CHAPTER- 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction:

The published works which address the focus of interest of the present research study could not be found. In that context, the present research study is expected to fill up the gap in the existing literatures.

To get knowledge on the topic of the present research investigation and to have a handy guide to carry out the research study on ‘production and marketing of potato in Assam’, a good number of books, research articles, journals, government and non-government reports and publications, research publications and reports of specialized research institutions have been included as literatures of the study. The literatures surveyed in connection with the present study can be divided into three groups. The first dealing with area, production and productivity of potato, second dealing with cost and returns of potato cultivation and the third dealing with post harvest processes of the crop. Accordingly, the present review of literatures is organized under the three heads.

II.1 Area, production and productivity of potato,

II.2 Cost and Returns of Potato Cultivation.

II.3 Post harvest management and value chain analysis.

2.2 Area, Production and Productivity of Potato:

Bedi and Smale (1980) have made an investigation on the use of true potato seeds so as to increase production of potato output particularly in the developing countries. According to the authors, potato cultivation by using the vegetable seeds confronts
some problems like vulnerability of potato production due the diseases transmitted from the seeds that causes low production. But, the uses of true potato seeds are more beneficial in terms of production and productivity as found in the study.

Khurana et al. (1985) have carried out a study on potato production methodologies regarding the uses of fertilizers in the Hisar district of Karnataka. The authors experiment the study by observing the three cropping patterns based on potato. This study has found that out the three cropping patterns the chain including potato, wheat and okra provides highest production of potato output. Verma et al. (1985) have conducted a study on production performances of the different varieties of potato in the crop rotations between paddy and potato in Central Potato Research Station, Modipuram. This study found that the varieties such as Kufri Lalima and Kufri Bahar were the best varieties which produced maximum quantities per unit of land and also produces more of the bigger size potatoes.

Sharma (1989) has evaluated the impacts of the doses of fertility on production of potato crop in various places in the state of Meghalaya. The author has conducted a field experiment during the two years by using the Kufri Jyoti variety in the different places of the East Khasi Hill district. Sikka et al. (1990) analysed the uses of true potato seeds which was a better alternative potato seed in the country like Bangladesh. These true potato seeds also appropriate for the small and marginal farmers producing the potato at the subsistence level. According to the study, the uses of true potato seeds have been applied in Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute for examining its performance. A good number of varieties of true potato seeds have been found to produce better production in comparison to the European varieties of potato crop.
Kabir et al. (1991) have examined production performances of the different potato varieties in the different seedling seasons in the neighbouring country Bangladesh. As shown by the study, the Patrone variety has been found to be a good potato variety for production in the early season that produces maximum output. Again, Variety like Kufri Sindhuri was appropriate for late production and the Cardinal variety has been found to be the best variety in terms of production in case of middle season production. Rashid and Ali (1992) have studied the potato cultivation particularly in the south-east region in Bangladesh. The authors experiment the different potato planting seasons in the particular agro-climatic conditions in the country. According to this study, for seed potato production, the second week of November is the appropriate season of planting and for cultivation of table potatoes, early of December month is the appropriate time period for seed planting which results better potato output. Potato production decreases considerably in case of late planting in the area under study due more impacts of different potato diseases as observed by the authors.

Khushwaha et al. (1993) have examined the development of sizes of potato, growth and quality of potato output basically produced in the state of Uttar Pradesh. As revealed by the study, out of the different varieties of potato, MS/82 – 638 varieties have proved superiority in terms of production, productivity and quality sizes of potato in the area under the study. Lal and Bahal (1993) have analysed different areas newly covered under potato production in the hilly areas in the north eastern region of India. According to the authors, areas newly allocated to potato production in the hills of Manipur have been found to be more productive and quality output of the potato crop.

Behura et al. (1995) have studied the variations of potato production performances using different varieties in the different agro-climatic conditions in the state of Orissa.
As stated by the authors, among all the districts of Orissa state, Puri district has been experienced highest annual growth rate of potato production as revealed in the study. Dahiya et al. (1997) have conducted a study on production of potato crop in Uttar Pradesh particularly in the western part of the state. Uttar Pradesh is the highest potato producing state in the country. According to the authors, among the different districts of Uttar Pradesh, it is the Meerut district which is the highest potato producing district in the state. The study has revealed that the different Kufri varieties of potato released by the Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI) have been found to produce higher yields in Western Uttar Pradesh area under the study. Bhutani et al. (1997) have evaluated the instability of potato yield by using different hybrid varieties of potato crop. The authors have experimented altogether twelve hybrid varieties of potato during the five years period. As observed by the authors, the hybrid variety such as MS/82 – 638 results higher yields with more stability during the period under the investigation.

Chatterjee and Mondal (1997) have conducted a study regarding production of potato crop in the state of West Bengal. The authors have considered different cropping patterns which were based on potato crop. According to the findings, potato yields were very encouraging in the plains area of Gangetic region in the state. Applications of balanced dozes of the organic as well as the inorganic types of fertilizers have proved higher potato production and productivity in area under the study. Singh and Bahal (1997) have examined the yield performance of true potato seeds in hilly areas of the north eastern region of India. Altogether sixteen varieties of true potato seeds have been examined by the authors in the different hills area in the region. The study has found that Kufri Jyoti variety produces highest quantity of potato per unit of land. Deka et al. (1997) have analysed the production of potato crop by using different varieties in the
upper Brahmaputra valley of Assam. The study has found that it is the Kufri Megha variety of potato which has been proved superior in terms of production and productivity over the other varieties of potato in the region under the study.

Patel et al. (2002) have conducted a study of potato cultivation in the state of Gujarat regarding the production, productivity and adaption of the different varieties of potato crop. The authors have examined altogether eight varieties of potato including true potato seeds where harvesting were done after 75 days and 90 days from the date of planting. The study was carried out separately in Deesa and Ladol regions in the state of Gujarat. Saha et al. (2002) analysed potato cultivation in the state of West Bengal regarding the production performances. The authors have carried out the study relating to different cropping patterns which were based on potato crop. The different cropping patterns have been examined by the investigators in two major potato producing districts of West Bengal that are Hooghly and Burdwan. According to the findings of the study, it is the *amon* rice, potato and *boro* rice rotation system that yields highest potato production under the field irrigation system and it has been proved to be sustainable sequence based on potato cultivation.

