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To  
The Editor,

Date: 25-3-2014

Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

### **Sell Bengal Gram upon Harvest**

Bengal gram is a very important pulse crop used as an edible seed and is a rich source of high-quality protein. It contains 25 per cent proteins, which is the maximum provided by any pulse.

The world's total production of Bengal gram was around 11.63 million tonnes during 2012-13 from an area of 12.34 million hectares. Generally the two types, Desi and Kabuli of Bengal gram contribute 80 per cent and 20 per cent respectively to the total production. India is the largest producer of this pulse contributing around 70 per cent of the world's total production followed by Pakistan, Turkey and Iran.

Madhya Pradesh produces the major share of around 45 per cent in the Indian production of about 7.70 million tonnes followed by Rajasthan and Maharashtra. India also exports some of its Bengal gram produce to USA, UK, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Sri Lanka and Malaysia. Bengal gram is sown in the months of September to November in India.

In Tamil Nadu, it is sown only in Karthigai pattam (October – November). During 2012-13 it was cultivated in an area of about 9800 hectares with a production of nearly 5800 tonnes and it is mainly cultivated in Tiruppur district with an area of about 3773 hectares followed by Coimbatore district. Udumalpet market is one of the main markets for Bengal gram and price data for last Ten years were collected and

analyzed. The econometric analysis revealed that price would be around Rs. 3700 - 3800 per quintal.

Current price of Bengal gram is Rs. 4000 per quintal (Udumalpet market). The Domestic and Export Market Intelligence Cell (DEMIC) analysis confirmed that Bengal gram price will be around Rs. 4000 per quintal during March 2014 for the big sized one.

Prices are not likely to increase in near future because higher production in major Bengal gram growing States. Hence, farmers are recommended to sell Bengal gram upon harvest.

**For further details contact:-**

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