



# Sugar News

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL SUGAR DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

## AfCFTA implementation won't affect sugar masterplan - Sugar Council



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...Urges contractors to ensure quality, standards

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Management staff

*NSDC.... We sweeten your world*

## Editorial

The National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) remains upbeat in its quest to revitalize the nation's sugar sub-sector and make it globally competitive. To achieve this feat, the Council is doing its level best by putting in place policies, programmes and structures that would fasten the process.

One of such efforts is the establishment of a training institute to provide hands-on training for field and factory operators in the sugar industry. As you read through these lines, work has reached advanced stage at the project site of

the Nigeria Sugar Institute (NSI), in Ilorin, Kwara state. When completed, the institute will address issues relating to skills and knowledge gap in the sugar sector.

Only recently, the Hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Otunba Niyi Adebayo was at the NSI project site on an inspection visit to see the level and quality of work done. The Minister expressed delight with the level of work so far done and urged the contractors not to compromise on quality.

Also, within the period under review, the Council held its annual media parley with journalists and correspondents who cover and report the activities of the NSDC all present. The Executive Secretary,

NSDC, Dr. Latif D. Busari, was represented at the event by the Director, Policy, Planning, Research and Statistics, Mr. Hezekiah Kolawole.

In this edition of SUGARNEWS are stories on the Management and Principal Staff retreats which held in Sokoto and Kano states respectfully, as well as our regular Health Corner, Staff Matters and Sugar Prices segments.



Abdullahi W. Yunusa  
Editor-In-Chief

## FMITI Minister, Otunba Niyi Adebayo visits Sugar Institute project site ...Urges contractors to ensure quality, standards

The Hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Otunba Niyi Adebayo has visited the project site of the Nigeria Sugar Institute (NSI), in Ilorin, Kwara state to inspect and assess the level of work so far done at the site ahead of its planned commissioning in 2021.

The Minister who expressed satisfaction with the level of work so far done at the project site, enjoined contractors handling different aspects of the project to ensure that their work meet desired expectations and specifications as contained in the contract documents.

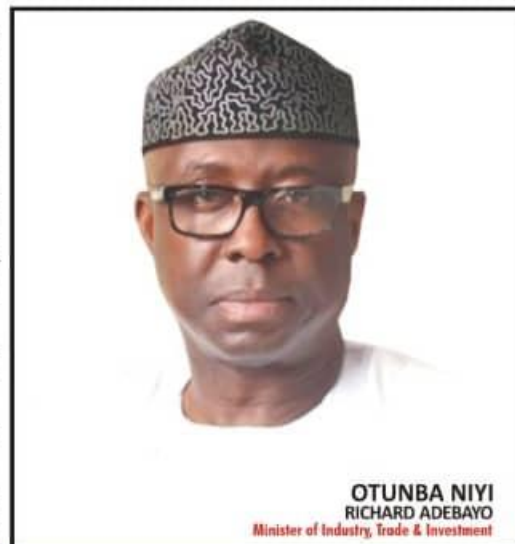
Otunba Adebayo who was led round the NSI project site by the Executive Secretary, National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), Dr. Latif D. Busari hinted that the project when completed will provide training and technical assistance to sugar companies and their technical staff.

"I am pleased with what is going on here. This is clearly an indication

that governance isn't completely halted by the coronavirus pandemic. I salute the effort and commitment of the brains by this wonderful effort, which is no doubt a major contribution to our effort to attain self-sufficiency in sugar production as a country. This is a commendable effort, I must admit".

While urging the contractors to speed up work at the site, he urged them not to compromise on quality and standards, stressing that the entire project when completed would serve as one of the learning and training centres to address manpower deficit in sugar factories. In his address, the Executive Secretary, NSDC, Dr. Latif D. Busari said the project is a

collaboration between the Federal Government and key private sector players in the sugar industry, adding that the institute would be a one-stop destination for training and knowledge acquisition for Nigerians and foreigners in the sugar sector.



OTUNBA NIYI  
RICHARD ADEBAYO  
Minister of Industry, Trade & Investment

"This project is a collaboration between us and members of the organized private sector operating as critical stakeholders in the industry. The institute will among other objectives serve as a training centre

for factory and field operators in the sugar industry. Already, we've designed curriculum and other learning modules awaiting the completion of the project".