Singh and Lal (2002) have examined how potato crops have been grown in the hills of Meghalaya state where potatoes are cultivated during the summer under the rain fed conditions. The authors have carried out the experiments on the different sequences of cultivation of potato and the other vegetables during the two years of field study. According to the findings of the study, the potato and radish sequence produces comparatively better output than the potato and cabbage sequence under the rain fed conditions of cultivation in the hills of Meghalaya. Singh and Lal (2003) have analysed agricultural techniques which are appropriate for the sustainable production of potato.
crop in the state of Bihar which is one of the major potato producing state in the country. Regarding this study the authors have carried out a field experimental study during 2001 to 2003 covering two potato cultivation seasons. The study focused on the duration of potato from planting to harvesting as well the fertilizer applications particularly in rice, potato and wheat sequence. As revealed by the study, harvesting of potato crops within 75 days, from the date of planting resulted higher production and productivity in comparison to lesser number of days.

Gossami (2003) has analysed how potato cultivation had been initiated in the state of Assam in early days. According to the author, David Scott has started potato cultivation in the state of Assam. Potato cultivation was initiated first time in the Khasi Hills presently in Meghalaya during the early part of the nineteenth century. According to the findings, the starting of production of potato in the Khasi Hills was very successful. Later on, cultivation of potatoes started in the plains area of Assam by using the seeds transported from West Bengal and Bihar which were very encouraging. Kadian et al. (2003) have analysed cultivation of seed potatoes as well as the table potatoes in the country Afghanistan. The authors have carried out a field based experiment on production of table potatoes and seed potatoes in the Jalalabad area in Afghanistan and found that cultivation during the autumn season is comparatively better with good quality potatoes. Moreover, as revealed in the study, potatoes produced in high hills area for seed purposes have been proved very successful in terms of production and productivity both in the hills and plains area of Afghanistan.

Pandey et al. (2005) have evaluated status of the state of Uttar Pradesh in the potato sector in the country like India. Presently, Uttar Pradesh is the highest potato producing state in the country. Even the production and productivity of potatoes in Uttar Pradesh
are comparatively higher than the national averages in terms of area acreage, production and yield rates. According to the authors, there was a downfall in the yield rate of potato in Uttar Pradesh started from the early of 1980s. Pandit et al. (2005) have carried out a study on potato cultivation regarding the methodologies of input applications in Barpeta district of Assam. The authors also tried to examine the factors affecting production and productivity of potato in Barpeta which is the major potato producing district in the state of Assam. According to the findings of the study, the potato growers in the district do not use the good quality seed potato for cultivation. Moreover, the farmers were ignorant about how to use fertilizers doses in balanced manners. Moreover, irrigation facilities were not sufficient for potato cultivation in Barpeta district and hence potato production is less than optimum in the district as revealed in the study.

Pandey (2007) has analysed cultivation of potato crop in India in terms of area acreage, production and yield rates. According to the findings of the study, Uttar Pradesh was highest potato producing state in country. The states of West Bengal and Bihar are second highest and third highest potato producing state respectively in India as revealed in the study. The study also focused on the less than optimum size of production due to different potato diseases across the different states in India. The authors have observed that major bacterial diseases have been in the state of Maharastra, Orissa and the other northeastern states. Kang et al. (2007) have analysed potato cultivation in plains area of India by using different varieties of seed potatoes. According the authors, it is Kufri Pushkar variety of potato which proved successful in terms of production and yield rates in the plains as well as in the plateau regions in India. The study also reveals that parts of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashatra and Karnataka states are appropriate for adaption of Kufri Pushkar variety of potato.
Saikia et al. (2007) have evaluated different sequences of crops cultivation based on potato crop in high lands in Assam. The study was carried out in Jorhat district of Assam during the period of 2002 to 2004. Through this study, the authors have also investigated efficiency of production performances of potato in different crop sequences in high land in the district. Among the various crop sequences, it is the potato, okra and black gram sequence which provides higher production and productivity in Jorhat district of Assam as indicated in the study. Pandit et al. (2007) have examined the level of technological efficiencies of the potato growers regarding the applications of technologies in potato cultivation in Barpeta district of lower Assam. Through this study, the authors have found that the level of overall efficiency of the potato growers in case of potato cultivation is considerably high that is 78 percent. But, the level of purely technical efficiency is very low which causes average inefficiencies of the overall performances in potato production. The authors also suggested providing adequate irrigation facilities along with good quality potato seeds at the subsidized rates.

Singh (2008) has examined the various policy measures and strategies regarding area acreage under potato crop, production and yield rates. The study was carried out concentrating in the area in Asia and the Pacific regions. The authors have emphasized on opportunities and problems regarding cultivation of potatoes, efficiency managements in breeding by the application of molecular techniques, production of good quality seed potatoes and measures for protection of the potato plants so as to increase production and yield rate in the area under study. Deka and Mukhopadhyay (2008) have carried out a field study regarding the utilizations of local and indigenous methods and practices and knowhow in potato cultivation by the potato growers. The study was conducted in Barpeta district which is the major potato producing district in
lower Assam during the year 2005-06. Through this study, the authors have observed that majority of the potato growers were ignorant about how to use doses of fertilizers and manures. The farmers do not use seed treatments methods, measures to control diseases like brown rotting, cut worm and the problems of tuber moth as indicated in the study.

Azimuddin et al. (2009) have carried out a study on how the area acreage under potato crop has been increasing in the neighbouring Bangladesh. The study also focused on the relative significance of potato crop in relation to the cereal crops in the country. The study was carried out particularly in the districts of Comilla and Munshiganj. According to the findings of the study, the area acreage under potato and its production have been increasing in Bangladesh at the higher rates in comparison to the cereal crops. Moreover, as potato is high productive and value crop, hence it produces higher amount of dry matter per unit of land and time than the cereal crops as revealed in the study.

Singh et al. (2010) have examined the production of the potato varieties which are appropriate for good quality French fries. The authors have observed that the Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI) has released some potato varieties such as Kufri Frysona that are appropriate for the production of good quality French fries. The study has also revealed that the potato acreage, production and yield of potato have been increasing significantly in the plains of Indo-Gangetic areas of India.

