

Executive Summary:

- In **West Bengal**, approximately 62.5% of cold storage potatoes have been released by September ends as compared to previous year's total release of 52-55% during same time. According to trade sources from the remaining potatoes approximately 7% is kept for seed usage.
- In **West Bengal and U.P.**, sowing is expected to start after 15th October which normally starts during starting of October month and October mid respectively. This delay in sowing was due to rains at later stage.
- In **U.P.**, release from cold storages is approximately 50-55% compared to previous year's total release of 65% during same time. Approximately 25-30% of total stored potato is kept for seed purpose.
- In **Karnataka**, kharif potato sowing is completed in 28797 hectares as compared to previous year 16155 hectares. Sown area is more than target area of 28275 quintals.
- In **Delhi**, fresh potato crop is arriving in market from H.P (Shimla, Una) and from Uttarakhand which is trading at Rs 1500-Rs 2100/ quintal. Among cold storage potato, maximum prices are being fetched by 'Surya' variety from M.P which is trading at Rs 1500/ quintal.
- In **Begusarai, Purnia and samastipur (Bihar)**, release from cold storage is approximately 45-50 % compared to previous year's release of 45% during same time. Potato market ahead seems to be range bounded as potato from U.P is available at cheaper rates.

Monthly Wholesale Price Trend in different Producing & Consuming Centers:

Market	September 2013 Avg. Wholesale Price (Rs/Qtl)	August 2013 Avg. Wholesale Price (Rs/Qtl)	September 2012 Avg. Wholesale Price (Rs/Qtl)	Absolute Change over Prev. Month (Rs./Qtl)	% Change over Prev. Month	% Change over Prev. Year
Delhi	1347	809	1068	538	66.50	26.12
Khandauli (Agra)	719	798	1096	-79	-9.90	-34.40
Farrukhabad	751	730	1105	21	2.88	-32.04
Ludhiana	559	648	775	-89	-13.73	-27.87
Kolkata	817	816	1139	1	0.12	-28.27
Hyderabad	1014	1125	1504	-111	-9.87	-32.58
Jaipur	652	769	998	-117	-15.21	-34.67
Mumbai	1051	1144	1376	-93	-8.13	-23.62
Bangalore	936	940	1325	-4	-0.43	-29.36
Tarkeshwar	755	786	1114	-31	-3.94	-32.23

(Source: AGRIWATCH, NHB)

The above table shows the monthly prices change in major markets. Prices have fallen in most of the markets except Delhi, Farrukhabad and Kolkata. Prices are less when compared to last year during the same time. But, overall it is expected that potato market may remain range bound for the coming weeks because of higher stocks in the cold storages compared to previous year during same time.

In wholesale market, maximum prices have fallen in Hyderabad where fresh crop from Hassan is continuously arriving in market.

Monthly Retail Price (Rs/Qtl) and arrivals (Tons) trend in different Consuming Centers:

Market	Average Retail Price- September 2013	Average Retail Price- August 2013	Previous year Avg. Retail Price- September 2012	% Change in Price Over Prev. Month	% Change in Price Over Prev. year	Total Arrivals in September 2013 (in Tons)	Total Arrivals in August 2013 (in Tons)	Total Arrivals in September 2012 (in Tons)
Bangalore	1409	1534	1991	-8.15	-29.23	43020	37716	26565
Chennai	1984	2234	2784	-11.19	-28.74	6140	5950	4680
Delhi	1720	1675	1696	2.69	1.42	58600	27648	42465
Guwahati	1353	1630	1817	-16.99	-25.54	3182	3610	2720
Hyderabad	1588	1525	1800	4.13	-11.78	3242	5581	7949
Mumbai	2000	2000	2382	0.00	-16.04	27821	16282	29293
Ranchi	1000	1000	1435	0.00	-30.31	5031	4370	5710

(Source: NHB)

Retail prices have decreased in almost all the markets except Delhi and Hyderabad. Prices have fallen because of higher stocks in cold storages and less demand in market.

Maximum arrivals were seen in Delhi because crop is arriving from different producing regions like U.P, Haryana, Karnataka and Shimla (H.P).

Technical Analysis Potato Spot Market (Khandauli, Agra):



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AGRIWATCH

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(Note: Each bar or “candle” in the chart shows the price movement in a particular month. The blue candle signifies prices increased and red candle signifies prices decreased in that month. The length of the “candle” shows the upper and lower end of the price range for the week.)

The above chart shows the monthly price movement of potato for Agra (Khandauli) market. Prices are trading in the range of Rs. 650-750/quintal. Relative Strength Indicator is also stable which suggest prices may remain range bounded for next couple of weeks. On the higher side, prices are expected to find resistance at a level of Rs 850. On the lower side prices may found support at a level of Rs 700 and then Rs. 600.

Monthly Potato Futures (Agra Delivery) Analysis:

Exchange	Expiry Date	Closing price on 31st September 2013	Closing price on 31st August 2013	% Change in Price over previous month	Open Interest as on September 2013	Open Interest as on August 2013	Change in Open Interest
MCX	31-Mar-14	827	834	-0.84	15420	1860	13560
MCX	30-Apr-14	812	781.7	3.88	3840	120	3720

(Source: MCX, NCDEX)

In MCX, March month contract prices are decreasing and open interest is increasing which suggest that market participants are building short positions. In MCX, April contract long buildup was seen with increase in price and increase in open interest.

Disclaimer

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