

SIFB Info

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Issue 6
December 2017

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2. Message from the editorial committee

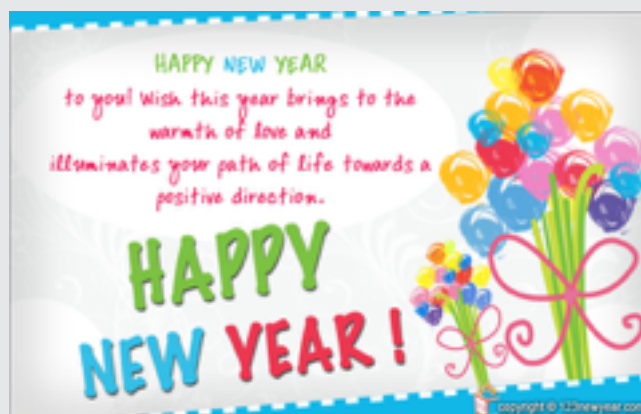
Dear Colleagues we are glad to present the sixth electronic issue to you.

The spotlight is actually is on sugar price and production. While going through the article “Global Sugar Market Outlook” some facts will be revealed to you about the tendencies of the production and sugar price. Further, the use of drones is well demonstrated in the article “some applications of drones”.

Human beings encounter lots of problems when facing life atrocities. To get over it, let go principles are adopted. As soon as the New Year festival approaches most of us start to look for better perspectives so as to be able to move ahead in life. All of us must aim to live in a safe and clean environment by getting rid of pollution and all types of anthropogenic hazards affecting Mother Earth.

Sharing and caring must be done without any expectations. Helping others through philanthropy is far much better than wasting our precious time in trivial matters. 17th December 2017, was an example of such an act. SIFB Staffs have generously donated food and gifts to the residents of the Swami Krishnanand Seva Ashram and Lady Sarojni Jugnauth Women’s Home, Calebasses. More-over staffs have made a promise to continue this mission next year to other similar institutions. We thanked all staffs for their contributions. And we bid adieu to year 2017, we wish a very Happy New Year 2018 to one and all on these notes:

*“Hope this coming new year 2018 brings you
Enough health to make work a pleasure
Enough wealth to support your needs
Enough strength to battle with difficulties and overcome them
Enough patience to see some good in your neighbour
Enough love to move you to be useful and helpful to others
Enough faith to make real the things of God, and
Enough hope to remove all fears concerning the future”*



3. Global Sugar Market Outlook

According to reports the global sugar market is on the path to return to surplus in 2017/18 after two consecutive deficit years. It is forecasted that there would be a surplus of 1.8 million tonnes, raw value, following deficits of 8 million in 2016/17 and 5.9 million in 2015/16.

Global sugar production was forecasted to climb by 6.9 percent in 2017/18 to 186.35 million tonnes with consumption rising by a more modest 1.2 percent to 184.53 million. The rise in production was driven by increased output in India, the European Union, Thailand, Brazil and South Africa.

Sugar has been one of the most beaten-down commodities this year. Much will depend on whether or not unhedged producers decide to lock in prices in the current price range or continue to hold back for a longer rally.

The world market price has decreased continuously since the last quarter of 2016 (as shown in the chart below), with an overall decline of over US\$150/t in the white sugar future prices over the last year. While EU prices have become increasingly aligned with the world market price since abolition of intervention prices (and Sugar Protocol) in 2009, the situation is exacerbated this year with the liberalisation of production quotas since October 2017, coupled with a record 2017 EU crop outturn estimated to exceed 20 M tons (i.e. 20% higher than for the previous harvest).

As they were expecting a huge market surplus, EU buyers have refrained from signing long term contracts or have been seeking price reductions.

Forward positions indicate that prices are expected to lower in the future. In Brazil, the world's largest growing region much will also depend on if producers continue to favour converting more cane to ethanol due to recent favourable pricing. Throughout the first half of the year, Brazil was utilizing more of its sugarcane for sugar than ethanol but has since reverted back to ethanol. This is expected to continue.

At the dawn of 2018, international sugar prices are still under pressure amid higher than expected production and weaker demand from the main consumers around the globe.

International sugar prices stand at 14 US cents a pound, having started 2017 at almost 19 cents per pound. Meanwhile, 2017/18 remains on track for another year of surplus of international crops.

Analysts polled by Daily News Egypt said that an expected surplus in the next season is weighing on the outlook of futures prices, with investors likely to start a sell-off streak to avoid losses.