Scott and Suarez (2011) have studied contribution of India in the world economy in terms of production of potato crop. The authors have observed that total quantity of potato production has increased significantly from 1949 to 2011. Potato production has increased from only 1.29 million tonnes in 1949 to 34 million tonnes in 2011 which is a big contribution in increase in global potato production. As found in the study, among
all developing countries, it is India which alone supplies 10 percent of total production of the world in the year of 2007 to 2009. The factors responsible for the increase in potato production in India and the challenges ahead have also been analysed in this study. According to Minhas et al. (2011) normally production of potatoes has been concentrated in those areas in world which normally remain comparatively cooler than the other regions. Moreover, the potato production performances are done basically in the cold winter seasons throughout the world. The authors have investigated whether the potato crop could be grown in the comparatively hotter non-traditional areas. The authors conducted experimental studies in the areas which are comparatively warmer and found that production of potato has drastically fall and sometimes the incidences of total crop failures occur. In response to this fact, Central Potato Research Institution (CPRI), Shimla, developed varieties such Kufri Surya which are heat tolerant varieties which can be planted even in the comparatively hotter areas.

Singh and Lal (2011) have analysed the patterns of crops cultivation which are based on potato crop. The authors have carried out field experiments during 2005 to 2007 in southern Bihar plains area. The managements of the applications of fertility on clay soil across the Trans-Gangetic plains of Bihar have been experimented. According to the findings of the study, the cropping systems based on potato production improved the overall agricultural productivity in the region. This is basically due to the fact that potato produces more dry matter and energy content per unit of land and time compared to the cereal crops like rice and wheat as indicated in the study. Jaipaul et al. (2011) have investigated potato production in the state of Uttarakhand under its Himalayan region. The authors have analysed potato cultivation particularly under the rain fed conditions and tried to investigate how production and productivity and quality of
potatoes have been determined by fertility managements. The field experiment was carried out in organic bock of the College of Horticulture in Uttarakhand. According to the findings, the joint utilizations both of the organic and the inorganic fertilizers have considerably increased quality of potato in the area under the study.

Singh (2011) has conducted a study on the potato sector in the state of Bihar which is presently the third largest potato producing state in the country. The authors have highlighted the domestic potato sector of Bihar and also referred with the global status potato crop. The study has also focused on how the seasonal variables affect potato cultivation in the state. The potato acreage, production and its productivity have been observed to be increased at the higher rates compared to the other major food crops which normally creates the situations of gluts immediately after the harvesting of potatoes. Singh and Rai (2011) have analysed present scenario, problems and prospects of potato crop in Bihar. The districts like Nalanda, Patna and Vaishali are very important in terms of potato crop cultivation in the state. According to the authors, inadequate applications of fertilizers, imbalances in N, P, and K utilizations are some of the responsible factors of low yield rates of potato in the different parts in Bihar. Moreover, application of low quality seeds, substandard crops managements, poor irrigations, lack of investments capacity, etc. are some of the factors which caused low production and yield of potato across the different districts of Bihar as revealed in the study.

Ayyappan (2011) has examined the production of potato crop in India. Through this study, the authors have also analysed the future scenario of potato sector of the country. The investigators have highlighted that India is now the second largest potato producer in the world and its contributions in the global potato sector is significant. The domestic
demand of potato output has been projected to increase about 70 million tonnes in the
year of 2030. Following the estimates of Directorate of Economics and Statistics,
Government of India, Singh (2011) has examined the growth in area acreage under
potato and its production in India. According to this study, area acreage under potato
has increased from only 0.5 million hectares in 1970 to 1.83 million hectares in 2010
and quantity of potato output has significantly increased from 3.9 million tonnes to 37.3
million tonnes during the same period.

The Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI), Shimla (2011) has analysed the
importance of potato sector of the country in its national and international perspectives.
According to this study, potato occupies an important position in the agriculture based
economy of the country. The environment of potato production and its requirements in
the national economy has been emphasized in this study. Potato alone contributes more
than 2.4 percent to the Gross Domestic Product coming from agricultural sector in 2008.
Sundaram (2011) has analysed the potato production across the different states in India.
The author has shown how potato crop cultivation is beneficial in the patterns of inter
cropping or double cropping. The study has revealed that the major potato producing
states like Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar together contribute more than 80
percent of production and about 75 percent of area acreage under potato. According to
the findings of the study, potatoes are mostly cultivated in the winter season as rabi crop
in India and only a negligible portion of potatoes are cultivated in summer season
(kharif) in the hilly regions of the different states as rain fed crop.

Scott and Suarez (2012) have examined on perspective of global potato production and
the contribution of developing countries of Asia in potato sector worldwide. Presently,
Asia becomes the centre of world potato sector in terms of production of the crop. The
authors have made a comparative study between the developing countries and developed industrial countries in terms of potato production. According to the findings, the developing countries in Asia contribute greater percentage of potato production compared to the developed countries together. The study also highlights that potato productions are regionally concentrated within Asian countries. China and India together contributes about 75 percent of production and 77 percent of area acreage under potato crop among the developing countries in Asia as revealed in the study. Deka (2012) has observed that production and yield rate of potato have been growing in the economy of Assam with the support of government.

2.3 Costs and Returns of Potato Cultivation:

Singh et al. (1978) have evaluated returns from potato production in the patterns of intercropping or double cropping methods. The authors have found that economic returns from potato production are comparatively better in case of intercropping of potato and crops like radish and wheat. Singh et al. (1991) have carried out a study on economic analysis of potato cultivation in Uttar Pradesh. The study has found that the applications of high technologies results higher economic returns over costs across farms under the study. The authors have recommended for the increase in the applications of technologies and to reduce the labour costs in potato cultivation so as to maximize net profits from potato production.

Tripathi (1991) has examined the costs of potato cultivation and the economic returns over costs in the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh. While analyzing the various types of costs of potato cultivation, the author has observed that seed cost is highest percentage share in the total cost of production. Moreover, costs of labour, costs of fertilizers and
manure are also major costs of potato growing in the regions under the study. Planting of seed potatoes in the month of March increased net profits from potato cultivation per unit of land in the hills of Uttar Pradesh as indicated in the study.

