

'Sugar output to lag, gap seen narrowing'

The Hindu Bureau

COIMBATORE

Sugar output in the current sugar season, which started on October 1, is estimated to be 15 lakh tonne higher than the production expected at the beginning of the season, even as output between October and December 2023 was 7.7% lower at 112 lakh tonne.

According to the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories, sugar output in the 2023-24 season is projected at 305 lakh tonne as against 330.9 lakh tonne in the earlier season.

The Federation's Managing Director Prakash Naiknavare and President Jai-prakash Dandegaonkar



said in a press release that from October 1 to December 31, 511 factories crushed 1,223 lakh tonne of sugarcane, producing 112 lakh tonne of sugar as against 125 lakh tonne produced during the same period last season.

"There are signs of sugar output going up [in coming weeks]," Mr. Naiknavare told *The Hindu*.