On hand to receive the Minister during the visit were some members of the NSDC Management team, officials of Kwara State Government as well as staff of the National Sugar Development Council.

## Council organizes annual retreat for Management staff

**M**embers of the Management Team of the National Sugar Development Council, comprising of Directors, Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors drawn from various departments and units recently converged on the ancient city of Sokoto, Sokoto state for the 2020 edition of their annual retreat.

The retreat which had, "Emerging Trends in Disruptive Times" as its theme was declared open by the Director, Human Resource Management, Mallam Gambo Abdullahi.

In his address, Mallam Abdullahi said the theme was "designed to generate new ideas that could bring about paradigm shift and positive mindset in redefining the NSDC workforce practices for future growth plans in view of the unprecedented disruptions in every facet of life brought about by COVID-19 pandemic".

Speaking further on the choice and significance of the theme, Mallam Abdullahi noted that, "this year's theme is also expected to consolidate

on the gains of last year's Management retreat that had as its theme, "From Synergy to Strategy: Exceeding the Vision".

work-related issues such as mental health and wellness interventions in the new normal, workforce agility and mind set renewal as well as global perspectives of the future of



Members of the NSDC Management team in a group photograph with some retreat facilitators during their 2020 retreat in Sokoto, Sokoto State.

He said, "The 2020 retreat programme has been designed to take participants through some critical human resource issues in post COVID-19, such as overview of global perspectives of the future of work, remote working and its psychological effects as well as other interesting topics to be discussed".

Participants were taken through

work among other interesting topics.

Highpoint of the retreat was the presentation of certificates to participants by the organizers of the retreat. The NSDC Management Staff Retreat held between Thursday 10th December to Saturday 12th December 2020 in Sokoto, Sokoto state.

## Principal staff retreat held in Kano

Members of staff on grade levels 12-14 in the National Sugar Development Council were in Kano between the 25th -28th November 2020 for their annual retreat which took place at the Chilla Luxury Hotel, within the Kano metropolis.

The retreat which was declared open by the Executive Secretary, National

Sugar Development Council (NSDC), Dr. Latif D. Busari had "Reinventing yourself and unlocking the potentials of COVID-19 Pandemic: Exploring the human resources angle of NSDC" as its focal theme.

Speaking at the retreat, the E.S NSDC, Dr. Busari said the retreat was

convened to expose participants to practices that would prepare them for future challenges in the discharge of their official responsibilities, stressing that the COVID-19 pandemic has altered a lot of things, including organizational practices.

"The theme chosen for the retreat is both apt and timely. The coronavirus

pandemic has reordered and redirected our affairs as individuals and workers. It is no longer going to be business as usual. We must all prepare to embrace and imbibe these new changes. It is called the new normal".

"The current situation we find ourselves require us to be creative, innovative and think outside the box if at all we must make progress or achieve our desired goals as an agency of government. A lot has changed due to the pandemic. We now rely on technology to hold

meetings and do a lot of stuffs. Those who will be important in the days ahead are people who are well prepared to surmount the challenges posed by the pandemic".

Dr. Busari who urged the participants to give their best while discharging their duties, enjoined them to take advantage of technology to improve on their skills, ethics and general



L-R: Mrs. Nowamagbe Adeosun, Mal. Jazuli Abdullahi, Mal. Lawal Bichi, Mrs. Chinelo Maduka and Mal. Ango Abdullahi at the Principal Officer's retreat which held in Kano, Kano State

behaviour to work.

In his opening remarks, the Director, Human Resource Management, Mallam Gambo Abdullahi urged participants to see the retreat as an opportunity to learn new practices that would make them become better,

proficient, useful and valuable to

themselves and the organization as a whole.

Mallam Abdullahi who equally emphasized the need for participants to accord the retreat the seriousness it deserved, said knowledge garnered will have tremendous impact on the Council to enable it achieve its corporate objectives.

## FG pledges improved sugar production for local consumption

The Federal Government has restated its commitment to make Nigeria self-sufficient in sugar production by the year 2025.

Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Otunba Niyi Adebayo restated this during an inspection visit to the Nigeria Sugar Research Institute, a project of the National Sugar Development Council, NSDC in Ilorin the Kwara State Capital.

