105 लाख टन के आसपास रहने की संभावना है, क्योंकि राज्य में गन्ने की कमी से चीनी मिलें जल्द बंद हो रही हैं। सीजन के शुरुआत में उत्तर प्रदेश में 110 लाख टन चीनी उत्पादन की सम्भावना जताई गई थी। वही नवंबर-दिसंबर में बारिश के चलते महाराष्ट्र में गन्ने की फसल सुधरने से उत्पादन 106 से 107 लाख टन तक पहुँच सकता है। देश में कुल चीनी उत्पादन 320 लाख टन रहने का अनुमान है। यह मात्रा एथेनॉल के लिए डॉयवर्ट की गई 17 लाख टन चीनी से अलग है।

उद्योग सूत्रों के मुताबिक, उत्तर प्रदेश में इस साल गन्ना उत्पादन में कमी आई है। राज्य के कुछ हिस्सों में मानसून के शुरुआती दिनों में अधिक बारिश और बाढ़ ने गन्ने की फसल को नुकसान पहुँचाया। वहीं गन्ने की फसल में रोगों का प्रकोप भी रहा। गन्ने की सबसे अधिक क्षति में लगाई गई किस्म सीओ 0238 में रेड रॉट और बोरेर की बीमारियों ने भारी नुकसान पहुँचाया। किसानों के सामने मुश्किल यह है कि उन्हें गन्ने की 0238 प्रजाति की जगह लेने वाली कोई दूसरी कामयाब प्रजाति नहीं मिल पा रही है। एक्सपर्ट्स का कहना है कि यह जिम्मा राज्य सरकार का है कि किसानों को नई प्रजाति के बीज उपलब्ध कराए।

उद्योग के अनुसार चालू सीजन में चीनी का ग्रॉस प्रोडक्शन 337 लाख टन रहने की संभावना है। जो पिछले साल 366 लाख टन के ग्रॉस प्रोडक्शन से करीब 8 फ्रीसदी कम है। पिछले साल एथेनॉल उत्पादन के लिए 45 लाख टन चीनी का डायवर्जन किया गया था। इस साल अभी तक सरकार ने 17 लाख टन चीनी डायवर्जन की सीमा तय कर रखी है।

ऐसे में उद्योग का मानना है कि शुरुआत में चीनी की उपलब्धता पिछले साल के 57 लाख टन बकाया स्टॉक के साथ कुल 377 लाख टन होगी। वहीं देश में चीनी की अनुमानित खपत 285 लाख टन है। ऐसे में देश में करीब 92 लाख टन अतिरिक्त चीनी है। मानकों के आधार पर एक अक्टूबर को देश में 60 लाख टन चीनी का बकाया स्टॉक होना चाहिए जबकि उत्पादन अनुमानों के आधार पर इस साल बकाया स्टॉक इससे अधिक रहेगा।

Source: ruralvoice.in, 30th March, 2024

From the Archives

• Mr. C.J. Olivier

During 1920s, the news of sugarcane breeding work at Coimbatore and the successful performance of CoCanes were drawing the attention of sugar industry and sugarcane farmers all over the world. Being influenced by such news, in 1924-25, Mr. Olivier who was a sugarcane planter(farmer) in Argentina came to India (very long journey by ship) only to visit Sugarcane Breeding Station, Coimbatore. He was so pleased with the health and vigour of the new seedling canes at the station that he left behind a couple of hundred rupees for sending a few of more promising canes to him in Argentina. The seedling canes were despatched to him.

• An Interesting History of 1752

Here is an interesting historical fact that you probably didn't know, (I sure didn't). Just have a look at the calendar for the month of September 1752.

(If you think I'm joking, you may search it on Google and see it for yourself.)

In case you haven't noticed, 11 days are simply missing from the month.

Here's the explanation: This was the month during which England shifted from the Roman Julian Calendar to the Gregorian Calendar.

A Julian year was 11 days longer than a Gregorian year. So, the King of England ordered 11 days to be wiped off the face of that particular month. (A King could order anything, couldn't he?)