4. SOME APPLICATIONS OF DRONES

Drones have been around for years. However, these devices have become more popular in recent times and their application increases rapidly in various fields. They are indeed, considered to be among the most advanced devices in today's aeronautics, electronics and robotics alike.

What is a drone? A simple definition is that a Drone is any unmanned aircraft or ship that is guided remotely.

Presently, drones are working in many areas and with continuous advancements in technologies these machines are going to be more robust and useful in coming future too.

Drone Uses

Agriculture

For the past few years now, drone use on farms from livestock to crops and vines have been benefiting the farmer immensely. Drones enable the owner to manage the farm more effectively in the following ways:

- Provide data on soil fertility to refine fertilization by detecting deficiencies
- Applying fertilizers and watering the fields
- Monitor crop health
- Identify pests, disease and weeds. Optimize pesticide usage through early detection
- Help with land management as multispectral imagery will show whether crops need to be rotated in fields
- Control crop irrigation by identifying areas where water stress is suspected and if extra drainage or water is needed

- Tracking weather and estimating yields, and then collecting the data and analysing it for prompt action
- Count plants and determine spacing issues allowing estimation of crop yield
- Monitor livestock and also find sheep or cattle if lost
- Survey fencing and farm buildings

Tracking Traffic

Drones are being used to monitor the highways and bridges. Equipped with cameras and laser mapping technology the drone can alert officials to traffic jams, accidents, and bridge conditions.

Surveillance

Surveillance drones are being manufactured and marketed to police and security officials for security applications.

Today drones are capable of highly advanced and almost constant surveillance, and they can amass large amounts of data. They carry various types of equipment including live-feed video cameras, infrared cameras, heat sensors and radar. Some newer drones can "track people and vehicles from altitudes above 20,000 feet, can monitor up to 65 enemies of the State simultaneously, and can see targets from almost 25 miles down range."

Some military versions can stay in the air for hours or days at a time, and their high-tech cameras can scan entire cities, or alternatively, zoom in and read a milk carton from 60,000 feet. They can also carry wifi crackers and fake cell phone

towers that can determine your location or intercept your texts and phone calls.

The maritime industry and navy deploy aerial and submarine drones for patrol, reconnaissance and surveillance. They can help crack down on illegally moored vessels that can cause sea accidents.

Law enforcement agencies have not been left behind in the use of this technology. Drones are considered to be one of the most efficient ways to deal with crime. As a matter of fact, drones have been used in surveillance to aid in missions involving kidnappings, rescue operations or search operations.

Construction

According to a 2016 McKinsey report, Drones will dramatically improve the accuracy and speed at which construction projects are completed in the near future.

A drone program is a terrific investment for construction companies. They can be used through the entire construction lifecycle, from feasibility and bidding to hand over and maintenance.

During the construction phase, drones have many current and potential uses. They help to track and communicate progress, track and manage materials and assets, reduce theft, improve owner visibility, increase safety, and provide valuable information for improving design changes. Use drone photography to help owners visualize the final project, and see how the project is progressing while under construction.

Drones enable the monitoring of work completion more effectively. They also vastly increase

the ability to complete quality inspections in large and hard to reach areas in an efficient manner. They create a valuable documentation trail in case of problems.

Structural Safety Inspections

Drones can provide faster access to high-quality, real-time visual inspection for all types of utility companies that need to inspect power lines, oil and gas pipelines, transmission towers, buildings and bridges, wind turbines and rotor blades enabling the inspector or team to access the information from a safe position. The inspection of complex infrastructure will benefit from regular aerial monitoring. The ability to sense in three dimensions, take thermal readings, and to detect metal strain will greatly improve infrastructure inspection. Small Drones that can hover and get close will provide a new level of detail to improve performance.

Geographic Mapping

Drones can reach difficult-to-access locations like eroded coastline or mountaintops and acquire very high-resolution data to create 3D maps. The technology is already available to amateurs and professionals, enabling them to collect data and instantly download the imagery.

5. Forever Green

THE PLANET EARTH!



Earth is the sole planet to be known having life in this whole universe. We must respect and maintain everything we get from Mother Earth.

We feel tuned when we breathe the air. We quench our thirst easily due to water, we feel refresh when the breeze from trees caresses us during the unbearable hot weather. We dive ourselves in the ocean and enjoy the crashing of waves with our loved ones and acquaintances by the sea sides. By listening to the chirpings of birds we are carried away beyond ecstasies.