Sharma et al. (1991) have analysed the potato crop cultivation in the hills of Himachal Pradesh. Through this study the authors focused how the shortage of technological methods creates problems in increase in yield rates of potato in the study area. The authors have analysed the cost and returns from potato production per unit of land in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. According to the findings of the study, the net profit from potato cultivation can be increased considerably if the recommended practices are being applied. Working capital is most crucial input as returns becomes more than double by increasing cost on working capital in potato cultivation as found in the study. Khalak and Kumaraswamy (1992) have carried out an economic analysis on potato crop cultivation in the state of Karnataka. Through this study the authors have tried to understand comparative economic benefits from different crops sequences which are based on potato. Increased application of fertilizers in potato, finger and millet sequence results higher net profit per unit of land compared to the other crops sequences as revealed in the study. Dahiya and Pandey (1993) have conducted economic analysis of potato productions in the state of Himachal Pradesh particularly in tribal dominated hills area. A field survey was conducted in the study area and which reveals that the size of the potato farms and amount of fixed capital investment varied positively.

Roy (1996) has carried out a study economically the various crops sequences and inter crops which were based on potato crop cultivation in Bihar. The author has observed that the intercropping patterns of wheat, toria and potato considerably increase
economic returns from potato cultivation in Bihar under the study area. Sharma and Goydani (1998) have analysed economics of potato cultivation in the state of Madhya Pradesh. The authors have investigated the cost and returns from potato cultivations by examining different crops sequences based on potato output. The sequence involving soybean, potato and okra crops has been proved more economic in terms of cost and returns from potato cultivation as indicated in the study. Kumar et al. (2000) have investigated the economics of seed potato cultivation in the state of Uttar Pradesh. The authors have applied input and output methodology to understand the cost and returns from potato production. As observed by the authors, the net profit from seed potato cultivation can be increased by increasing the area acreage under seed potato in Meerut district of Uttar Pradesh.

Pandey et al. (2001) have conducted a study on the comparative returns from the crops like potato and cabbage. The authors have carried a field study in the district of Shimla in the state of Himachal Pradesh regarding comparative costs and returns from the cultivation of potatoes and its competing crops like cabbage. According to the findings of the study, the cost of potato cultivation per unit of land is comparatively lower compared to cabbage and hence the net profit earned from potato cultivation per hectare is higher compared to cabbage cultivation in the area under study. Cost of seeds, cost of labour, manures and fertilizers, plant protection managements are the major cost components as revealed in the study. Pande (2001) has carried out cost analysis for the production of seeds potato. A field study was conducted in the Modipuram campus of Central Potato Research Institute in the state of Uttar Pradesh. According to the findings of the study, the existing cost per unit of land and seed was comparatively higher. The
author has observed that the cost of seed potato production can be reduced if the area acreage under seed potato production is increased.

Singh et al. (2003) have examined cost and returns from potato production regarding the utilizations of doses of N, P and K. A field experiment was carried out in Modipuram campus of Central Potato Research Institute from 2000 to 2001. The uses of recommended doses of fertilizers maximize the profit from potato cultivation per unit of land. Lal and Sharma (2006) have carried out an economic analysis on potato production in the state of Himachal Pradesh. The field study was conducted in the Lahaul valley of the state. Potato has been found as more labour as well as capital intensive crop in the study area. The authors have observed that net profit from potato cultivation can be enhanced if the package of recommendations is properly applied.

Singh (2007) has analysed economics of potato production in Uttar Pradesh. The study was carried out in the western part of the state. While analyzing the comparative profits from the different varieties, the author has observed that application of the variety like Kufri Anand provides higher returns per unit of land. The study also focused on the economics regarding the density of potato plants. Rana et al. (2009) have investigated on the cost and benefit regarding potato crop cultivation in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Applications of different varieties result variations in the cost and benefit ratios. Cost on seed potatoes, organic and inorganic fertilizers, irrigation, labour are the major cost components which cause increase in the overall cost of potato cultivation as revealed in the study.
2.4 Post Harvest Management and Value Chain Analysis:

The post harvest management of potato crop is an important aspect for the development of potato sector. Grading, packaging, transporting, storage, marketing etc. are the important factors that determine the efficiency of post harvest management of the crop.

Vaidehi (1982) has studied the processed potato products specially the dehydrated products. The study also examined how the consumers of different sections accept the processed potato products of dehydrated category. According to the findings of the study, different varieties of snacks food items including potato sticks, potato gratings, flour of potato etc., are widely used for the preparation of various types of potato based food items which are largely accepted by the consumers. Singh (1993) has analysed business of agricultural commodities including potato crop in Uttar Pradesh. The author has carried out a field study in the district of Farrukhabad in the state. As observed by the author, the potato dealers in the district involved in large business based on potato crop. There is a problem of potato storage in the marketing channel in the district. Since, huge quantity of potatoes are being produced in the district, hence the available cold storage facilities are not adequate for smooth operations of marketing practices as revealed in the study.

Dahiya and Sharma (1994) have conducted a study different issues and challenges regarding marketing patterns of potato crop in India. The authors have investigated domestic as well as foreign policy measures for the expanding marketing of potatoes in India. There is problem of higher price spread in the potato markets in the country. Inadequate marketing infrastructures including storage facilities, transportation problems from potato production centers to markets, involvement of large middlemen
are some of the factors which cause higher price spreads in potato marketing patters. Indian potatoes are mainly exported to the neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. Moreover, a huge size of potatoes is exported from India to Bahrain Islands, Dubai, Iran, Kuwait, and the Maldives’ Islands.

Reddy et al. (1994) have analysed different marketing value chains of potato in Karnataka. The study focused on the relative efficiencies of different marketing value chains of potato crop in the state. Field study was carried out in Chikkaballapur and Bangalore markets. According the findings of the study, the value chain involving potato grower, commission agent, wholesaler and retailer has been found as most efficient marketing value chain. Reddy et al. (1995) have examined the different problems in marketing of potato crop in the state of Karnataka. According to the authors, drastic price falls immediately after harvesting, financial crisis of the potato growers, shortages of cold storage facilities, high cost of potato transportations, higher price fluctuations, inappropriate government support policies are some of the variables which are responsible for inefficiency in potato marketing in the state.

Dahiya et al. (1997) have carried out a study post harvest processes of potato crop in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Through this study, the authors have highlighted the potato growers’ responses towards the traditional as well the modern cold storage systems of storing potato output. The authors have also investigated the various problems faced by the farmers in storing their crops in the cold storages in the state. The owners of cold storages charge high rates of storage, there is a problem of inadequate space in the storage and compensations were not given properly when the incidents of large scale damages of potato occur, which are some common problems in the cold storage system in the area under study. Keith et al. (1997) have analysed post harvest managements of
potato crop particularly in the northern part of the country. The study has shown that patterns of managing the cooled storage based on evaporation affects the levels of standard of storing potatoes. The authors investigated on consumption scenario of potato processed products. According to the findings, due to the development of snack food and fast food systems based on potato, the level of consumptions has further increased in the region under the study.

