

Executive Summary:

- In West Bengal, approximately 85-90% of cold store capacity was utilized this year. As per trade estimate, total storage capacity in the state is approximately 60-62 lakh tons.
- According to trade sources, approximately 48% potatoes have been released compared to last year 43% during same time. Prices are expected to remain firm ahead.
- As per Agriwatch estimate from field survey, average capacity utilization in U.P this year was 77% against last year's average utilization of 86% and approximately 90% in 2012
- In Bihar pace of release is higher than last year because of higher price. Approximately 25-30% of total stored potato has been released by July end because of higher prices.
- In Bihar, average yield has fallen by 25-30% compared to previous year. Reason for fall in yield is continuous fog from 1st week of January which led to fungus and blight disease and thus resulted into low yield.
- In Bangalore, potato is arriving in market from Hassan and U.P which are contributing approximately 85% and 15% respectively. According to trade sources, approximately 30% of crop loss is expected in "Hasan" due to continuous rains at later stage.

Weekly Wholesale and Retail Potato Price Analysis

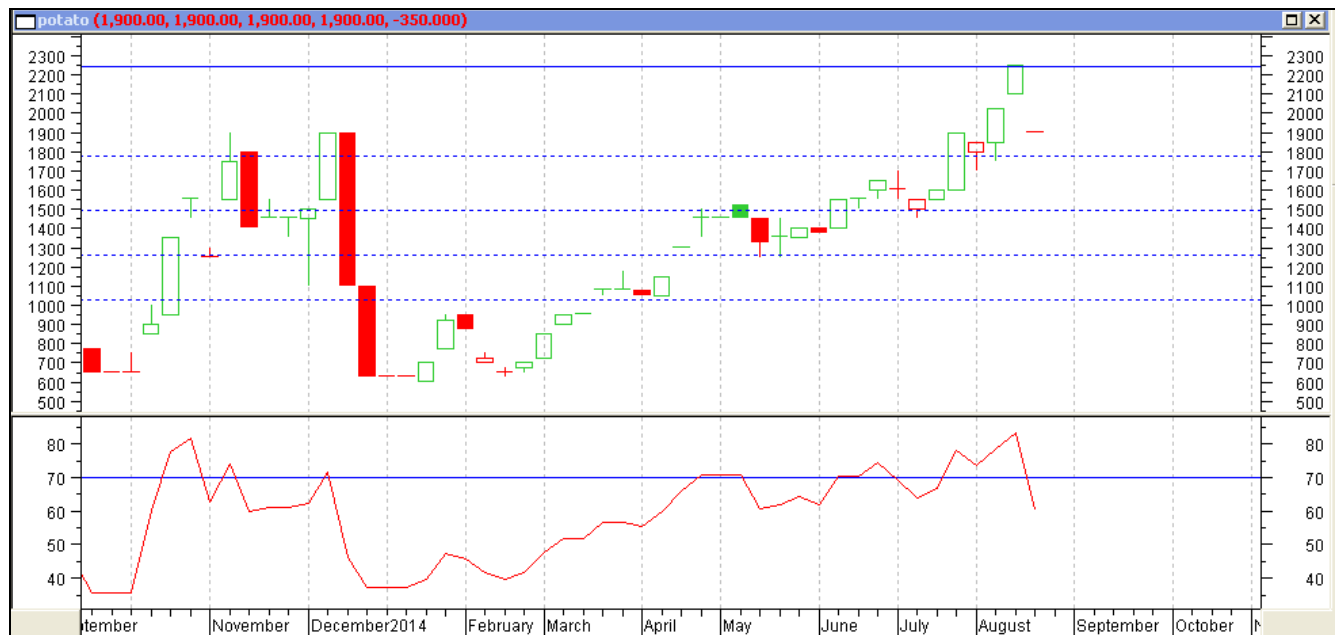
Centre	Wholesale Prices (Rs/Qtl.)#			Retail Prices (Rs./Kg.) *		
	Current Week	Previous Week	A year ago	Current Week	Previous Week	A year ago
	As on 19.08.2014	As on 12.08.2014	As on 19.08.2013	As on 19.08.2014	As on 12.08.2014	As on 19.08.2013
DELHI	2110	2018	1266	2900	2900	2000
LUCKNOW	1775	1775	860	2500	2500	1800
AHMEDABAD	1800	2500	1100	2200	2200	2000
INDORE	1750	1625	875	2800	2800	1400
MUMBAI	2050	1900	NA	2700	2500	2000
JAIPUR	NA	NA	NA	2200	2200	1600
BHUBANESHWAR	2200	NA	1050	2400	2800	1100
KOLKATA	NA	1200	800	2200	2000	1100
HYDERABAD	NA	1950	1100	NR	3000	2400
BENGALURU	2300	2300	NA	2500	2800	1600
TRIVANDRUM	NA	NA	NA	NR	3600	2600
CHENNAI	NA	NA	NA	2600	2700	1500

(Source: Agmarknet #, Consumer Affairs*)

The above table depicts the weekly wholesale and retail price movement of different markets across the country. Mixed variation of prices was seen in wholesale market. In retail market prices are almost similar to previous week and have declined in few markets.

If we compare retail prices on a year on year basis, prices of potatoes have increased this year due to crop loss in West Bengal and U.P. The other reason behind rising prices is less stored potato in cold storages of U.P and Bengal also higher release of potatoes from respective states.

Technical Analysis Potato weekly Price Chart (Spot Market- Khandauli)



(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.)

The above chart shows the weekly price movement of Potato prices in spot market of Khandauli (Agra). In Agra, modal prices are trading around Rs 2150/ quintal which have increased from previous week by Rs. 250/quintal. In the above chart, on the lower side prices may find a strong support at a level of Rs 1800/ quintal whereas on the higher side prices may find a resistance at a level of Rs 2250/ quintal. Relative Strength Indicator (RSI) oscillator is moving towards neutral region and prices may remain range bound between Rs 1600- Rs 2250/quintal for next few weeks.

Disclaimer

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