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To  
The Editor,

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Sir,

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

### **Harvested Maize Fetches Better Price**

As per the Second Advance Estimates of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, during 2015-16, maize is cultivated in 9.0 million hectares with a production of 21.0 million tonnes in India, which was less than 2.17 and 13.11 per cent in area and production respectively, when compared to previous year. The major maize growing States are Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu. In Tamil Nadu major maize producing districts are Tiruppur, Dindigul, Theni, Tuticorin and Salem.

According to USDA reports, domestic consumption of maize in India is about One per cent for seed purpose, 42 per cent for poultry feed consumption and the remaining 57 per cent for making starch, cattle feed and other industrial purposes. Production of maize in Tamil Nadu satisfies only 50 per cent of our domestic requirement and the remaining is procured from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Bihar. Poultry firms started procuring maize from Bihar in mid of April. Trade sources reported that this year quality of Bihar maize is improved and it could be utilized for poultry feed. Some quantity of maize is stocked by both traders and poultry firms for future demand.

The maize production is above normal in Bihar. Also this year maize was imported from Ukraine and Brazil to compensate fall in domestic production which would reduce the existing demand supply gap of maize in the country. Due to these reasons prices would remain stable.

Hence, the price forecasting scheme of Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 13 years prices for maize that prevailed in Udumalpet Regulated Market. The econometric analysis and market surveys revealed that during summer months farmers could get a farm gate price of Rs.1400-1500/quintal for maize at Udumalpet market. Based on the above price, farmers are recommended to take appropriate selling decision.

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