Sharma et al. (1997) have made an analysis on the storage patterns and challenges of potato storage systems in the state of Bihar. According the findings of the study, even though Bihar is a major potato producing state in the country, still less than one fourth of total potato produce have been stored in the cold storage. The study has identified some common problems of potato storage system in Bihar. Higher storage charges, lack of space, frequent power cut, malpractices etc., are some common problems of cold storage in the state as found in the study. Marwaha and Sandhu (1999) carried out a study on potato processed and value added potato products. Combinations of different processed products based on potato and wheat become more acceptable as revealed in the study. Yadav et al. (2000) have analysed marketing patterns of potato crop in the state of Uttar Pradesh. The study, focused on the various problems of potato marketing including higher price spread in potato marketing in the state. While evaluating different marketing value chains, the authors have observed that majority of the small and marginal farmers sell their potato output directly to consumer or to the retailers. Majority of medium and large potato growers sell their products to the commission agents and whole sellers as reveled in the study.

Pandey et al. (2000) have conducted a study on marketing of Indian potatoes in the international markets. The seed potato coming from the European countries are still
dominating the countries of Asia. The authors have commented that there are good prospects of exporting Indian potatoes in the Asian countries. The study concludes that Indian potatoes can be well adapted particularly in the South Asian countries due to the geographical and physiological advantages. Pandey et al. (2000) have observed that as there is high degree of social and cultural integration of India with its neighbouring countries, consequently there is higher demand of Indian potatoes in the international markets particularly in the South Asian countries. Even the liberalization policy also results increase in the exports of Indian potato as found in the study.

Gupta (2001) has analysed the frequent price instability of potato in West Bengal. The author also investigated marketing patterns of Bengal potato with Assam and the other northeastern states. As observed by the author, due to the possibility of transportation of potatoes by trains, the transportation cost comes down and more potatoes are being transported to the markets of Assam and other northeastern states as found in the study. Das and Ezekiel (2001) have conducted a field study at the consumers’ level in the city of Kolkata regarding the preferences of processed potato products. According to the findings of the study, the processed products like chips, potato bhujia, lachha along with the locally processed potato products have been growing more popular among the consumers of Kolkata city. Jame et al. (2001) have analysed marketing of processed potato products in some major markets like Delhi, Meerut and Ghaziabad. In this study the authors have found that in the snack food sector, processed potato products contribute significantly in the markets under the study. Again, it is important to note that along with the branded products of processed potatoes, the unorganized potato processing units are equally contributing to the processed value added potato markets as revealed in the study.
Verma et al. (2001) have studied marketing of processed potato products in the state of Uttar Pradesh. The authors also investigated the patterns of marketing and behaviours of the consumers toward potato processed products both in the urban and the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh. Frito Lay branded potato chips and uncle chips found to be more popular among the consumers both in urban and rural areas as indicated in the study. Kumar et al. (2001) have carried out a study on the decision makings of the consumers’ regarding purchasing of potatoes. How and what are the factors that affect consumers decisions making in connection with buying of potato has also been investigated by the authors. While purchasing potatoes, most of the consumers consider price of potato, colour and neatness of the output, sizes of the crop etc. as indicated in the study.

Rani and Ezekiel (2001) have investigated the marketing of potato crop in its processed forms. The authors have carried out a field survey in some major potato processed products markets such as Chandigarh, Mohali and Shimla regarding marketing of processed outputs. According to the findings, potato products normally processed in the unorganized sectors in the forms of potato chips, sticks and bhujia were very popular among consumers within the area under the study. Dahiya (2001) has carried out a study on marketing of Indian potatoes in the international markets. Even though India is the second largest potato producing country in the world but exports of Indian potato in the international markets is negligible. The authors have observed that there is good prospect of exporting Indian potatoes in international markets as it has more opportunities and excellence in potato exporting. Government’s appropriate export policies and development of export infrastructures will be able increase export shares of Indian potatoes in the international markets as revealed in the study.
Mehta and Ezekiel (2003) have examined the different traditional methods of potato storage. Sometimes, potato growers follow the non-technical traditional storage methods such as pits and heaps at the potato fields and at their own homes. Moreover, the authors examined the evaporative cooled storage (ECS) that is used to store potato. These methods are cost effective and can be used for short duration as revealed in the study. Uppal (2003) has examined relative impacts on the quality of processed potato products due to the different methods of potato storages. According the findings, some of the varieties loss the characteristics of good quality processed products like potato chips while storing potato in traditional storages. It is pit and heap that can improve processing quality in case of a few varieties as found in the study.

Pandey et al. (2003) have conducted a study on the different marketing value chains of potato in the state of Bihar. The authors have investigated the wastage of potato crop during the post harvest operations in marketing in the state. A field experiment was carried out in Nalanda district in Bihar. Among the different marketing value chains of potato, the value chain involving potato growers, cold storage, the whole sellers, retailers and the consumers is the important value chain as majority of potatoes move from producer to consumer through this value chain as indicated in the study. Rana et al. (2003) have analysed some of the major potato markets in India and investigated how the markets are integrated across the study area. According to the findings of the study, large differences in the prices of potatoes among the different markets have been observed. Non integrations in the different potato markets have been found which are basically caused by non-development of marketing infrastructures and lack of market information as revealed in the study.
Kumar et al. (2003) have conducted a study in the state of Uttar Pradesh regarding the arrivals and the prices of potato crop. A field study was carried out in the major potato markets in Meerut district. The study also focused on the impacts of the seasonal variables on arrivals and prices of potato output. Arrivals and the prices have been found to vary in the same direction but impacts of the seasonal variables on arrivals and prices of potatoes were significant as found in the study. Rana et al. (2003) have examined behaviours of potato prices in some large potato markets in India. The authors have developed seasonal indicators regarding the arrivals and prices of potato wholesale markets. The fluctuations of prices of potatoes based of different seasonal factors are remarkable which sometimes results uncertainty for the potato dealers in India. During the months of pre-seedling season, average price of potato remains very high as found in the study.

