

## **Tur price likely to remain firm, store and sell after March, 2021**

India is the largest producer of tur in the world, but its domestic consumption demand is quite high, needs to import every year. Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are major tur producing states in India. Current year in 2020-21 the *rabi* crops prospects are very good, but due to water stagnation in monsoon and following unseasonal rainfall in October, 2020 there were massive crop damage, particularly to black gram and tur in Gujarat and South Indian states.

The tur production in India was increased to 38.30 lakh tonnes in 2019-20 as against 33.15 lakh tonnes in 2018-19. Also the total pulses production increased from 220.76 lakh tonnes in 2018-19 to 231.15 lakh tonnes in 2019-20. However, tur price which was ruling around Rs. 960 per 20 kg in March-April, 2020 in various markets of Gujarat increased to Rs. 1000 in May, 2020 and further to Rs. 1375 in October, 2020. Currently it is ruling around Rs. 1150 per 20 kg in January, 2021, and likely to remain stable at this level at harvest, with slight ups and downs.

At country level in the current year of 2020-21 tur occupied about 46.16 lakh ha and production may be about 40 lakh tonnes, which is about 1.7 lakh tonnes higher than the last year, but about 3 lakh tonnes less than the 2017-18. The total pulses production may be slight higher than the last year (230.2 lakh tonnes). The import of arhar in India was 4.50 lakh tonnes in 2019-20 and total pulses 27.24 lakh tonnes. In current year from April to November, 2020 about 1.71 lakh tonnes tur and about 14.37 lakh tonnes total pulses has been imported.

In Gujarat, in current year, the tur acreage is estimated same as last year about 2.30 lakh ha and production about 2.54 lakh tonnes (Second Advance Estimate dt. 8-1-2021) which is slight higher than the last year (2.11 lakh tonnes) as the crop condition remained good.

Government of India has fixed the Minimum Support Price of (MSP) of tur for the *khariif* season of 2020-21 to Rs. 1200 per 20 kg (Rs. 6000 per quintal) as against Rs. 1160 in last year. In 2019-20 a total of 2 lakh tonnes of tur was procured by NAFED in country including 20 thousand tonnes from Gujarat.

Taking into consideration the production and market reports, the research team of Department of Agricultural Economics, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh, analysed the historical monthly price data of tur collected from Dahod Regulated Market with the aim to provide reliable market intelligence to farmers in taking their appropriate selling decision. The econometric analysis revealed that **the prices of tur during February - March, 2021 (i.e. during harvesting) may remain in the range of Rs. 1100 to 1200 per 20 Kg (Rs. 5500 - 6000 per quintal)**. Hence, farmers are suggested to take note of the above situation and take their own decision to store tur and sell after March, 2021. Those farmers who are not afforded to store tur, may sell at MSP, in APMC's centers for the same.

If Government policy of restricted quota of pulses import will be continued, there is some chance that tur prices may go slight up above MSP after the harvesting season is over.