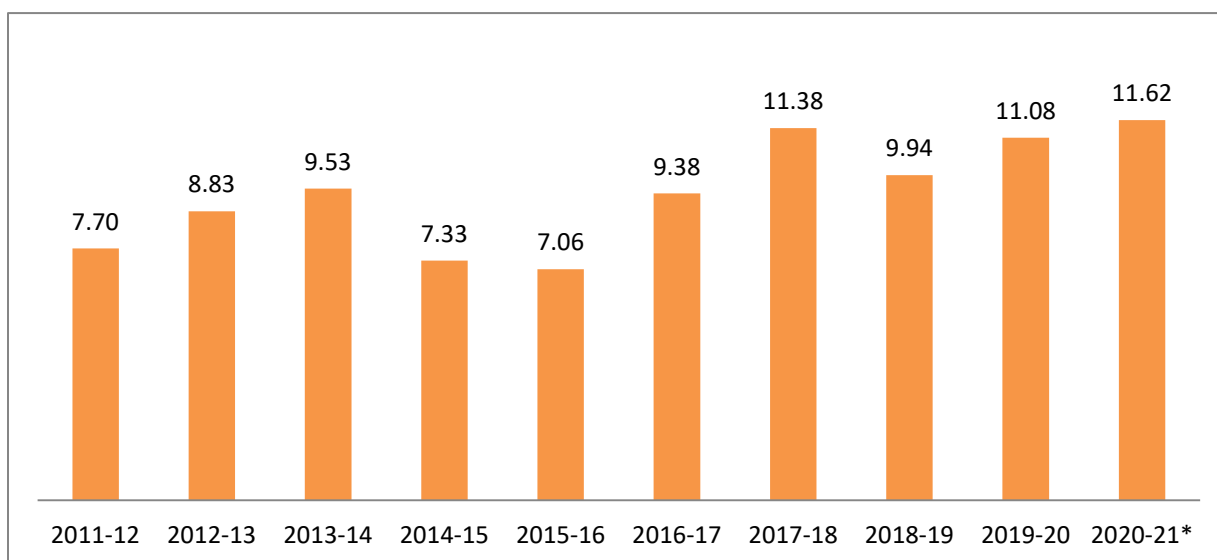


Bengalgram Outlook – May 2021

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 111.99 lakh ha (276.73 lakh acres) area coverage was reported under bengalgram during rabi 2020-21. The states of Madhya Pradesh 25.75 lakh ha (63.63 lakh acres), Maharashtra 24.52 lakh ha (60.59 lakh acres), Rajasthan 21.24 lakh ha (52.49 lakh acres), Karnataka 11.75 lakh ha (29.03 lakh acres), Uttar Pradesh 5.84 lakh ha (14.43 lakh acres) and Andhra Pradesh 4.12 lakh ha (10.18 lakh acres) are the major producers of bengalgram in India. According to Government 2nd advance estimates, all India bengalgram production in 2020-21 is at 11.62 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), *2nd advance estimates.

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	18.22	26.02
Production	110.8	116.2
Imports	4	2
Total Supply	133.02	144.22
Exports	2	4
Consumption	105	106
Total Demand	107	110
Ending Stocks	26.02	34.22

Source: www.agriwatch.com

In Telangana state, area covered under bengalgram during rabi 2020-21 was about 1.43 lakh ha (3.53 lakh acres). The major districts producing this crop in Telangana are Kama Reddy 40,506 ha (1,00,092 acres), Adilabad 30,910 ha (76,379 acres), Nirmal 22,502 ha (55,603 acres), Nizamabad 10,646 ha (26,308 acres) and Gadwal 6,415 ha (15,851 acres).

Table 2: State wise wholesale prices of Bengalgram during April, 2021.

State	Prices April, 2021	Prices March, 2021	Prices April, 2020	% Change (Over Previous Month)	% Change (Over Previous Year)
Andhra Pradesh	4752.47	4567.36	4100	4.05	15.91
Chattisgarh	4882.85	4825.38	3818.42	1.19	27.88
Gujarat	4630.99	4460.88	3991.83	3.81	16.01
Karnataka	5633.25	4864.6	4126.62	15.8	36.51
Kerala	6951.19	6655.14	6972.3	4.45	-0.3
Madhya Pradesh	5107.1	4703.58	3851.64	8.58	32.6
Maharashtra	5081.85	4710.34	3989.62	7.89	27.38
Rajasthan	5062.09	4621.64	3833.94	9.53	32.03
Telangana	4969.55	4829.35		2.9	—
Uttar Pradesh	5167.65	5036.54	4957.73	2.6	4.23
Average	5223.9	5035.96	4404.68		

Source: www.agmarknet.gov.in

Table 3: Prices and Arrivals of Bengalgram in Narayanpet during April 2021

Date	Arrivals (Quintals)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
1	8.33	4809	4800	4809
6	6.86	4949	4880	4880
7	13.72	5050	5050	5050
10	5.88	4779	4779	4779
22	9.31	4709	4709	4709
28	1.96	4409	4409	4409

Source: <http://tsmarketing.in>

Bengalgram cash market traded down taking the clue from weak futures. Farmers have sold out 65 to 70% of stock so far. As NAFED has ample stock, government may decide to distribute it free of cost, which may reduce normal demand too. Slightly weak movement is expected in cash market. The closure of major markets due to the increasing cases of COVID-19, the ongoing shortage of laborers, and disruptions in transport movement has slowed down the normal course of traders. The demand is weak, while arrivals also have come down. Mills are not buying in bulk volume as uncertainty over lockdown continues.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expects that Bengalgram may trade in price range between Rs. 4500 - 4700 per quintal in the month of May 2021.