

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1660
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012
TURMERIC PRICE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the steep fall in the prices of turmeric and the resultant loss to the farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has launched a scheme for fixing minimum support price for turmeric; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the farmers can offset their losses?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): The prices of agriculture commodities, including turmeric depends on various factors like production, demand, consumer preferences, purchasing power, etc. Details of Annual Average price of turmeric in the selected markets in Tamil Nadu and Kerala for the last three years are as under:

(Rs. per quintal)

Market	Variety	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13#
Chennai	Erode Finger	15300	9809	5915
Cochin	AFT(Allepy Finger Turmeric)	13031	10302	5002

Prices upto September, 2012.

Source: Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development.

(c) & (d): Since turmeric is a perishable commodity, it is not covered under Minimum Support Prices (MSP). However, it is covered under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), which is implemented by Ministry of Agriculture on the request of State Governments, for procurement of perishable and horticultural commodities in the event of fall in market prices. Details regarding implementation of MIS for turmeric based on the request of Government of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu implemented for procurement of turmeric in these states is stated below:-

State	Procurement Period	Market Intervention Price (per MT)	Procurement Target
Karnataka	10.02.2012-10.03.2012	Rs.4092/-	12,400MT
Andhra Pradesh	20.03.2012-20.04.2012	Rs.4000/-	54,000MT
Tamil Nadu	01.06.2012-31.07.2012	Rs.4000/-	35,000MT

In addition, several development programmes are being implemented through State Horticulture Mission under National Horticulture Mission programmes of Government of India. Major among them are area expansion, IPM/INM, Organic farming, Creation of Water Resources, Post-harvest management, Development of market yards, Human Resource Development etc. The Programmes like nucleus seed production of turmeric, technology dissemination through frontline demonstration of organic farming in turmeric are being implemented by the Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development at various State Agricultural University Centres. Export promotion programmes on turmeric are being implemented by Spices Board under Ministry of Commerce, Government of India.