

Sugar Export Restrictions Extended Beyond Oct 31

Our Bureau

New Delhi: The government has extended restrictions on export of all varieties of sugar — raw, white, refined and organic — beyond October 31 owing to domestic production concerns because of a weak monsoon.

At present, sugar is on the restricted list till October 31. However, the food ministry has been allowing the industry to export certain quantities depending upon availability. “Restriction on export of sugar (raw sugar, white sugar, refined sugar and organic sugar) is extended beyond October 31, 2023. Other conditions will remain unchanged,” said a Directorate General of Foreign Trade



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(DGFT) notification on Wednesday.

However, it said these restrictions will not be applicable to sugar being exported to the European Union and the US under CXL and tariff rate quota (TRQ) concessions. A specified amount of sugar is exported to these regions at lower tariffs.

India is the highest producer and the second largest exporter of sugar in the world. However, there have been concerns about the impact of the weakest monsoon in five years on sugarcane crops in the major producing states of Maharashtra and Karnataka, prompting the government to curb export of sugar this season.

While retail prices of sugar are under control, ex-mill and wholesale prices have gone up, prompting the government to take measures for the benefit of consumers.

Of the estimated sugar production of 31 million tonnes (mt) in the current year, 27 mt is expected to be required for domestic consumption as sweetener and 4.5 mt for ethanol production.