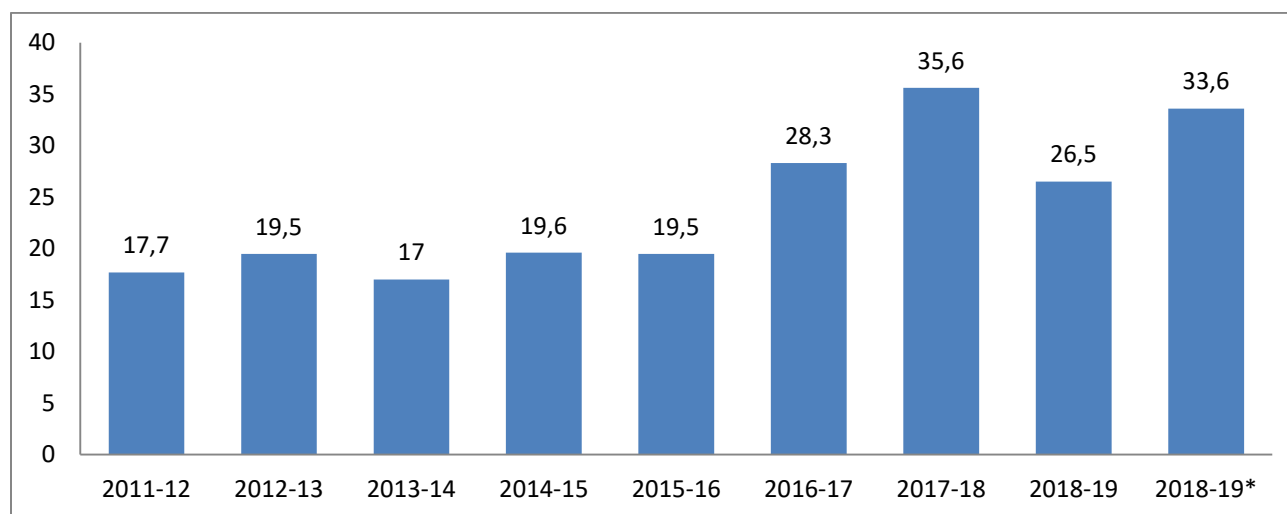


Blackgram Outlook – March 2019

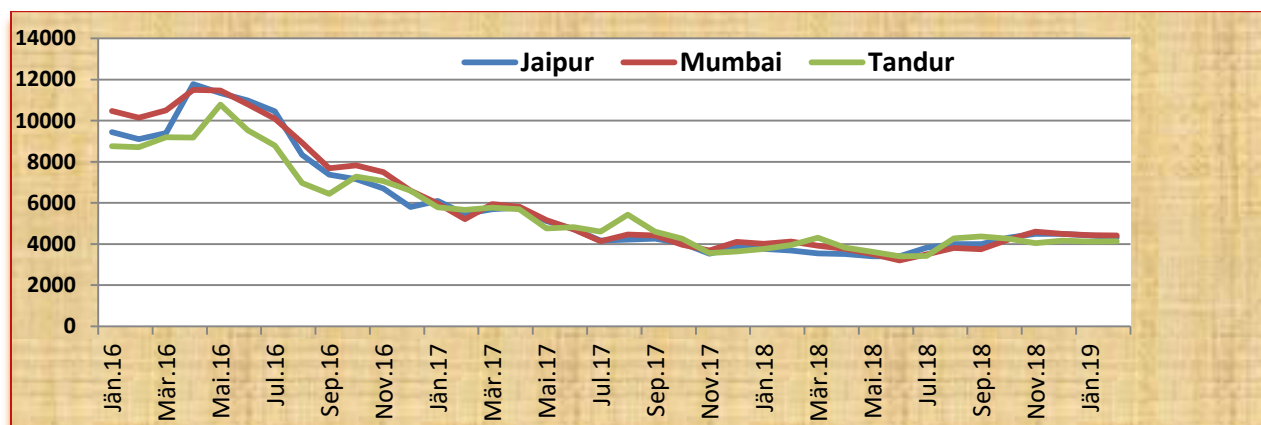
Blackgram is a highly priced pulse, very rich in phosphoric acid. India currently represents the largest producer of blackgram accounting for more than 70% of the global production. India is followed by Myanmar and Pakistan.

Blackgram area is lagging by 10.83% at 9.35 lakh ha as against 10.07 lakh ha last year. In India about 9.35 lakh ha area was covered under blackgram during rabi (2018-19). The states of Tamil Nadu (3.89 lakh ha), Andhra Pradesh (2.85 lakh ha) and Odisha (2.29 lakh ha) are the major producers of rabi blackgram in India. In Telangana area coverage under blackgram during 2018-19 rabi was 5000 ha and major growing districts are Jagtiyal (863 ha), Wanaparthy (1263 ha), Mahabubabad (579 ha), Gadwal (243 ha), Nagarkurnool (412 ha), Kotthagudem (253 ha) and Jayashankar (258 ha).



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), *2nd Advance Estimates

Figure 1: Production of blackgram in India (in lakh tonnes)



Source: www.agrimarketing.telangana.gov.in

Figure 2: Average monthly prices of blackgram in major markets of India (Rs/q)

It is shown from Figure 2 that all major markets of blackgram in the country were found to be highly integrated with regard to price movement. The black gram prices which were above Rs. 11000 per quintal in April 2016 observed continuous decline and fluctuating around Rs. 4000 since last one year. Currently blackgram in major markets is being traded at a lower price i.e., around Rs. 4150-4420 per quintal.

Table 1: Prices and arrivals of blackgram in Karimnagar market during February 2019

Date	Arrival (Quintals)	Minimum price Rs/quintal	Maximum price Rs/quintal	Modal price Rs/quintal
11	5	3703	3971	3751
14	8	3751	4616	4412
18	1	4425	4425	4425
21	1	2856	2856	2856

Source: www.tsmarketing.in/DailyArrivalsnPricesCommodityMonth.aspx

Blackgram market traded almost steady during the month under review. Reduced demand from mills and higher production advance estimate amid higher carryout has capped market at current level. Government has estimated 3.36 million tonnes for 2018-19 in the 2nd Advance estimate released on 28th Feb-2019. It includes 2.68 million tonnes from Kharif and 0.68 from Rabi. Despite lower crop size from kharif, carryout is at higher side and it may restrict uptrend in coming weeks. Subject to the action of the elements, demand is likely to improve. With ongoing procurement drive, any major decline is unlikely. Blackgram may continue to trade at Rs. 4100-4400 per quintal in various markets. In Chennai market Blackgram is being traded at Rs.4200-4250

per quintal. Burma is offering FAQ Blackgram at \$490 & SQ at \$600 per ton. Imported stock too is capping market to get firmer. Steady tone may prevail in Blackgram cash market in March too.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expect that black gram is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 4200 - 4450 per quintal in the month of March 2019.