

'Asia to experience first sugar deficit year in 5 years'

Sugar production in Asia is expected to be significantly lower in the 2016-17 season, as the 2015 El Niño-induced drought pulled output down to a five-year low. India, the world's second largest producer of sugar, will witness a fall in production by 3.7 million tonne due to consecutive droughts in 2014-15 and 2015-16 and will become a net sugar importer in 2016-17, Rabobank's latest report 'Hurry Cane: Managing Higher Sugar Prices in Asia' says. For 2015-2016, Rabobank is forecasting that Asia will witness its first sugar deficit year in over five years with an estimated deficit of 2 million tonne.