Otunba Adebayo who noted that the Coronavirus pandemic has greatly slowed down the work at the site, expressed satisfaction with the present level of completion saying that the project will be commissioned by the end of this year.

When completed, the Minister said, the Institute will add to the amount of seedlings people can use in their farms to increase amount of sugar

cane that is being produced and will also enable Nigeria to be self-sufficient in sugar production as well as export to other African countries.

Conducting the Ministerial Inspection Team round the different sections of project site, the Executive Secretary of the NSDC, DrLatif D. Busari explained that, the seed multiplication is already in operation and that the Sugar Research Institute would serve as research and capacity development institution.

Dr. Busari added that the project is part of about ten factories the NSDC is planning to establish across the country where training and research in sugar industry will be conducted for staff of sugar companies and other interested members of the public.

On the Inspection team of the

Honourable Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment were the Kwara State Governor who was represented by his Deputy, Mr. Kayode Alabi, Kwara State Commissioners for Agriculture and Natural Resources and his counterpart at the Ministry of Enterprise, Etsu of Tsaragi, Alh. Aliyu Abdullah who is the chairman of council of NSDC among others



## AfCFTA implementation won't affect sugar masterplan - Sugar Council

The Executive Secretary of the Nigeria Sugar Development Council, Dr. Latif Busari has said that the implementation of the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement will not affect the Federal Government Backward Integration Programme in the sugar sector.

Dr. Busari said this while briefing journalists on the activities of the agency in Abuja. Despite the objectives of the AfCTA to liberalise trade within the African continent, Busari said the Federal Government would not allow the importation of sugar into the country as such move negates the Backward Integration Strategy as encapsulated under the Nigeria Sugar Masterplan.

He restated government's readiness to build a globally competitive sugar industry, adding that the implementation of the AfCTA would not affect the plan of government for the sugar sector.

Dr. Busari who was represented at the briefing by the Director, Policy, Planning, Research and Statistics, Mr. Hezekiah Kolawole said the importation of sugar will not be included in AfCTA as it takes off in January next year.

He said based on the implementation of the pact, the Nigeria Sugar Masterplan has already been secured under the AfCTA. He said, "The implementation of the Nigerian Sugar Masterplan has been classified in a section under the AfCFTA that will allow us to continue the implementation of these programme till the very end.

"So importation of sugar will not be included under the AfCFTA when it starts in January. And you

know that there is the rule of origin principle under AfCTA that make it difficult to import sugar from elsewhere and say you want to export it to another country.

"What you must export is something that you manufacture in your own country that you can export under this AfCFTA

On the flooding that threatened over N60bn sugar investments in Niger State, he said the Council would continue to provide all the necessary policy support and regulatory assistance for the sector to thrive. He said while no financial intervention had been made from the Sugar Council to those affected by the flooding, it



The Executive Secretary NSDC, Dr. Latif D. Busari

platform. "The rule of origin will play out under the AfCTA platform. We don't have any problems with regard to AfCFTA coming into operation on January because sugar industry is among those classified for ten years allowance for the implementation of the policy to be effected and sugar will be locally produced in Nigeria."

had opened discussions with the Central Bank of Nigeria to enable the companies access development fund to ease their financial burden.



A cross section of Management Staff at the NSDC Management retreat in Sokoto, Sokoto State.



L-R: Director, Human Resource Management, Mal Gambo Abdullahi delivering the welcome address at the Principal Officers' retreat which held in Kano, Kano State



The Executive Secretary NSDC, Dr. Latif D. Busari delivering the keynote address at the Principal Officers' retreat in Kano, Kano State

*Photo Speaks*



L-R: AD (Proc), Mrs. Afiong Onwumeru; DD (Public Affairs), Alhaji Ahmed Waziri; ACAO (HRM), Mrs. Elizabeth Paul; ACA (Finance and Accounts), Mal. Lawal Bichi and CPO (Technical Service) Dr. Mohammed Kawuyo in a photo session at the end of a workshop on anti-corruption organized by the Anti-Corruption Academy of Nigeria (ACAN).



Members of the Principal Officers' retreat communique drafting committee putting heads together to achieve an implementable communique for subsequent adoption.



