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National Turmeric Board

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The **Government of India** has established the **National Turmeric Board** in **Telangana**, recognizing the state's significant role in turmeric cultivation and its contribution to India's global turmeric exports.

Significance:

- **Boosting Production & Quality:** Enhancing turmeric cultivation through research, improved farming practices, and value addition.
- Market Expansion: Strengthening domestic and international market linkages to increase exports and farmer profitability.
- Research & Innovation: Promoting scientific advancements, including high-yield and disease-resistant turmeric varieties.
- Farmer Support & Sustainability: Providing financial, technical, and infrastructural support to turmeric growers for better income and sustainability.

Key Objectives of the National Turmeric Board:

- **Enhancing Infrastructure & Logistics:** Strengthening supply chains to boost turmeric exports.
- **Preserving Traditional Knowledge:** Documenting indigenous uses of turmeric for health and wellness.
- Innovation & Value Addition: Promoting new turmeric-based products for diverse applications.
- Quality & Safety Assurance: Implementing strict standards across the turmeric supply chain.
- Market Expansion: Creating demand in both domestic and international markets.
- **Scientific Research & Trials:** Encouraging studies on turmeric's medicinal properties for wider applications.

Board Representation:

The Board will consist of a **Chairperson** appointed by the Central Government with representatives of the **Ministry of AYUSH**, **Department of Pharmaceuticals**, **Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Department of Commerce**, along with **rotating** senior representatives from **three states**.

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Key Facts About Turmeric:

Overview:

Turmeric is derived from the underground stem (**rhizome**) of the **Curcuma longa** plant, a member of the **ginger family (Zingiberaceae)**. It is widely recognized for its culinary, medicinal, and industrial applications.

Active Compound & Health Benefits:

- The bright **yellow color** of turmeric comes from **curcumin**, its key bioactive compound.
- Curcumin is known for its anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, and antimicrobial properties.
- It supports digestive health by stimulating bile production and helps in reducing inflammation and neutralizing free radicals, making it valuable in traditional and modern medicine.

Cultivation & Production:

- India cultivates over 30 varieties of turmeric across 20+ states.
- Major producing states include Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.
- India is the world's largest producer, consumer, and exporter of turmeric.

Global Standing:

- In 2022-23, India contributed to over 75% of the world's turmeric production and accounted for 62% of the global turmeric export market.
- The country exported **1,53,400 tonnes of turmeric and turmeric products**, generating revenue of **USD 207.45 million**.
- Major export destinations include Bangladesh, UAE, the United States, and Malaysia.

Geographical Indication (GI) Tagged Turmeric Varieties:

Several premium-quality turmeric varieties from India have received **GI** (**Geographical Indication**) tags, which certify their **unique origin-based characteristics**. Notable GI-tagged turmeric varieties include:

- Lakadong Turmeric (Meghalaya): High curcumin content, known for its superior medicinal value.
- Kandhamal Turmeric (Odisha): Organically grown, renowned for its rich aroma and deep yellow color.

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- Erode Turmeric (Tamil Nadu): Famous for its bright color and curcumin content.
- Armoor Turmeric (Nizamabad, Telangana): Highly sought after for its deep orange hue and medicinal benefits.

Significance & Applications:

Turmeric plays a **crucial role** in **traditional medicine** (Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha), modern pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and food industries. With its rising global demand, scientific research continues to explore its potential in cancer prevention, immune support, and chronic disease management.

India's leadership in turmeric production and exports, backed by ongoing **research**, **innovation**, **and quality assurance**, reinforces its **global dominance** in the turmeric industry.

The establishment of the **National Turmeric Board** fulfills a long-standing demand of Indian turmeric farmers, providing them with enhanced support, market access, and value addition. It also strengthens **India's global leadership** in turmeric exports, ensuring higher quality, better branding, and increased international market share.

Do You Know?

- In 2023, India ranked as the 8th largest agricultural exporter globally, despite a decline in export value from USD 51.12 billion (FY23) to USD 48.77 billion (FY24).
- India aims to triple organic produce exports to Rs 20,000 crore within the next three
 years.
- The National Turmeric Board has been initiative of Ministry of Commerce and Industry