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**Context:** The production of **all eight core industries** recorded **positive growth** in October 2023 over the corresponding month of last year.

### About

- The ICI measures combined and individual performance of production of **eight core industries** viz. **Cement, Coal, Crude Oil, Electricity, Fertilizers, Natural Gas, Refinery Products and Steel.**
- **Released by:** The Office of Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- **Base year:** 2011-2012
- **Periodicity:** Monthly basis

Sector	Coal	Crude Oil	Natural Gas	Refinery Products	Fertilizers	Steel	Cement	Electricity	Overall Index
Weight	10.33	8.98	6.88	28.04	2.63	17.92	5.37	19.85	100.00

### Weightage:

- The Eight Core Industries comprise **40.27 percent of the weight** of items included in the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP).**

### Index of Industrial Production (IIP)

- The IIP is an index which shows the **growth rates in different industry groups of the economy** in a stipulated period of time.
- It is a composite indicator that **measures the growth rate of industry groups** classified under:
  - **Broad sectors:** Mining, Manufacturing, and Electricity.
  - **Use-based sectors:** Basic Goods, Capital Goods, and Intermediate Goods.
- **Released by:** The Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) , Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- **Base year:** 2011-2012
- **Periodicity:** Monthly basis

Source: [PIB](#)

## PRESS MUD

**Context:** Press mud, a byproduct of sugarcane, can be a sweet spot for India's compressed biogas sector.

### About the Press Mud

- Press Mud, also known as **Filter Cake**, is a **by-product of the sugar industry**. It is produced during the filtration of cane juice and is a soft, spongy, amorphous, and dark brown solid.
- **Composition:** Press Mud contains sugar, fibre, coagulated colloids including cane wax, albuminoids, inorganic salts, soil particles, and mineral elements.

### Advantages of Press Mud

- **Energy Production:** Press Mud has a high potential for the **production of renewable energy** through the **anaerobic digestion process.**

- **Agricultural Uses:** Press Mud can be used as a **soil reclamation and conditioner**. It prevents soil erosion, crusting, and cracking, adjusts soil pH, improves drainage, and promotes normal bacterial and microbial growth in the soil.
- **Industrial Uses:** The wax extracted from Press Mud can potentially **substitute for costly carnauba wax**, which is widely used in cosmetics, food, and pharmaceutical industries.
- **Environmental Impact:** The utilisation of Press Mud can help alleviate environmental pressure brought about by the consumption of natural resources.
  - It can be used to create new products from readily available but less-valued materials.

**Do you know?**

- India has assumed a key position in the worldwide sugar economy, emerging as the foremost sugar producer since 2021-22, **surpassing Brazil**, and it stands as the **second-largest sugar exporter globally**.
- The **expansion of the ethanol biofuel sector** over the past five years has strengthened the sugar industry and contributed to the improved financial standing of sugar mills.

Source: DTE

