



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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National Turmeric Board

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Why is in news? By establishing the National Turmeric Board, we aim to harness the potential of our turmeric farmers: PM

Prime Minister announced the formation of a National Turmeric Board to support turmeric farmers, addressing a long-standing demand.

He highlighted India's significant role in turmeric production and emphasized the need for a professional approach in the entire turmeric value chain, given increased global demand post-Covid.

India is the world's leading turmeric producer, and aims to **enhance its turmeric industry** through this initiative.

Turmeric:

Turmeric (**Curcuma longa**) is a **perennial herbaceous plant** of the ginger family.

The plant's underground stems or rhizomes have been used as a spice, dye, medicine, and religious maker since antiquity.

The spice's colour comes mainly from **curcumin**, a bright yellow phenolic compound that has been in the news for its ostensible potential to fight cancer. As a result, the demand for turmeric with high curcumin content has risen.

It requires temperatures between 20 and 30 °C (68 and 86 °F) and a considerable amount of annual rainfall to thrive.

Though it can be grown on different types of soils, it thrives best in **well-drained sandy or clay loam soils** with a pH range of 4.5-7.5 with good organic status.

India is the **largest producer and exporter of turmeric** in the world.

Turmeric occupies **about 6% of the total area under spices and condiments** in India.

Telangana was the **leading producer of turmeric** in India during 2022. Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu were second, third and fourth in the ranking that year.

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