Referring to the deadly flood which hit our country, Mauritius on 31 March 2013 and several tsunamies which badly devastated big countries such as Japan, Thailand, Indonesia and India others; is it not high time to join hands together to save our Mother Earth? It starts today by bringing more awareness to one and all. Mauritius depends on tourism and agriculture and the project must be intensified so as to motivate the stakeholders to act now for the sustainability of the tourism industry of Mauritius. Thus, it builds a bridge from scientific research activity

to practical action. A fundamental assumption motivating this research is that with a joint, planned and coordinated commitment from the industry, the adverse social, environment and economic effects of these changes could be mitigated and rather turned positive.

A safe and clean environment is necessary to live in so as to do away with the present situations, which are very harmful to our planet Earth. In fact, this current situation is due to our own irresponsibility towards nature, which people have realized. Actually, our planet encounters several problems resulting from excessive anthropogenic activity. Moreover pollution, global warming, deforestation, extinction of biological species, etc. are detrimental to Earth and to solve these problems which are extremely relevant, rapid and intensive solutions are required.

It is possible to defeat these problems, if only, the entire humanity alters its approach towards nature, natural resources and the value of nature for its well-being. Merely, if people would go green to save Earth. It is imperative to think for the future of the new generation, we must start to change our life style now in order to see the results of these modifications in few decades. At least by growing some trees near the surrounding will give its result in the long run. Similarly, we need to invest to gain profit.

Some people do not care about the future and do not appreciate what they have. This approach is caused by greediness and consumerism. They are running after money which is their priority. They cut down the forests, kill animals,

birds and fish and pollute the rivers, lakes, seas and oceans. In addition, they open new plants, factories and power station which cause harm to the natural environment and money is still their main focus. They are so indulged in earning money that they do not realize that it is not the fresh air they are breathing and the water is polluted and contaminated. Thus, they have ignored the fact that they are living in the unhealthy, terribly looking environment in order to receive more money. They care only about their profit which is disgusting.

The question now arises how to save our planet from the results of our harmful activity? We must strictly follow all the possible measures to control the environmental pollution and global warming. Afforestation, reforestation, recycling of used paper and other natural products, saving of natural resources (minerals, coal, stones, oil, etc), electricity, water and environment should be supported and promoted.

Everyone must plant trees in the surrounding areas to curb the pollution and reduce the effects of global warming. To begin with, we have to reduce pollution, because it the cause of numerous problems. We must not throw litter in the streets, parks and forests. We must continue to recycle wastes in order to save our priceless natural recourses. Next, entrepreneurs will have to use special filters at plants, factories and power stations in order to reduce the amount of poisonous emissions into the air and water. Moreover, every forest is a home for thousands of animals, birds and insects, which improve the balance of ecosystems.

In conclusion, our unwise and extensive activity causes harm to the natural environment. We lose priceless natural resources, fresh air, water, forests, animals, birds, fish, insects, etc. People should change their lifestyle rapidly in order to stop deforestation, global warming, pollution and other problems, which can destroy the life on the planet. We ought to go green in order to save the life of future generations.

6. LET GO AND FEEL VERY GLAD.



The grey clouds can never overshadow the sun every day. There are times when we feel low due to some unwanted circumstances and we struggle to fight those negativities and finally discover it is hard to banish the fears and the pain inside. Everyone must be working on how to become more positive and to change ourselves by staying strong and resilient even through tough days and bad times. We must handle the criticism and negativity people lash out at us in a more understanding and levelheaded manner.

We even think of surrendering which we find very difficult. We have stopped to smile and we keep dwelling in the past painful situations.

By observing nature, all creation is rejoicing. The stars are twinkling in the sky; the rivers are flowing blissfully, the branches are dancing in the wind, and the birds are bursting into song. Why should one feel miserable living amidst all this joyful celebration? The answer is simple; flowers, stars, rivers, trees and birds do not have ego, and, being egoless, nothing can hurt them.

When one is egoless, one can only rejoice. Even occasions that will normally be difficult are transformed into happy moments. All regrets of the past are dropped.

Adopting relaxation in our daily routine will strengthen and energize us to confront the challenges awaiting us in the future. Moreover, it not only enhances our awareness but brings out our real being. Only a relaxed person can be ever watchful and aware.

Further, we must learn to stand aside and just observe the negative thoughts cropping in our mind and as it occurs, we must quickly withdraw our cooperation and our involvement with the stress and agony as they do not belong to inner self, your true being. Ultimately, this brings the hidden cause of suffering into light. Just by being exposed the ego disappears. Let go by saying "I'll never see you again". It won't say "see you later". Exposing the ego is the same as destroying it.

