

FEDERATION OF COLD STORAGE ASSOCIATIONS OF INDIA

Regd. Office : Swarup Cold Storage, Aishbagh, Lucknow (U.P.) Pin - 226004
Phone : 0522-2242486, Fax : 91-0522-2242486, Mob. : 09335019355, 09415418566
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Federation:2015/110

August 14, 2015

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Gujarat
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CO-ORDINATOR
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

BHUVESH AGARWAL
Uttar Pradesh
NATIONAL CO-ORDINATOR

Hon. Agriculture Minister,
Government of India,
Krishi Bhawan,
New Delhi

Sir,

Subject: Miserable Condition of stored potato throughout India.

This is to bring to your kind notice that potatoes stored in cold storages throughout India are incurring heavy losses. This potato is stored in cold storages to provide potato in the market during the period when there are no crops or lesser production of new crops. Further this potato also helps farmers to get seed potato for new crops.

This year the stocks of potatoes stored in cold storages are very high and off take much less, because of heavy production of fresh crops coming from hill regions during current part of the year.

At the time when potatoes were stored, the market price was ranging from 300 to 500 rupees per quintal. The same prices are prevailing after expiry of 4 ½ months of storage. To store potato inside the cold storage and to sell it in mandi the cultivator has to bear the cost of bags, sorting and grading, transportation, loading and unloading. Mandi Adatis Commission, shortages in weight and then subsequently storage rent, which comes to about Rs. 450/- to 500/- per quintal. This means cultivator is incurring total loss in value of his stored produce.

It is, therefore, requested that Government should take immediate steps to protect interest of potato farmers through out India, who have stored potato in cold storages as well as protect cold storage Industry which is already facing big financial crises.

The potato storers definitely need a help of similar type as you have already announced to control the rising prices of potato and onions. Also an Advisory can be given to States to stop charging Mandi Tax in the sale of potato, for a period of eighty days, now onward.

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The States should also be advised to make arrangements to sell the potato in open market taken from cold storages as potato is selling at Rs.4 to Rs.6/- per kilogram in cold storages while in retail it is selling at Rs.10 to Rs.15/- per kilogram.

We hope that under your able guidance the interest of potato farmers as well as cold storages shall be well protected.

Thanking you,

For FEDERATION OF COLD STORAGE ASSOCIATIONS OF INDIA


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