

Executive Summary:

- In benchmark market Agra (khandauli), prices are expected to trade between Rs 1000-Rs 1100/quintal because loading in cold storages is in full pace and production is estimated lower.
- In U.P, Rabi sowing is expected to be 6.23 lakh hectares which is almost similar to corresponding year but production estimates are lower due to lower yield estimation.
- In U.P, loading in cold storages is in full pace and traders are expecting 80% capacity utilization from total capacity of 119.49 Lakh tons. Last year total capacity utilization in U.P was approximately 115 lakh tons.
- In West Bengal, traders are expecting area to be 5-10% lower compared to corresponding year's 4.7 Lakh hectares. Yield is also estimated lower because of unseasonal rains during time of sowing.
- In West Bengal, traders are expecting 80% of loading in cold storages from a total capacity of 62.5 Lakh tons. So far approximately 25% of loading is completed and loading prices are double than corresponding year during same period.
- In Bihar, loading is in full pace and prices are trading in the range of Rs 900-Rs 1025/ quintal compared to corresponding year's Rs 600-Rs 650 / quintal during same time.
- All India Rabi production is expected to be lower and production is estimated near 38.19 million tons compared to corresponding year 43.04 million tons during same season because of lower yield estimations in major producing regions.

Monthly Wholesale Price Trend in different Producing & Consuming Centers:

Market	Feb. 2016 Avg. Wholesale Price (Rs/Qtl)- (Fresh Potato)	Jan. 2016 Avg. Wholesale Price (Rs/Qtl)- (Fresh Potato)	Feb. 2015 Avg. Wholesale Price (Rs/Qtl)	Absolute Change over Prev. Month (Rs./Qtl)	% Change over Prev. Month	% Change over Prev. Year
Delhi	538	450	516	88	19.56	4.26
Khandauli (Agra)	694	460	732	234	50.87	-5.19
Farrukhabad	619	387	395	232	59.95	56.71
Ludhiana	430	341	413	89	26.10	4.12
Kolkata	826	740	556	86	11.62	48.56
Jaipur	615	554	605	61	11.01	1.65
Mumbai	988	945	821	43	4.55	20.34
Bangalore	1376	1347	1263	29	2.15	8.95
Tarkeshwar	788	780	544	8	1.03	44.85

(Source: AGRIWATCH)

The above table shows monthly price trend of potato in wholesale markets. Prices have increased in almost all the markets. Prices are higher than corresponding month and corresponding year which indicates firmness in market in coming months. Potato rabi Production is estimated to be approximately 38.19 million tons which is approximately 11.16 % lower than corresponding year during same season.

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

Market	Feb. 2016 Avg. Retail Price (Rs/Qtl)- (Fresh Potato)	Jan. 2016 Avg. Retail Price (Rs/Qtl)- (Fresh Potato)	Previous year Avg. Retail Price- Feb. 2015	% Change in Price Over Prev. Month	% Change in Price Over Prev. year	Total Arrivals in Feb. 2016 (in Qtl)*	Total Arrivals in Jan. 2016 (in Qtl)*	Total Arrivals in Feb. 2015 (in Qtl)*
Bangalore	2100	2000	2300	5.00	-8.70	205000	219000	8813
Chennai	1700	1800	2000	-5.56	-15.00	63900	64600	74000
Delhi	1300	1300	1400	Unch	-7.14	570800	618800	601000
Guwahati	1200	1300	800	-7.69	50.00	42100	46250	85400
Hyderabad	2000	2000	2400	Unch	-16.67	58520	47213	22130
Mumbai	1900	1900	2800	Unch	-32.14	354000	337950	306300
Ranchi	1300	1400	1200	-7.14	8.33	68950	76900	61000

(Source: #Consumer Affairs,* Agriwatch)

In retail market, mixed variation of prices was seen because fresh crop is arriving in market and crop is also stored in cold storages. In Coming months prices are expected to rise as crop will be available in cold storages only and loading in cold is expected to be lower than corresponding year during same time in major producing regions.

Cold Storage Capacity Utilization:

State	Storage Capacity (in Lakh Tons)*	Expected Potato Storage in 2016 (in %)#	Storage in 2016 (in Lakh Tons)#	Potato Storage in 2015 (in Lakh Tons)#	Potato Storage in 2014 (in Lakh Tons)*
U.P	119.49	80%	95.59	115	83.44
West Bengal	62.52	80%	50.01	67	54.36
Bihar	11.12	90%	10.08	10.5	7.5



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Potato Rabi production Estimates:

State	Rabi Area 2013-14 ('000 Ha)	Yield 2013-14 (MT/Ha)	Production 2013-14 ('000 Tons)	Rabi Area 2014-15 ('000 Ha)	Yield 2014-15 (MT/Ha)	Production 2014-15 ('000 Tons)	Rabi Area 2015-16 ('000 Ha)	Yield 2015-16 (MT/Ha)	Production 2015-16 ('000 Tons)
Uttar Pradesh	565.00	20.25	11441.25	623.01	20.90	13020.91	591.86	18.8	11132.877
West Bengal	385.98	26.25	10131.98	470.47	26.00	12232.22	446.95	22.1	9877.5177
Bihar	321.84	15.60	5020.70	312.16	17.00	5306.72	312.00	15.3	4773.6
Gujarat	73.64	30.79	2267.38	98.20	28.13	2762.37	98.00	27.0	2646
Madhya Pradesh	110.00	21.11	2322.10	111.06	21.12	2345.59	140.00	21.0	2940
Punjab	87.24	25.09	2188.85	80.20	25.00	2005.00	82.00	26.0	2132
Karnataka	6.87	13.26	91.10	8.42	13.26	111.65	7.88	13.0	102.44
Haryana	29.97	23.24	696.50	30.11	23.00	692.53	25.00	23.0	575
Tripura	8.72	17.64	153.82	8.28	18.00	149.04	8.00	17.0	136
Tamil Nadu	5.40	21.61	116.69	5.47	21.00	114.87	2.80	21.0	58.8
Total Above States	1594.66		34430.37	1747.38		38740.89	1714.49		34374.23
All India Total Rabi	1812.11		40035.31	1985.66		43045.43	1948.28		38193.59

Notes:

- Above states contribute 88% of area and 90% of Production
- U.P, West Bengal and Bihar states, yield and Area is based on AW from 2013-14 to 2015-16. In rest of the states Area and yield is based on state government data.
- States marked in yellow are based on AW Research
- Yield is based on trade sources.



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Technical Analysis of Potato Prices at Kahndauli (Agra):



(Note: Each bar or “candle” in the chart shows the price movement in a particular month. 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.)

The above chart shows the monthly price movement of potato for Agra (Khandauli) market. Average Modal prices during January month were Rs 694/quintal. On the higher side prices may find short term resistance at a level of 1200 quintal. On the lower side prices may find long term support at a level of Rs 500/ quintal. Once prices breach a level of Rs 1200/ quintal, prices may trade on upper side after that. Overall potato market is expected to rise in coming months and trade between Rs 1000-Rs 1100/ quintal.

Disclaimer

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