The Executive Secretary NSDC, Dr. Latif D. Busari ( Middle) in a group photograph with the NANS delegation in his office

## STAR FEATURE

### Nigeria: Setting Up of Cube-Sugar Producing, Packaging Plant

The consumption of sugar all over the world in general and Nigeria in particular is very high.

It has been established that the consumption of granulated sugar has been on increase. Health wise it is not advisable and considered medically wrong to consume granulated sugar, which is made specifically for industrial use. In the developed world it is widely discouraged to consume granulated sugar, instead of cube sugar carefully produced in a very hygienic condition.

Research has shown that here in Nigeria, the consumption of granulated sugar has been on increase due to the higher cost of carefully produced and packaged cube sugar. The high level of demand and cost of production has led to the increase in price of the well packaged cube sugar.

The supply therefore has not matched effectively with the very high level of demand. The demand has outweighed the supply position. Therefore more hands are required to increase the supply of cube-sugar production in the country.

Prior to our research on this project, we felt that the project requires billions of Naira to set up. After our studies, we found out that one can set up this profitable project at a very much lower cost. It is therefore a project anybody can establish and run in either cottage, small, medium or even large scale depending on the available funds.

In this brief investment profile, we discussed on the technical, financial, marketing and investment appraisal for

setting up and running this lucrative venture.

#### Location of the Proposed Project

The proposed cube-sugar production plant can be established in any apart of the country.

One can set up anywhere in the country provided that there is electricity and enough space of land for the project. Other factors such as good road networks, nearness to markets and related factors can also be considered.

#### Technical Issues

The most important aspect of this project is the technical issues that concern the project. In this case the investor should consider the type and quality of machines to be used for the project. The writer has carried out thorough research, consultations and collaborations with good dealers of the machines for the project.

Interested investors will be able to procure the set of the machines from the writer at the sum of N6 million.

The machine will be made up of full set of the cube-sugar producing line and associated packaging system. This cost will include the installations and training of your manpower.

The machines maintained all the NAFDAC compliance requirements, and the writer will assist in accomplishing all the laboratory test and analysis.

#### Capacity of the Plant

The proposed plant will be able to produce 50 cartons of cube sugar in every double shift.

This implies that the plant will be able to produce average of between 225,000 and 250,000 cubes in a day. Details will be given to prospective investors.

#### Brands of Products

Different products can be produced by prospective investors depending on the target markets. You can produce chocolate & orange flavor cubes. You can also produce low-diet cube sugar for those that are diabetic. Prospective investors will be educated more on this.

#### Raw Material Requirement

The major raw materials required for this project are locally available, so you do not bother about importation or running into shortage of supply. The raw materials are granulated sugar which can easily be obtained from



granulated sugar making companies all over the country. Details will be given to prospective investors.

#### Production Processes

The production processes are very simple and includes, mixing, heating, conveying, drying and packaging through a mechanized system which is very easy to operate.

#### Required Manpower

The project can comfortably be run by just five to ten people. The writer will assist in recruiting highly experienced personnel to manage the project. CULLED FROM THISDAY



## NANS leadership confers integrity award on Dr. Busari

The leadership of the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS), Ilorin Zone, has conferred an integrity award on the Executive Secretary, National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), Dr. Latif D. Busari.

The award, according to the President and leader of the delegation, Comrade Mikailu Abayomi was in recognition of Dr. Busari's track record of excellence, discipline, honesty and integrity in the discharge of his official responsibilities as the Executive Secretary of the Council.

"Executive Secretary, sir, we are here on behalf of all students in tertiary institutions in the whole of Kwara state. Our mission here is to simply recognize, appreciate and applaud your outstanding qualities which have stood you out among your contemporaries. We know you as a man of integrity who puts the interest of the country far above personal or group interest. This is why we are here to confer on you the integrity award".

The NANS leader, Comrade Hussein Abayomi who showered encomiums on Dr. Busari for the feats the Council has achieved under his leadership, prayed God to uplift and sustain the NSDC boss to be able to deliver on the corporate mandate of the organization.

In his response, the award recipient, Dr. Busari, thanked the students for

finding him worthy of been bestowed such an award, stressing that the award will spur him to do more in his capacity as a public servant and a Nigerian.

