



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Press Release(25)01
(English only)**

6 January 2025

Various sugar related articles

The Executive Director would like to draw your attention to the articles below all of which are relevant to the sugar sector.

ED & F Man Daily

Pakistan framework to deregulate sugar industry ordered - The Express Tribune - Planning Minister Professor Ahsan Iqbal directed developing a medium-term framework for deregulating sugar industry, stressing industries to ensure data uniformity, crop zoning and backward integration. He passed the directives while chairing a meeting of the Prime Minister's Committee on Sugar stocking, forecasting and planning, notified in December last to develop a foolproof system of monitoring and report authentic position of sugar stocks for timely decisions on exports. He suggested taking data from one source to maintain accuracy.

Sucro Announces Purchase Of 15.9 Percent Interest By Mexico's Beta San Miguel From Controlling Shareholder, Sugar Supply Agreement - Sugar Producer - Sucro Limited, an integrated sugar refiner focused primarily on serving North American sugar markets, announced that Beta San Miguel, S.A. de C.V., one of the largest sugar refiners in Mexico by volume and sales, has acquired subordinate voting shares from the company's controlling shareholder, SC Americas Corp., representing 15.93 percent of the voting and equity shares of the company. SC Americas, which prior to the transaction owned approximately 67.5 percent of the voting and equity shares of the company, is controlled by Jonathan Taylor, the founder, Chief Executive Officer and a director of the company. In ancillary transactions, BSM has granted the company certain first offer, first refusal and matching rights for the purchase of raw and refined sugar exported by BSM from Mexico.

India Sugar Output Falls 15.6% to 9.54M Tons as of Dec. 31 - Bloomberg - India's sugar production fell to 9.54 million tons as of Dec. 31, from about 11.3 million tons in the same period a year earlier, according to the Indian Sugar and Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association. Sugar production figures are after diversion of for ethanol. Average domestic sugar consumption estimated to be around 28 million tons for 2024-2025. In Uttar Pradesh, the country's top cane grower, sugar output fell to 3.28m tons from 3.44m tons. Production in Maharashtra fell to 3m tons from 3.82m tons. Production in Karnataka dropped to 2.04m tons from 2.49m tons.

FoodNavigator.com

Value, private label & premium brands will grow in 2025



Economic pressures in 2025 will continue to impact consumers' shopping habits as private label and premium products grow, but all is not lost for mainstream brands that can stand out through strategic partnerships with foodservice and targeted social media presence.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2024/12/18/how-will-the-food-industry-evolve-in-2025/>

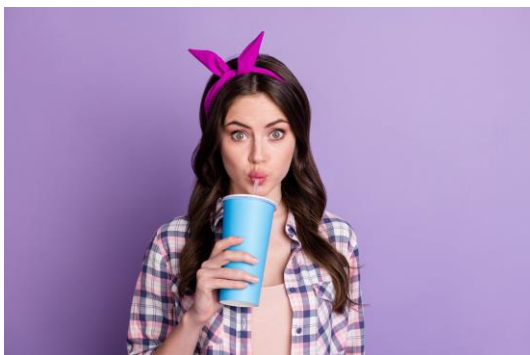
Confectionery giants amass almost \$500 million in US advertising spend



One multinational confectioner dominates the spend total for campaigns in the US. Can you guess who it is?

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2024/12/18/hershey-leads-us-confectionery-ad-spend-2023/>

Are diet drinks damaging to gut health?



The diet drinks industry is booming, but could links to gut damage threaten its success?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2024/12/17/are-diet-drinks-damaging-to-gut-health/>

Are gluten-free products unhealthy?



Gluten-free is gaining popularity. But the sector has recently received criticism for being unhealthy. So, are the rumours true, and what can industry do about it?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2024/12/23/are-gluten-free-products-unhealthy/>

Sugaronline Ebriefing

ARGENTINA: Sugar industry says domestic sugar supply is assured

The Centro Azucarero Argentino has said that domestic sugar supply in Argentina is assured in a campaign of record exports, according to El Tribuno de Jujuy.

Production in the 2024 season did not reach the volume initially projected due to frosts recorded in the winter, but it was still one of the best ever recorded because of the very good milling pace achieved, according to the president of the Centro Azucarero Argentino, Jorge Feijóo.

He said 75% of the sugar with an export contract had already left the country. By Nov. 30, 441,578 metric tonnes had been shipped, and only 168,000 tonnes were pending shipment.

FAO Sugar Price Index falls 13.2% in 2024

The FAO Sugar Price Index fell 13.2% in 2024 from 2023, mainly due to record-high exports from Brazil during the year and a positive global supply outlook for the 2024/25 season, reports Sugaronline.

In December, the index declined 5.1% from [November](#), the second consecutive monthly fall, driven by larger-than-expected sugar production in Brazil in the second half of November and the weakening of the Brazilian currency against the United States dollar.

The index in December last year was 10.6% lower than its value in December 2023.

“In addition, improving prospects for the sugarcane crops to be harvested from April 2025 in Brazil and the ongoing crushing season in India and Thailand, where mills are fully operational, also contributed to the decline in world sugar prices,” FAO said [in a statement](#) on Jan. 3.