Pandey et al. (2003) have studied the patterns of potato marketing in the state of Himachal Pradesh. A field experiment was conducted in Shimla regarding the different marketing value chains of potato. The authors have investigated the price spread as well the marketing efficiencies across the different marketing value chains. According to the findings of the study, producers’ share in consumers’ rupee was very high in the market chain where potato growers, agents, retailers and consumers are involved. Moazzem and Fujita (2004) have carried out a study on the changing patterns of marketing of potato crop in the neighbouring Bangladesh. The authors carried out a field study at the farmers’ level in Comilla district of Bangladesh. The study focused on patterns potatoes move from the potato growers to the ultimate consumers. There was a considerable structural changes in the rural marketing based on the potato crops. Most of the medium
and large potato growers sell their produce at the farm gate level immediately after harvest as revealed in the study.

Kumar et al. (2004) have experimented the consumer understating and responses towards the consumptions of potatoes which were treated with CIPC. The authors have carried out field experiments in some major potato markets in Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat Madhaya Pradesh and West Bengal. According to the finding of the study differences were observed among the potato consumers across different states and areas under the study regarding the appearances, duration of peeling and cooking, tastes etc. Ahmed et al., (2005) have carried out the study on the marketing practices of potato crops and the profit generations in Pakistan. Potato contributes greatly in the economy of Pakistan in general and Punjab in particular. It provides high returns in short duration and enhanced employment opportunities. Field study was conducted in the districts of Okara and Kasur of Punjab. According to the findings of the study, large variations in the prices of potato are major problems in potato marketing in the area under study.

Tripathi et al. (2005) have studied the patterns of contract farming in the state of Haryana regarding potato crop. The authors have observed that contribution of contract potato farming has been found to be successful to partially remove the problems of marketing uncertainty in the patterns of potato marketing in the state. Some of the companies based in Delhi market undertake contract farming in the major potato producing districts such as Kurukshetra, Ambala, etc. According to the findings of the study, along with the cost of production the net returns in terms of gross as well as net profits have been found higher in case of contract farming and selling compared to non-contract farming and selling of potato.
Kumar et al. (2005) have evaluated marketing of Indian potato crop in the international markets and analysed the impacts of World Trade Organization on it. The study has found that contributions of developed countries in the international potato markets have been increasing even after the establishment of the World Trade Organization. The share of India in potato exports in the international markets remained very low in spite of having good prospects of exporting Indian potatoes. During the post-WTO regime there has not been any remarkable change in international markets of Indian potatoes as found in the study. The authors have recommended for the development of infrastructures required to potato export, establishment of export houses, adoption of appropriate financial and export policies to encourage marketing of Indian potatoes in international markets.

Beleiciks (2005) has investigated the potato processing practices in the Washington State of USA. The authors have tried to understand the impacts of marketing practices of potato crop in the economy of Washington State. A field study was conducted across the different potato processing units in the major markets in the state and thus concludes that the marketing of potato processed products have significant impacts in the state economy of Washington. Rana et al. (2005) have carried out a study on the consumption behaviours of processed potato products in and around Kalkata city. Different processed products such as fries, bhujia, chips etc. are popular among the consumers in the area under study. The high income group of consumers prefers branded potato processed products while low income group prefer locally produced processed products. Through this study, the authors have investigated the impacts of family budgets on the consumptions of potato processed productions in the different time points.
Kumar et al. (2005) have analysed the marketing practices of potato in West Bengal. Different marketing value chains have been identified and examined in Hoogly district of West Bengal. The marginal and small potato growers sell their produce immediately after harvest due to requirement of immediate cash money. The marketing chain involving potato growers, cold storages, wholesalers, retailers and consumers is most important value chain in terms of quantity of potato movements as revealed in the study.

Basu (2006) has conducted a study in the state of West Bengal regarding the integrations of the different potato markets located both in rural and urban areas. The author has carried out a field study in Hooghly district of West Bengal which is the highest potato producing district in the state. The study has shown that the wholesale as well as the retail markets are integrated across the study area depending on the prices and the marketing information.

Pandey et al. (2006) have studied the marketing of Indian potato processed products within the domestic and in the international markets. According to the authors, urbanization has been growing with the development of economic conditions of the country. Consequently, consumption habits of the people also changing throughout the country which causes higher demands of processed potato products. Moreover, to sell the Indian processed potato products in the international markets, quality improvement technology should be adopted along with the appropriate export support policies as recommended by the authors. Pandey (2007) has analysed the post harvest processes of potato in Indian economy. The authors evaluated the significance of potato marketing and other post harvest operations that generates income and employment opportunities in the economy. Now a day, potato has been accepted gradually as food supplements throughout the country particularly with the development of potato processing industries.
both in the organized and unorganized sectors. The problems of under nutrition can largely be reduced if potato sector is expanded as remarked by the authors.

Sharma and Sharma (2007) have analysed problems of high price variations in potato markets across the country. The authors have investigated the various factors which are responsible for the frequent price fluctuations in the potato markets. The geographical conditions, seasonal natures of the crop are the significant factors which influence the price variations in the different seasons and different locations as found in the study. Unlike the industrial products, in case of agro-based products including potato, price fluctuations occur due of bulk harvesting in a particular season which cannot be fully controlled as remarked by the authors. Sahadevan (2007) has conducted a study on potato crop marketing in the state of Uttar Pradesh regarding contract future selling of potatoes. The authors have observed that as marketing of potato crops suffer from the higher price fluctuations and hence market uncertainties in the state, hence the provisions of contract future marketing of potatoes ascertains the returns from potato marketing and results comparative stabilization in potato prices as indicated in the study.

Singh (2008) has analyzed marketing of potato crops in the international markets. The author has carried out this study particularly for the countries in Asia and in the Pacific regions. According to the author, potato processing has become a large and rapidly developing sector worldwide. But, in the countries in Asia particularly in India the processing sector of potato has remain at the low level. Only a negligible portion of potatoes are processed in the country. There are lots of opportunities of expanding potato processing industries in the countries of Asia and Pacific regions. Development of required technologies, structural changes in financial system for potato export
marketing and appropriate export support policies are recommended by the author for the development of marketing of processed potato products in international markets.