Dr. Busari who described youths as the future and hope of Nigeria, urged the delegation to prepare themselves for the future by investing their time,

your various institutions. I urge you all to focus on your studies as you prepare for the future. Do well to engage in activities that will make you useful and productive citizens. Shun evil practices like cultism, prostitution, drug and thuggery".

Dr. Busari who also enjoined the lads



The Executive Secretary, NSDC, Dr. Latif D. Busari receiving an award plaque from NANS President (Ilorin Zone), Comrade Hussein Ayomide at the Council Headquarters, Abuja

energy and resources in productive ventures and activities.

"Let me once again thank you for the honour you done to me and this organization. We are grateful. My message is simple and straightforward. You are all young people undergoing different courses in

to prioritize their activities and refrain from acts capable of jeopardizing their future, noted that Nigeria needs their knowledge and creative talents to advance and attain greatness.

## NSDC holds annual media parley

In line with its tradition to maintain a cordial and harmonious working relationship with media practitioners, especially those who report and cover the industrial sector in the country, the Executive Secretary of the National Sugar Development Council (NSDC), Dr. Latif D. Busari met with media managers and reporters to brief them on activities in the sugar sector in the outgoing year.

The NSDC boss who was represented at the event by the Director, Policy, Planning, Research and Statistics in the Council, Mr. Hezekiah Kolawole, said the annual

media parley affords the Council the opportunity to keep Nigerians, and particularly, stakeholders abreast of developments in the sugar sub-sector.

Dr. Busari said though the coronavirus pandemic had slowed down activities in the sector, but expressed optimism that efforts were ongoing to ensure that all the goals and aspirations for the sector are achieved before or within target dates.

"You are all aware of the rampaging coronavirus pandemic which slowed down activities across sectors

globally. These are indeed very trying and challenging times for humanity. We shall continue to be hopeful even in the face of uncertainty. For us in the sugar sector, we shall continue to do our best towards Nigeria's quest to attain self-sufficiency in sugar production as we faithfully implement the Nigeria Sugar Master Plan (NSMP)".

While assuring Nigerians and investors of the Council's readiness to build a sugar sector that would put Nigeria on global map of leading sugar producing nations, Dr. Busari said the Council has put in place policies and programmes that would encourage investments.

The Executive Secretary responded to questions that border on the impact of COVID-19 on the sugar sector, soaring sugar prices, current status of the Backward Integration Programme, new investments in the sector as well as challenges confronting the sector as a whole.

Participants at the event were drawn from the print, electronic as well as online media platforms.

## HEALTH CORNER

### Importance of workplace hygiene

Apart from our homes, the office is the next place that employees spend considerable time daily. Therefore, it is very important and necessary that we keep our offices clean in order to protect ourselves and others from germs.

All workplace environments need to be hygienic and safe for both employees and visitors. This applies to all, not just workplaces involved in handling food and personal products. A solid workplace hygiene policy is the best way to ensure employees maintain a clean workplace.

Hygiene is important in the workplace because it contributes to a healthy workforce. A healthy workforce is happier and more productive. A healthy workplace also means workers take less sick leave.

How do you maintain hygiene in the workplace?

#### " Implement a hygiene policy

Provide staff with a written hygiene policy. Inform them of your intentions and expectations of a clean workplace. This helps communicate to staff that you also take workplace hygiene seriously.

#### " Provide a clean bathroom

It is pivotal for a hygienic workplace to have a clean bathroom. Also ensure that the bathroom is well stocked with soap, toilet paper and hand towels.

#### "Provide clean wipes, sanitiser and tissues

Provide items such as these to help your staff maintain a clean and hygienic workspace. Employees are more likely to use such items if they are readily available.

#### " Regular cleaning

Make sure your workplace is regularly cleaned. This helps prevent the spread of infection, and a cleaned workplace also maintains



morale and a sense of professionalism.

**Why is personal hygiene important in the workplace?**

Personal hygiene refers to the cleanliness, appearance and habits of employees. Personal hygiene of employees, for obvious reasons, can be a sensitive issue for business owners.

An official policy helps to ease any awkwardness, as employees will understand what is expected of them.

Criteria may include showering, using deodorant or perfume, grooming facial hair and hair-washing. Hand washing and the use of hand sanitisers also has great importance as a protection against the spread of illnesses

**What is workplace restroom hygiene?**

Provide toilets with hand soap, toilet paper and hand drying towels or equipment. Prompt your workers to practice personal hygiene after using the facilities.

