## NATIONAL HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION NASIK-422 003

## A BRIEF REPORT ON POTATO PRODUCTION AND AVAILABILITY IN THE COUNTRY

The major potato producing states are Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Punjab, Bihar, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra. The area and production of potato in the country is estimated 19.90 lakhs ha and 421.47 lakhs MT (1<sup>st</sup> estimates) respectively, which is a little more in comparison with last year i.e. 19.73 lakhs ha and 415.55 lakh MT.

Rabi potato area covered during the current season is around 17.47 lakhs ha area, which is around 8% more compared to last year's rabi potato area of 16.25 lakhs ha in the major rabi potato growing states of the country.

The harvesting of rabi potatoes continued in the states of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra from January onwards. The harvesting in Bihar, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal continued from February 2015 onwards.

Around 80% harvesting of potato crop in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh completed and in the remaining crop, where water logging for 2-3 days taken place the crop will be damaged and quality would not be store worthy. In Uttar Pradesh and Bihar around 60-65% crop harvested and quality of the remaining crop affected by rains would not be store worthy. The farmers of above states are harvesting the rain affected fields and directly bringing the produce to the markets for sale.