Mahanta (2008) has carried out a study on the price variations of potato crop in markets of Assam. The author has observed that potato dealers suffer from the uncertainties caused by higher price fluctuations in the state. In every year, a huge quantity of potatoes is being transported in the market of Assam from the neighbouring state of West Bengal which results situations like dumping in the potato market in the state. Lack of cold storage and cold chain facilities compelled the potato growers either to sale immediately after harvest at low prices or to keep in traditional storage that reduce the quality of potato as indicated in the study. Based on the research work at Central Potato Research Station, Shillong, Sah and Kumar (2008) conducted a study on the potato storage practices in the state of Meghalaya. As there are no sufficient cold storage facilities for storing potatoes, the potato growers follow some traditional methods to store their produce for a few months after harvest. As shown by the study, the farmers keep their potato either in the ground, in the slopes of hills or potatoes are stored in pits, heaps, in house layers, in wooden structures. These storage patterns cannot store potato for long with good quality.

Bhutan is the adjoining country with the present study area that is potato production and marketing in Assam. But unlike in the plains of Assam where most of the potatoes have been grown in winter season, in the hilly areas of Bhutan, potatoes are grown in summer as rain fed crop. Joshi and Gurung (2009) have carried out a study on the post harvest managements of potato crop in the neighbouring country Bhutan. According to the authors, potato is a high value crop in Bhutan and its post harvest processes are considered economically significant. As shown in the study, Indian traders have a good
contribution in the market of potato in Bhutan. A good size of potatoes of Bhutan are exported to the neighbouring countries as fresh potato because, potatoes are produced as summer crops in the country. A package of recommendations has been provided to develop potato sector in the country.

Azimuddin et al. (2009) have carried out a study on the post harvest perspective of potato in the country Bangladesh. The authors have evaluated the importance of potato processed products in the food supply base in the over populated country like Bangladesh. The potato processed products contribute reducing the problems of under nutrition and help in achieving food security mission in the country as stated in the study. Nadezda and Amaya (2009) have investigated potato marketing methodologies in Bolivia country. The authors have studied the different factors which determine the choice of marketing value chains by the potato growers in the country. As observed by the investigators, the information system regarding prices and other market features help the potato grower in the decision making in selecting marketing value chains for potato in the rural Bolivia. The authors have recommended increasing the applications of the modern information and communication technologies including mobile phones so as to improve the level of market information and hence decisions making regarding marketing value chains to dispose potato products.

Pandey et al. (2009) have studied various issues of the marketing of potato processed products in India. The study focused on the prospects and problems of potato processing and marketing of processed products in India. According to the authors, the scenario of Indian potato processing sector has greatly changed with release of potato varieties which are specially suited for processing qualities. The Central Potato Research Institute have developed the kufri chipsona varieties of potato which are appropriate for
processing with good quality preferred by the consumers as found in the study. The authors have observed that potatoes are mainly used as table purposes in western countries but in India, potato still basically accepted as vegetable items.

Mehta and Ezekiel (2010) have analysed post harvest managements basically storage patterns of potato in India. According to the authors, potatoes are produced mostly in winter season and harvested just before the beginning of summer season along the entire Indo-Gangetic plains area. Since potato is a semi-perishable crop, it requires scientific storage facilities for make it available round the year. But, due to shortage of cold storages and cold chains facilities, farmers are compelled to sell at low prices in the market. According to the authors, the alternative storage method that is evaporative cooled storage (ECS) which is cost effective and appropriate for storing potato for a comparatively short duration of time. Thiele et al. (2010) have analysed the economic and food value of the potato crop in the developing countries. Potato provides more dry matters with short duration of time which is required in over populated developing countries. According to the study, potato helps in increasing food supply base and thus removes the problems of poverty and hungry. On the other hand potato provides employment opportunities in the different stages from its production to the post harvest processes which provides incomes and hence improves standard of living as indicated in the study.

Singh et al. (2010) have studied on the potato processing opportunities and problems in India. According to the authors, the processed potato products such as French fries now a day become popular in the country. But sometimes problems in the sustainability of potato processing industries arises due to shortage of supply of suitable processing quality potatoes whole the year as observed by the authors. Marwaha et al. (2010) have
conducted a study on the perspectives of potato processing industries in India. The authors have investigated the opportunities, problems and future prospects of potato processing industries in the country. The various processed potato products such as chips, sticks, French fries, flakes etc. have been increasing in demand by the consumers with the development of snacks food sector. The study focused on the various determinants of the increased demand of processed products. Development of urban areas, increase in incomes, increase in women labour in job markets, changing food habits are some factors which pushed up the demand of processed products. The authors also observed that both Indian and multinational potato processing companies have increased processing quantities.

Singh (2010) has studied on the potato processing industries in India. Even though potato mainly utilized as vegetable crop in the country, but in the recent past the crop has been utilized as food supplement. The strategies made by the Central Potato Research Institute towards the release of processing quality potatoes have changed the scenario of potato processing sector in the country as observed by the author. Khanna (2010) have investigated the potato marketing perspectives in the state of West Bengal which is the second largest potato processing state in the country. As observed by the author, the potato growers generally suffer from the problems of gluts and drastic price fall during the harvesting period. To avoid this problem, potato output should be transported to the neighbouring states where production is low and price remains higher as recommended by the author.

Sarkar (2010) from Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, investigated the marketing of potato in West Bengal. According to the author, price fluctuation is a major problem in the potato marketing in the state. Immediately after the harvest, due to shortage of cold
storage or due to the immediate requirement of cash money, most of the small and marginal farmers try to sell their potatoes in the markets which create the situations like gluts and pitiable sales. The contracting companies have been purchasing a small proportion of the total output which cannot significantly influence in stabilizing potato prices as found in the study. Similarly, Datta (2010) discussed different issues of potato marketing in the state of West Bengal. According to the findings of the study, the contract potato farming provides comparatively higher and stable returns from potato production and marketing in the state.

Scott and Suarez (2011) have studied the patterns and level of potato marketing both in terms of domestic and international marketing. With the development of potato processing industries, the consumption behaviours of potato have been changing and the utilizations have been diversified. The authors have observed that in spite of having good prospect of accepting Indian potatoes in the international markets in the neighbouring countries, the country is able to export less than one percent of total potato product in the international market. An analysis was conducted by Sah et al. (2011) regarding the marketing practices of potato crop in the northeastern region of the country. The authors have conducted a field study in some major potato markets in Assam and Meghalaya for understanding the patterns of consumptions and disposal behaviours. The Barpeta district in Assam and East Khasi hill district in Meghalaya have the traditions of potato cultivations and hence the marketing practices of potatoes. The study also focused on the marketing value chains used by the potato growers in the area under study. The level of consumptions and disposal of potato has found to be higher in Barpeta district of Assam in comparison to other districts under study. It is
remarkable that majority of the potato growers prefer to sale at the farm gate level immediately after harvest as indicated in the study.