When light comes, darkness vanishes. Just simple to let go, the moment you feel the urge to get out of the negativities, and accept the present situation without expectations. Moreover, in a subtle manner surrender has taken place the moment you are fast asleep. All worries, tensions, stress have left your body. So every night everybody has surrendered to some degree. When we let go we feel detached of the negativities, we forget and forgive easily, and we move on easily and smoothly.

Life is a game, just smile and laugh to your heart. The past is gone, we must stay in the present moment. Surrender is not an act, it is the state of our being. When there is no choice, just know that you are in a state of surrender deep within you. Letting go is something you'll get better at over time just like for example keeping an optimistic mindset during tough times.

7. *CONSIDERATIONS FOR 2018*

1. ON SPENDING:

If you buy things you do not need, soon you will have to sell things you need.

2. ON SAVINGS:

Do not save what is left after spending, but spend what is left after saving.

3. ON TAKING RISK:

Never test the depth of a river with both feet.

4. ON INVESTMENT:

Do not put all eggs in one basket.

5. ON EXPECTATIONS:

Honesty is a very expensive gift. Do not expect it from cheap people.

6. Past

Past is a waste paper, present is a newspaper, and future is a question paper. Come out of your past, control the present, and secure the future.

7. When bad things happen in your life, you have three choices. You can either let it define you, let it destroy you or you can let it strengthen you.

8. Our eyes are in the front because it is more important to look ahead than to look backwards.

9. We used pencil when we were young, but now we use pens. Do you know why? It's because mistakes in childhood can easily be erased, unlike now.

8. An inspiring story

One day, a school teacher wrote on the board the following: *The lesson is:*

$$*9 \times 1 = 7*$$

$$*9 \times 2 = 18*$$

$$*9 \times 3 = 27*$$

$$*9 \times 4 = 36*$$

$$*9 \times 5 = 45*$$

$$*9 \times 6 = 54*$$

$$*9 \times 7 = 63*$$

$$*9 \times 8 = 72*$$

$$*9 \times 9 = 81*$$

$$*9 \times 10 = 90*$$

When she was done, she looked back at the students and they were all laughing at her because of the first equation which was wrong. Then the teacher said the following:

I wrote that first one wrong on purpose, because I wanted you to learn something important. This was for you to know how the world out there will treat you. You can see that I wrote the *RIGHT thing nine times*, but none of you congratulated me for it. But you all laughed and criticized me because of *one wrong thing* I did.

The world will never appreciate the good you do *a million times*, but will criticize the *one wrong thing* you do. So don't get discouraged. ***ALWAYS RISE ABOVE ALL THE LAUGHTER AND CRITICISM.**

9. A MEMORABLE DAY AT CALEBASSE

If we can share happiness and wipe the tears of even one person, then we can consider our life worthwhile. With great enthusiasm SIFB staffs organised a donation which consisted of food and gifts to the residents of Calebasses on 17 December 2017. We reached Human Service Trust Calebasses earlier than the time scheduled which showed the eagerness to share, to care and to bring comfort to the residents of Swami Krishnanand Seva Unit for men and Lady Sarojini Jugnauth Women' s Home at Calebasse. It was a moment of intense emotion. The majority of the persons were very happy upon our arrival while some were lost in their own world, day dreaming and others were impatient to meet us. It was such a heartbreaking scene to see old people abandoned by their relatives. When food and gifts were being distributed by Staffs and their families, the elders were showering their blessings on SIFB Staffs and their families.



Second from left to right Mr D. Sookun, Mr S. Ramdowar and Mr R. Sookun



From left to right: Mrs B. Ramdhony and Mrs B. Ramdhony and Mrs S. Ramanna busy



Mrs S. Ramanna remitting gifts, fruits, yoghurt to the residents.



From left to right: Mr Vijay Kumar Jeewooth, Mrs M. Sookun, Mrs A. Ramdowar Beeharri



Mr S Ramdowar supervising the distribution of food.



The residents of Swami Krishnanand having lunch in the mess room.



Mr G. Jayeprakash , the main person behind this good deed.



After wishing them Merry Xmas and Happy New Year 2018, we promised to ourselves that we would visit them from time to time with our family members so that these residents no longer feel lonely. We waved them goodbye and left with a great pang in our heart. It would be an unforgettable moment for all of us. Hope to continue our mission to other homes and orphanage next year.