So, the workers worked for 11 days less that month, but got paid for the whole month. That's how the concept of "paid leave" was born. Hail the King!!!

In the Roman Julian Calendar, April used to be the first month of the year; but the Gregorian Calendar observed January as the first month. Even after shifting to the Gregorian Calendar, many people refused to give up old



traditions and continued celebrating 1st April as the New Year's Day. When simple orders didn't work, the King finally issued a royal dictum; which stated that those who celebrated 1st April as the new year's day would be labelled as fools.

From then on, 1st April became April Fool's Day. History is really interesting, isn't it

Congratulation

- Baghaulti Sugar and Distillery Ltd (Dalmia Bharat Sugars) closes its first ever crushing season (T) with new Management successfully on 24th March, 2024. Thanks and congratulations to all the stakeholders for making it happen and blessed us all with multiplied festivities on the eve of Holi.

“वार्ता की टीम की ओर से हार्दिक बधाई”



EXPORTS BLOW: MORE SUGAR LIKELY TO FLOW TO ETHANOL

The Government may allow sugar mills to use more of the sweetener to make ethanol, in a move likely to reduce the odds of easing export curbs any time soon, according to a person familiar with the matter. The Government is considering a proposal to permit factories to use an additional 800,000 tonne of sugar for bio-fuel this year, as the crop is likely to be higher than predicted, said the person. That would be on top of 1.7 million tonne allocated earlier.

The second -biggest sugar producer will refrain from releasing any export quota in the near future, said the person, damping industry's hopes of shipping as much as 1 million tonne in the current season ending September. The move is likely to support global sugar prices that have fallen in April.

The move would help sugar mills and ethanol distilleries that have invested as much as Rs. 15,000 crore in three years to increase cane based ethanol capacity. It will also help the factories make timely payment to farmers. The country has a goal to blend 15% of ethanol in gasoline in 2023-24.

Source; Financial Express, 10th April, 2024

Sugar Shots

Sugar has not only surprising health benefits but it is also considered beneficial for skin. AHA, or Alpha Hydroxy Acid, is a great exfoliator found in sugar. It helps in exfoliating the year top layer of skin, removing dead skin cells and revealing your natural radiance.

Do You Know!

Sugar was introduced in the West as a spice, not a sweetener

The history of Sugar goes back quite some time, as you will find out a few facts later, where it has basically always played its part as a sweetener. However, when it was first introduced in England in the Middle Ages via the legendary Silk Road trade routes through the Middle-East, it was known as a spice. That's because it was thrown in with ginger, cinnamon, saffron and other exotic spices, only available to the wealthy elites.

Quiz No. 4

What can't be processed from sugarcane?

- A. Bio Plastic B. Ethanol C. Bio-Electricity
D. Bio-Machines

Answer will be shared in next issue of UPSMA Newsletter

Answer of Quiz No. 3

When was the first Vacuum Pan Sugar Factory set up in India?

Ans. The first Vacuum Pan Sugar factory for producing crystal white Sugar was set up in 1903 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

श्रद्धांजलि

यू.पी.एस.एम.ए. कोर कमेटी सदस्य श्री डी. के. शर्मा की बेटी का 31 मार्च, 2024 को आकस्मिक निधन हो गया। इस दुःख की घड़ी में यू. पी.एस.एम.ए. के सभी सदस्य गहरी शोक संवेदना व्यक्त करते हैं और परमपिता परमेश्वर से प्रार्थना करते हैं कि दिवंगत आत्मा को शांति दे और शोकाकुल परिवार को इस क्षति को वहन कर पाने की शक्ति प्रदान करे।

UPSMA Newsletter titled 'Varta' the Dialogue is providing information on sugar, sugar industry and sugar byproducts. We request you to share your thoughts and experience with us through write-ups, success stories, updates, photographs etc. We publish your creative in the next edition of this newsletter. You are requested to send your entries to be published in UPSMA newsletter through mail at upsma@upsma.org. The newsletter will be uploaded on UPSMA website.