Singh (2011) has examined the marketing value chains in the state of Bihar. The study also focused on the rules and regulations governing the potato marketing systems in the state. Normally in the marketing practices, the small farmers as well the consumers are exploited by the large potato dealers including the middlemen. Many times the price spreads remains very high in case of potato marketing in the state. The author has recommended for developing the marketing infrastructures, institutional credit facilities for the potato growers to achieve efficiency in potato marketing. Sundaram (2011) has discussed the price variations in the potato marketing in India and the tragedy involved in the potato marketing practices. Similar to some other studies, the author has observed that, potato plays very important role in removing poverty and hungry, but the potato growers still suffer in the processes of marketing of their produce. Prices of potato fall down drastically so low that sometimes the farmers failed to recover the cost of production.

The Central Potato Research Institute (2011) made a study on the diversifications in the utilisations of potato crop in the economy of India. During the last decade, with the development of potato processing industries, the utilization behavior has change largely as indicated in study. Ilangantileke (2011) has investigated the post harvest management practices of potato crop in the Asian countries. According to this study, with efficient management of every phase of post harvest processes, the value additions and hence income and employment increases. But, the post harvest processes of potato crops still have been suffering from different difficulties particularly in the developing countries including India as indicated in the study. Bhajantri (2011) has conducted a study on the
perspectives of potato marketing in the state of Karnataka. The author has carried out field study in the major potato producing districts in the state regarding the relative effectiveness of the different marketing value chains in the state. As found in the study, majority of the potato grower in the state prefer to sell their produce at the farm gate level to the commission agents and some of the potato growers prefer to sell the crop to the whole sellers in the government regulated markets as indicated in the study.

Rahko (2011) has carried out a study on the issues of post harvest managements of potato crop in the country Tanzania. The author has investigated the problems, prospects and the public policies regarding the development of potato processing industries in the country. Different marketing value chains of the country used to move potatoes from producers to the ultimate consumers have also analysed in the study. Scott and Suarez (2012) have analysed the development of potato processing sector in the developing countries in Asia. With the changes in potato consumption behavior and diversifications in utilizations, potato processing industries have been developing gradually in the developing countries including India as observed by the authors.

Ezeta (2012) conducted a study on the marketing of potato crop in the countries of Asia. The author has investigated difficulties in the expansion of international trade of potato among the countries and in different agro-ecological areas. As observed in study, along with table potatoes, the utilizations of potato processed products particularly in the urban and semi-urban areas have been increasing during the last decades where the country India has the active participation. The economic relations among the developing countries should be strengthening regarding the expansions of potato export market and appropriate policies should be adopted according to the findings of research study as suggested by the author.
Mitra et al. (2012) have carried out a study on the nature of potato marketing and profit generation in the state of West Bengal. The authors have carried out a field study in the major potato producing and marketing districts such as Hoogli and West Medinipur according to American based organization and tried to investigate the impacts of information variation on the profit generations of the middlemen engaged in the marketing in the state. According to the findings of the study, the differences of market information regarding arrivals and prices have the significant impact on profit generations of the middlemen. Deka (2012) has discussed problems of marketing of potato crop in Assam and highlighted the initiatives of the government in mitigating the problems. As stated by the author, the government has been trying to development the potato marketing practices by adopting some important policy measures.

Dasgupta (2012) has carried out a study on the serious problems of price variations in the potato markets in West Bengal. The author has tried to understand the role of the state government to stabilize the prices of potato and ensured the returns of the potato growers particularly during the years of drastic price falls. According to the findings of the study, the unfair means adopted by the large businessmen such as hording, existence of large number of middlemen in the marketing patterns of potato crop in the state of West Bengal caused higher price variations in potato marketing. During the years of drastic price falls, the potatoes were sold through the control shops in all the urban and semi urban areas to protect the consumers as indicated in the study.

Choudhury (2012) has carried out a study on the potato marketing in the state of Assam regarding the problems of high price variations in the state. The study has shown that prices of potato between retails and whole sale markets remain in high difference. As stated by the author, in the year in which potato production increased considerably due
to the favourable agro-climatic conditions, the price variations remain very high between whole sale and retail markets. Moreover, this problem becomes more aggravated as the small and marginal farmers cannot carry their produces to the urban market to sell at higher prices due the problems transportation.

Negi (2012) has studied the marketing practices of potato crop in the state of Punjab. As observed by the author, similar to the marketing problems of potatoes in the major potato producing markets in India, the higher price variations across the different seasons is a serious problem in the marketing behavior in Punjab. The lacking of cold storage facilities and the requirements of immediate cash money of the small and marginal farmers result panic sales of potato at the very low prices immediately after harvest. Roy (2012) and Das (2012) have studied the practices of contract farming regarding potato selling in the major potato producing and marketing states such as West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. High price fluctuations and hence uncertainties have become some common problems in the potato marketing in the state. To avoid the problems of market uncertainties and fluctuating returns, the potato growers have becoming more interested in the contract potato farming and selling practices as revealed in the study.

Khan and Khan (2012) have analysed the perspective of potato marketing and its impacts on the economic transformations particularly in the rural areas in the country. The authors have carried out a field study in Uttar Pradesh and tried to investigate how the efficient post harvest managements of agricultural crops including potato output encourage the farmers to increase production. Consequently, farmers’ income increases and standard of living improves, more employment opportunities have been generated which ultimately results transformation in the rural economy as revealed in the study.
2.5 Conclusion:

Form the above review of literatures; it is clear that there is no any empirical study regarding the topic of the present study. There is a research gap on the present subject of investigation that is the production and marketing of potato in Assam.

Thus the above empirical studies greatly help for understanding the status of potato production, costs and returns of potato production and its post harvest management, particularly in state of Assam. These literatures will also help to understand market efficiency of the crop in comparison to the neighbouring major potato growing state like West Bengal. These empirical works provide understanding of the subject and help for carry out the present research study on potato production and marketing in Assam.