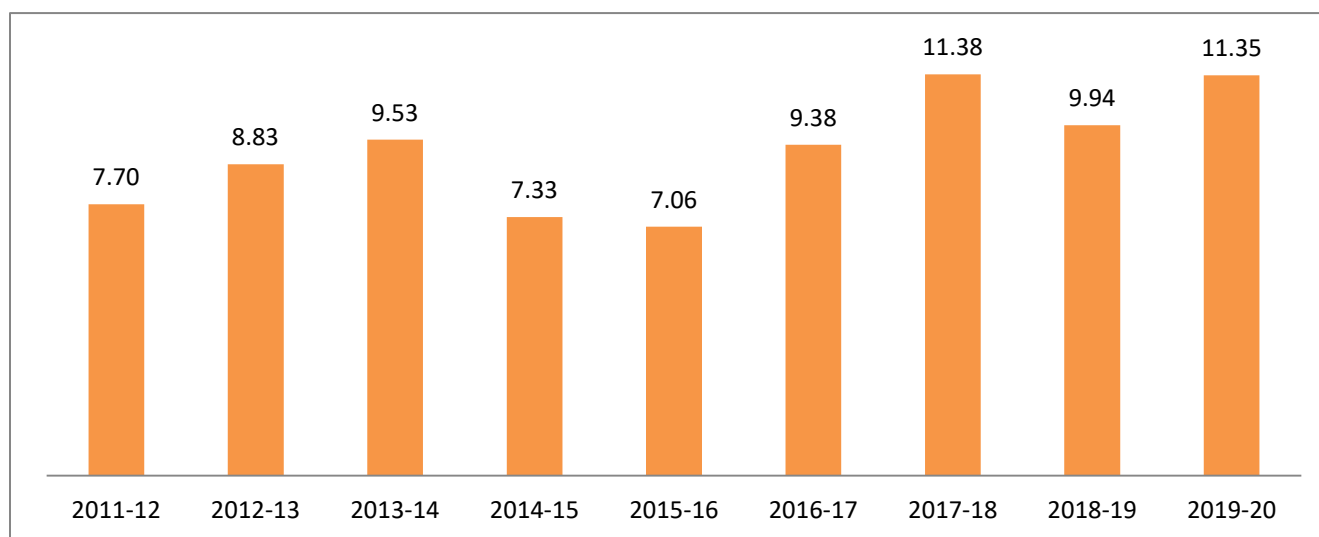


Bengalgram Outlook – January 2021

India is the largest producer of bengalgram followed by Pakistan, Turkey and Iran. India produces around 10 to 11 million tonnes and contributes around 70 percent of the total world production. Bengalgram is the most largely produced pulse crop in India accounting for a share of 40% of the total pulse production. India imports around 8-9 lakh tonnes of bengalgram annually from Canada, Australia, Iran and Myanmar.

In India about 105.83 lakh ha (261.51 lakh acres) area coverage was reported under bengalgram during rabi 2020-21. The states of Madhya Pradesh 25.46 lakh ha (62.91 lakh acres), Maharashtra 22.00 lakh ha (54.36 lakh acres), Rajasthan 20.63 lakh ha (50.98 lakh acres), Karnataka 11.96 lakh ha (29.55 lakh acres), Uttar Pradesh 5.85 lakh ha (21.87 lakh acres) and Andhra Pradesh 3.30 lakh ha (8.15 lakh acres) are the major producers of bengalgram in India. According to Government 4th advance estimates, all India bengalgram production in 2019-20 is at 11.35 million tonnes. The central government has increased the minimum support price of bengalgram for the year 2020-21 by Rs.225 from Rs. 4875 to Rs. 5100 per quintal.



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES).

Figure 1: Production of Bengalgram in India (in million tonnes)

Table 1: Bengalgram Domestic Supply & Demand (in lakh tonnes)

	2019-20	2020-21*
Opening Stocks	16.8	37.55
Production	113.5	106.22
Imports	4.5	2.5
Total Supply	134.8	146.27
Exports	1.75	2
Consumption	95.5	99.5
Total Demand	97.25	101.5
Ending Stocks	37.55	44.77

Source: www.agriwatch.com

Table 2: State wise wholesale prices of Bengalgram during December, 2020

State	Prices December, 2020	Prices November, 2020	Prices December, 2019	% Change (Over Previous Month)	% Change (Over Previous Year)
Andhra Pradesh	4751.46	5058.27	4496.68	-6.07	5.67
Chhattisgarh	4168.47	4302.92	4025.6	-3.12	3.55
Gujarat	4392.26	4854.1	4138.02	-9.51	6.14
Haryana			4188.38	--	--
Karnataka	4841.19	5442.9	4151.56	-11.05	16.61
Kerala	7114.45	7701.1	6641.13	-7.62	7.13
Madhya Pradesh	4401.84	4537.41	4027.86	-2.99	9.28
Maharashtra	4340.27	4701.89	4172.62	-7.69	4.02
Rajasthan	4131.86	4529.94	3881.74	-8.79	6.44
Tripura			7800	--	--
Uttar Pradesh	5393.69	5359.45	4845.65	0.64	11.31
Average	5026.45	5135.86	4858.02		

Source: agmarknet.gov.in

In Telangana state, area covered under bengalgram during rabi 2020-21 was about 1.12 lakh ha (2.77 lakh acres). The major districts producing this crop in Telangana are Kama Reddy 27,307 ha (67,476 acres), Adilabad 24,061 ha (59,457 acres), Nirmal 23,492 ha (58,050 acres), Nizamabad 11,547 ha (28,532 acres) and Gadwal 5,614 ha (13,872 acres). According to State Government 3rd advance estimates, bengalgram production in 2019-20 is at 2.05 lakh tonnes with a productivity of 1532 Kg/ha (620 Kg/acre).

Cash market is likely to improve in the weeks ahead as NAFED has indicated that it will sell chana not below Rs. 4875 / q from its stock. Apart from it, January is as considered the second highest month of consumption. Crop condition in all producing states is good. Cash market is expected to trade firm and may improve by Rs. 200 – Rs. 250 in coming weeks. New crop is expected to hit market only in mid February 2021. So, a steady to slightly firm tone is expected in the weeks ahead. There is no import parity due to high duty (60%). However, import continues from LDC at zero duty.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expects that Bengalgram is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 4400 - 4600 per quintal in the month of January 2021.