

Executive Summary:

- In Bihar, potato area is estimated to be approximately 10-12% higher than last year. Cold storages are opened but loading is expected to start only after Holi festival.
- In Punjab, unseasonal rains have affected the crop by 5-10%. This year total sown area was approximately 85000 hectares. So far approximately 40% of crop has been harvested.
- In A.P, Potato area is similar to previous year. Major growing districts are Vishakapatnam and Chittor.
- In West Bengal, cold storage loading is started and average loading price are trading in a range of Rs 180-Rs 220/ packet (50 kg).
- According to trade sources in West Bengal, cold storage are expected to use 100% utilization this year compared to last year utilization of 86%.
- In U.P, cold storages loading prices are approximately Rs 400 to Rs 500/ quintal compared to last year average loading price of Rs 952/ quintal.

Weekly Wholesale and Retail Potato Price Analysis

Centre	Wholesale Prices (Rs./Qtl.)#			Retail Prices (Rs./Qtl.) *		
	Current Week	Previous Week	A year ago	Current Week	Previous Week	A year ago
	As on 3.March.2015	As on 24.Feb.2015	As on 3.March.2014	As on 3.March.2015	As on 24.Feb.2015	As on 3.March.2014
DELHI	NR	NR	878	1400	1300	1800
LUCKNOW	600	625	750	1000	800	1000
AHMEDABAD	450	NR	1025	2000	2000	2000
INDORE	625	625	875	2400	2400	1600
MUMBAI	800	NR	1200	2700	2800	2500
JAIPUR	800	NR	NR	1200	1000	1400
BHUBANESHWAR	625	750	950	800	800	1200
KOLKATA	NR	NR	NR	800	800	900
HYDERABAD	NR	1200	700	2400	2400	1600
BANGALORE	NR	1100	850	NR	2200	1700
TRIVANDRUM	NR	NR	NR	3100	3300	2300
CHENNAI	NR	NR	NR	1900	1700	1500

(Source: Agmarknet #, Consumer Affairs*)

The above table shows the weekly wholesale and retail prices in major markets. Mostly prices are stable in almost all the markets. Retail prices are almost similar to previous week in most of the markets and have fallen in few markets. Prices are expected to remain lower this season.

Potato cold storages loading has started and expected to get closed by March end. Cold storage owners are expecting 100% utilization this year in major producing regions.

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 the above chart, prices are trading range bound between Rs 400- Rs 650/ quintal in last one week. Relative Strength Indicator (RSI) oscillator is moving down in oversold region which indicates prices may fall down in coming weeks. On the higher side prices may find a long term resistance of Rs 700/ quintal whereas on the lower side prices may find a support at Rs 400/ quintal.

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