

राज्य स्तरीय बैंकर्स समिति, पश्चिम बंगाल : STATE LEVEL BANKERS' COMMITTEE , WEST BENGAL  
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Ref: SLBC/WB/Special Meeting/Potato Pricing/289 /2024

Date: 17.01.2024

### Member Banks under SLBC, West Bengal

### Minutes of the SLBC Sub-Committee meeting on Agriculture for fixing Ceiling Price of Potato for the year 2024 held on 17.01.2024

A meeting to finalize the Ceiling Price of Potato for financing the cold storages for on-lending to the farmers as well as financing to the farmers was held at Suchintan (4<sup>th</sup> Floor), Punjab National Bank, Kolkata Zonal Office on 17.01.2024. The meeting was graced by Sri Ashoke Kumar Das, Special Secretary, Agricultural Marketing Department GoWB, Sri Dharmendra Beuria, Deputy General Manager, NABARD, Sri P K Dwary, Deputy General Manager, Punjab National Bank, Sri S S Dash, Deputy General Manager, SBI, representatives of the West Bengal Cold Storage Association and dignitaries of the member banks.

At the outset, Sri Shio Shankar Singh welcomed all the participants in the meeting and informed the house about the process of arriving at the price of potato considering various parameters related to pre-harvest & post-harvest costs involved in cultivation and storage. The house was informed that data on the same were collected from 11 predominantly potato growing districts, viz. Murshidabad, Purulia, Purba Bardhaman, Birbhum, Hooghly, Paschim Medinipur, Bankura, Malda, Coochbihar, Alipurduar and Jhargram through the LDMs. The house was requested to take a consensus call on the same for arriving at a uniform price for the state under the prevailing market condition. Sri S. S Singh requested Sri Ashoke Kumar Das to preside over the meeting.

Sri Ashoke Kumar Das, Special Secretary, Agri Marketing Dept. GoWB apprised the house that at present number of cold storages increased from 603 to 620 as 17 new cold storages were given license and total storing capacity stood at 84 lakhs metric ton, which is second highest in the country. In this connection he also informed the house that hiring charges in different districts for cold storages, was fixed by Agri. Marketing Dept. of GoWB at Rs.170 quintal in North Bengal stand Rs.169 quintal in rest part of our state.

Sri Dharmendra Beuria, DGM, NABARD, suggested the house that member banks could identify the FPO/FPC to finance them for cold storage. Further he also informed the house that as per recent government guidelines, triangular and trapezium shaped godown were also allowed. He also added that branch manager alone would certify the completion of project by the entrepreneurs, on the basis of which the entrepreneurs would be eligible for release of subsidy. Henceforth the requirement of joint inspection has been dispensed with for release of subsidy.

After a detailed discussion guided by Sri Shio Shankar Singh and based on the inputs received from the participants, it was assessed that the average production cost per quintal would be around Rs.626 and the cost of post-harvest expenses, cost of storage would be around Rs.283 for the current year. The yield per acre was assumed at around 120 quintals (including non-sorted potatoes).



Based on the discussions, the House agreed for the following item wise average cost of production:

Sl. No.	Items/ Parameters	Accepted Cost ( In Rs.)	
<b>Yield/ Acre in Quintal</b>		<b>120</b>	
<b>Average Production Cost/ Quintal in Rs.</b>		<b>626</b>	
1	Cost of Bag/ Quintal in Rs	25	
2	Cost of Assortment & Drying /Quintal in Rs	35	
3	Cost of Loading & Transportation / Quintal in Rs	36	
4	Cost of Unloading in Rs.	17	
5	Storing Charge /Quintal in Rs.	170	
<b>Total Cost for Storage in Rs.</b>		<b>283</b>	
<b>(A)Avg. Production Cost in Quintal</b>		<b>626</b>	<b>(B)Cost of Storage</b>
<b>(B)Cost of Storage</b>		<b>283</b>	
<b>(C)Total Cost per Quintal (A+B)</b>		<b>909</b>	
<b>Ceiling Price for Cold Storage Owners @ 30% Margin for on-lending</b>		<b>Rs.636</b>	
<b>Ceiling Price for Farmers @ 25% Margin for on-lending</b>		<b>Rs.682</b>	

The meeting was ended with vote of thanks to the chair & participants by Sri Shio Shankar Singh, General Manager, SLBC West Bengal.

**(Shio Shankar Singh)**  
General Manager  
SLBC West Bengal.

**List of Participants of SLBC Sub-Committee on Agriculture w.r.t. fixing of Ceiling Price of Potato for cold storage convened by SLBC, West Bengal on 17.01.2024 at 03.00 P.M. at Suchintan, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, United Tower.**

SI. No.	NAME	DESIGNATION	INSTITUTION
1	Sri Shio Shankar Singh	General Manager, SLBC	SLBC WB
2	Sri Ashoke Kumar Das	Special Secretary	Agricultural Marketing Dept., GoWB
3	Sri Dharmendra Beuria	Deputy General Manager	NABARD
4	Sri P K Dwary	Deputy General Manager	PNB
5	Sri S S Dash	Deputy General Manager	State Bank of India
6	Sri K C Tripathy	Asst. General Manager	Indian Bank
7	Sri A F M Nazmul Huq	Asst. General Manager	Union Bank of India
8	Sri Kalyan Kar	Asst. General Manager	West Bengal state co-operative Bank
9	Smt. Purabi Das Mehra	Chief Manager	UCO Bank
10	Sri Prosenjit Bhattacharya	Chief Manager	ICICI Bank
11	Sri Sourav Ganguly	Area Manager	AXIS Bank
12	Sri Anwasha Baidya	Senior Manager	Bank of India
13	Sri Vishal Sinha	Senior Manager	Union Bank of India
14	Sri Rajesh Bansal	President	WBCSA
15	Sri Tarun Kanti Ghosh	President	WBCSA
16	Sri Patit Paban Dey	Former President	WBCSA
17	Sri Vinay Kothari	Member	WBCSA
18	Sri Laxmi Pat Kothari	Member	WBCSA

