Turmeric Price will be firm at harvest

India is the leading producer, consumer and exporter of turmeric in the world. According to the Third Advance Estimates of Spices Board and Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, in India turmeric is cultivated in an area of 1.85 lakh hectares with a production of 9.57 lakh tonnes during 2015-2016. Major states cultivating turmeric in India are Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Odisha. In Tamil Nadu, turmeric is grown in Erode, Salem, Dharmapuri and Namakkal districts.

India consumes about 92 per cent of its total turmeric production and exports accounts for the remaining production. The major export destinations of Indian turmeric are U.A.E., Japan, Iran, Malaysia, U.S.A and U.K.

The floods in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are expected to reduce the production of fresh turmeric in the current season. The standing crop in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are reported to be damaged due to long dry spell. According to traders sources, the carryover stocks of turmeric from 2016 are expected to be around 7-10 lakh bags (one bag equals 75 kg). Currently, the arrivals have started coming from Bhavani, Sathyamangalam and Mysore. Production of turmeric in Maharashtra state is expected to be higher. Even though the lesser production is expected in the traditional turmeric growing states, anticipated arrivals from Maharashtra will meet out the shortage.

The Price Forecasting Scheme of Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has analyzed the last 19 years of turmeric prices prevailed in Erode Regulated market. According to the results of analysis, farm gate price of good quality turmeric will

hover around Rs. 8,000-8,500 / quintal during harvest (January - February). Hence, farmers are advised to take selling decision accordingly.

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