



# International Sugar Organization

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Press Release(19)54  
(English only)**

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### **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.

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#### **Sugar Online – Ebriefing 12-11-2019**

##### **Taxation complexities and regional concentration limit India's ethanol ambition**

India is desperately trying to deal with its sugar glut with diversion to ethanol diversion one of the key opportunities, however, with only 175 out of 530 mills producing ethanol, taxation complexities involving federal and state governments and regional concentration of cane production, India is finding it difficult to meet its ambitious blending targets, **reports Sugaronline.**

"The government has been extremely supportive when it comes to ethanol. It has reduced the GST on ethanol from 18% to 5%, hiked the regulatory prices for different grades of ethanol and is providing subsidised loans to expand capacities. However, India's ethanol ambition has multiple challenges," said Abinash Verma, Director General of Indian Sugar Mills Association at the recently concluded 10th Asia Sugar and Ethanol Conference in New Delhi.

After the introduction of GST, the states are left with limited taxation power. With potable liquor contributing to as much as one-third of the tax revenues of sugar-producing states, Uttar Pradesh in particular, the state governments want to retain control over use and movement of molasses, says Verma. That imposes limits on ethanol production.

The problem is further complicated due to the fact that 80% of the country's cane and sugar output is produced by just three states – UP, Maharashtra and Karnataka. Because of this, oil marketing companies based outside these states face difficulties in getting regular supply of ethanol to blend with petrol.

Besides, moving ethanol from one state to another would involve additional cost that they want to avoid. That leads to lower blending.

To deal with the problem, Verma advises cane deficit states to use damaged grains, corn and other non-cane-based feedstocks. The government can also consider having differential blending targets for surplus and deficit states. Thus, UP, Maharashtra and Karnataka and their neighbouring states can have higher blending rates, say 15% compared to say 7% for others. This pragmatic approach will raise the overall share of ethanol in India's fuel mix, he said.

**FoodNavigator.com 14 November 2019**

**DSM, Cargill open commercial scale facility to produce stevia sweeteners via fermentation: 'This approach is infinitely scalable'**

14-Nov-2019 By Elaine Watson

Avansya - a joint venture between Cargill and DSM - has opened the first commercial-scale facility in the US producing stevia sweeteners via microbial fermentation.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2019/11/14/dsm-cargill-open-commercial-scale-facility-to-produce-stevia-sweeteners-via-fermentation>

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**FoodNavigator.com 15 November 2019**

**FOOD FOR KIDS: Added sugar intake among babies and toddlers declines slightly, but is still a significant source of calories**

15-Nov-2019 By Mary Ellen Shoup

A new study found that nearly two-thirds of infants (61%) and almost all toddlers (98%) consumed added sugars in their average daily diets, primarily in the form of flavored yogurts (infants) and fruit drinks (toddlers).

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2019/11/15/food-for-kids-added-sugar-intake-among-babies-and-toddlers-declines-slightly-but-still-a-significant-source-of-calories>

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**Danone's call to action on sustainability: 'We're not moving quickly enough'**

15-Nov-2019 By Oliver Morrison

The French food giant has called for a spirit of industry collaboration and urged global FMCG businesses to become certified B Corp in order to commit to the challenge of creating a sustainable food system and regaining consumer trust.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2019/11/15/danone-s-call-to-action-on-sustainability-we-re-not-moving-quickly-enough>

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**Study: Sale of unhealthy foods decrease in Chile public schools**

15-Nov-2019 By Asia Sherman

Research following the implementation of the Food-Labeling and Advertising Law in Chile showed a substantial reduction in the availability of competitive food and beverages sold in school kiosks.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2019/11/15/study-sale-of-unhealthy-foods-decrease-in-chile-public-schools>

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