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Executive Summary:

- In U.P total cold storage capacity is approximately 110 lakh tons which are almost filled by 82% of total cold storage capacity this year.
- In West Bengal, cold storages capacity are almost filled by 94% of total capacity which is around 64 lakh ton. Prices are expected to remain firm ahead.
- In Farrukhabad (U.P), cold storages are expected to open in next 10-15 days. Prices are hovering in the range of Rs 600 to Rs 775/ quintal.
- In West Bengal, cold storages are expected to open from 1st week of May and it is expected that prices may be in the range of Rs 900 to Rs 1000/ quintal.
- In Bangalore, potato from local region is contributing approximately 75% and rest 25% is arriving in market from U.P and West Bengal.
- In Tarkeshwar (West Bengal), prices of potato have increased by 25% in last one week. Prices have gone up from Rs 650/ quintal to Rs 830/ quintal.
- In Begusarai (Bihar), cold storages are approximately filled by 75% compared to previous year's 90%. As per our trade sources, total cold storage capacity last year was 14 lakh packets (1packet=50kg) which has increased to 18 lakh packets this year.
- In Khandauli (U.P), on an average 200-250 trucks are being released everyday in which major demand is coming from Karnataka region. According to trade sources, prices are expected to increase further once loose potato is over in market.

Weekly Wholesale Potato Prices Analysis for 22nd April- 27th April 2013

Market	State	Avg. Prices 22nd April to 27th April 2013#	Avg. Prices 14th April to 20th April 2013#	Avg. Prices 22nd April to 27th April 2012 *	% Change over Prev. Week	% Change over prev. Year
Delhi	Delhi	908	888	1000	2.25	-9.20
Agra	UP	600	660	800	-9.09	-25.00
Kanpur	UP	1000	788	800	26.90	25.00
Kolkata	W. Bengal	800	750	1000	6.67	-20.00
Ludhiana	Punjab	800	650	1200	23.08	-33.33
Indore	MP	1000	925	800	8.11	25.00
Mumbai	Maharashtra	1250	1250	1100	0.00	13.64
Bangalore	Karnataka	1700	1544	1700	10.10	0.00
Ahmedabad	Gujarat	1100	1063	1000	3.48	10.00
Hyderabad	AP	1600	1250	1140	28.00	40.35
Chennai	Tamil Nadu	1533	1575	1300	-2.67	17.92

(Source: #AGRIWATCH, * AGMARKNET)

The above table shows the weekly wholesale price variation across different markets in the country. Prices have increased in almost all the markets because potatoes are stored in cold storages. The other reason for

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increase in prices is because of release of potatoes from few cold storages of U.P where prices are already above Rs 1100/ quintal.

In West Bengal, Tarkeshwar and Burdwan market prices have already increased from Rs 670 to Rs 830 and Rs 640 to Rs 800/ quintal in last two weeks.

If we will compare the prices on a year on year basis we will find that prices are showing a mixed variation. In producing regions prices are low whereas in consuming centers prices are high.

Weekly Retail Potato Prices Analysis for 22nd April- 27th April 2013

Market	State	Price as on 27/04/2013	Price as on 20/04/2013	Price one year ago- 27/04/2012	% Change in Price Over Prev. Week	% Change in Price Over Prev. year
Bangalore	Karnataka	2120	2040	1900	3.92	11.58
Bhubaneswar	Odisha	1008	957	1310	5.33	-23.05
Chennai	Tamilnadu	2400	2320	2000	3.45	20.00
Delhi	Delhi	1500	1400	1300	7.14	15.38
Guwahati	Assam	1000	960	1250	4.17	-20.00
Hyderabad	AP	1900	1800	1500	5.56	26.67
Kolkata	W. Bengal	1250	1120	1200	11.61	4.17
Mumbai	Maharashtra	1500	1500	1200	0.00	25.00
Patna	Bihar	1100	920	1320	19.57	-16.67

(Source:NHB)

In Retail market, prices have increased in all the markets as prices in benchmark market of Khandauli (U.P) and Tarkeshwar (West Bengal) are already high. Maximum increase in prices were seen in Patna by approximately 20%. Prices have increased from 3 to 20% across the country. Potatoes are releasing from cold storages of U.P and expected to pick up pace in couple of days and prices may increase further.

Technical Analysis – Weekly Spot Price Chart of Potato- Khandauli, Agra:



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

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The above chart shows the weekly price movement of Potato prices in spot market of Agra. In Agra, prices were trading between Rs 900-1100/ quintal. On the lower side prices may found a strong support at a level of Rs. 900 whereas on higher side resistance at level of Rs 1100/ quintal. Relative Strength Indicator (RSI) is moving upward indicates that prices may move up further in coming week. Once prices breach the resistance level of 1100 it is expected that prices may reach to a level of Rs1200/quintal.

Potato Futures Weekly Analysis: (22nd April- 27th April 2013)

Exchange	Expiry Date	Today's Close Price	Previous Close Price	Net Change	Today's Open Interest	Previous Day Open Interest	Change
MCX	15-May-13	1025.8	1025.2	0.6	10140	11490	-1350
MCX	16-Jun-13	1012.9	1025.4	-12.5	19350	17370	1980
MCX	15-Jul-13	1012.7	1070.2	-57.5	2520	210	2310
NCDEX	20-May-13	1005	1022	-17	13600	12200	1400
NCDEX	20-Jun-13	1003	1022	-19	8300	8300	0
NCDEX	19-Jul-13	1012	1057	-45	2900	2200	700
NCDEX	20-Aug-13	1021	1050	-29	2700	1300	1400

(Source: MCX, NCDEX)

In futures markets potato prices are trading in a range of 1020-1070 level. In MCX and NCDEX all contracts short build up was seen with decrease in prices and increase in open interest except MCX, May contract short covering by market participant was seen with increase in prices and decrease in open interest.

Disclaimer

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