Some businesses hire an external cleaning service to attend to the restrooms. If employees are required to maintain the facilities themselves, however, the workplace hygiene policy could include details such as the frequency of cleaning and the type of products to use for cleaning the floor, toilet bowls and sinks.

## STAFF MATTERS

**SALAMATU OWOWA  
of Finance and Accounts  
gives out daughter in  
marriage**

It was all fun, joy and jubilation recently as a staff of the Council in the Finance and Accounts Department, Mrs. Salamatu Owowa gave out her dear daughter, Miss Precious, in marriage to her heartthrob, Flying Officer Chukwu.

The colourful event which held in Abuja in November, 2020 was graced by well-wishers from far and near, including staff of the National Sugar Development Council who turned out in numbers in solidarity with their colleague.

The visibly elated mother of the bride, Mrs. Salamtu Owowa, thanked God for the success of the event and equally extended her immense gratitude to the Management and entire Staff of the Council for their love and support.

Here's wishing the newly wedded couple the very best in their matrimonial journey



Mr. & Mrs. Chukwu during their traditional wedding in Abuja

## DATA ON SUGAR IMPORTATION IN THE FOURTH QUARTERS OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2020

Month	Importer	Qty (MT) (NPA)	Qty (MT) (NCS)	Levy Paid (N)	Country of Origin	D/Port	Type of Sugar
October	Dangote Sugar	147,275	136,055.5	-	Brazil	Apapa	Raw
	BUA Sugar	35,011	-	-	-	-	-
	Golden Sugar	-	-	-	-	-	-
November	Dangote Sugar	127,273	1,500	-	Brazil	Apapa	Raw
	BUA Sugar	37,002	84,893.14	238,578,793	Brazil	Tin Can	Raw
	Golden Suagr	-	12,000	-	Brazil	Apapa	Raw
December	Dangote Sugar	95,386	30,397.7	-	Brazil	Apapa	Raw
	BUA Sugar	44,590	50,534	288,218,510	Brazil	Apapa	Raw
	Golden Sugar	-	74,671.05	-	Brazil	Tincan	Raw
<b>Total</b>		<b>486,537</b>	<b>390,051.4</b>	<b>526,797,303.00</b>			

## SUMMARY OF AVERAGE LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL RAW AND WHITE SUGAR PRICE: OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2020

MONTH	SOURCE (STATE)	SUGAR (BRAND)	WHOLESALE		RETAIL		INTERNATIONAL		INTERNATIONAL	
			N/50KG	N/MT	N/50KG	N/MT	RAW SUGAR		WHITE SUGAR	
							AVERAGE PRICE		AVERAGE PRICE	
						\$/MT	N/MT	\$/MT	N/MT	
OCTOBER	LAGOS	WHITE	18,428.00	368,560	18,677.00	373,546.00	301.594	114,907.31	388.67	148,083.27
	KANO	DANGOTE/								
	ABUJA	GOLDEN/								
	ADAMAWA	BUA								
	KWARA									
NOVEMBER	LAGOS	WHITE	18,715	374,300	18,998	379,950	312.69	118,822.20	405.3	154,014.00
	KANO	DANGOTE/								
	ABUJA	GOLDEN/								
	ADAMAWA	BUA								
	KWARA									
DECEMBER	LAGOS	WHITE	18,780	375,600	19,110	382,200	306.287	116,388.93	394.5	149,910.00
	KANO	DANGOTE/								
	ABUJA	GOLDEN/								
	ADAMAWA	BUA								
	KWARA									
AVERAGE MONTH										
TOTAL			18,641.00	372,820	18,928.33	378,565.33	306.857	116,706.15	396.1567	150,669.09

**Note:** Mt =metric Tons (50kgx 20), Kg = Kilogram, N =Nigerian Currency Naira, \$= Usd, Currency Conversion Us\$1 = 380.50(nigeria Central Bank Rate Average For The Quarter)  
Weight Conversion: 1000kg = 1 Metric Tonne, S/ Ton = C/ib X 22.04  
Country And State Are Not Applicable To International Raw And White Sugar Price.  
Source: International Sugar Organization Market Report & Local Market Survey.

#### Editorial Team

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*...and much more*