

## **NATIONAL TURMERIC BOARD (NTB): NATIONAL**

**NEWS:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurate Turmeric Board headquarters in Nizamabad

### **WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?**

The Union Government inaugurated the headquarters of the National Turmeric Board in Telangana to boost turmeric research, value addition, exports, and farmer welfare, aiming for \$1 billion exports by 2030. The board will also ensure quality control, crop insurance, and promote the medicinal value of turmeric.

### **Context: Inauguration of National Turmeric Board (NTB)**

- The **Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation** inaugurated the **headquarters of the National Turmeric Board** in Nizamabad, Telangana.
- The Government of India has set a **target of achieving \$1 billion in turmeric exports by 2030**.

### **National Turmeric Board (NTB): Overview**

#### **1. Objective**

- The board aims at the **overall development, value chain enhancement**, and **global trade expansion** of the **turmeric sector** in India.
- It will help improve **quality, research, exports, marketing**, and **farmer welfare**.

#### **2. Headquarters**

- Located in **Nizamabad**, Telangana – a key turmeric cultivation belt.

#### **3. Composition of the Board**

- Includes members from:
  - **Central Ministries:**
    - Ministry of AYUSH
    - Department of Pharmaceuticals
    - Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
    - Department of Commerce
  - **States:**
    - Maharashtra
    - Telangana
    - Meghalaya (Lakadong Turmeric)

- Representation from states will be **rotational**
- **Others:**
  - Exporters
  - Producer organizations
  - Farmer representatives

#### 4. Significance

- The government will:
  - Allocate **special budgetary funds** for NTB
  - Set up a **price stabilization fund** to reduce farmer distress
  - Ensure **crop insurance** for turmeric farmers against natural calamities
  - Promote India's leadership in **turmeric-based wellness and export markets**

#### Functions of the National Turmeric Board

- **Research and Development:**
  - Promote innovation in turmeric varieties and value-added products.
  - Encourage scientific studies on turmeric's **health and industrial applications**.
- **Value Addition and Exports:**
  - Support creation and export of **processed turmeric products**.
  - Enhance India's **branding and presence** in the global spice market.
- **Market Awareness:**
  - Publicize the **medicinal and wellness properties** of turmeric.
  - Tap into the global **nutraceutical and Ayurveda market**.
- **Production and Logistics:**
  - Identify methods to **increase yield** and optimize **cultivation practices**.
  - Improve **post-harvest handling, processing, supply chains, and export logistics**.
- **Quality Control:**
  - Ensure **standardization and safety** of turmeric products.
  - Encourage **traceability and certification** systems to improve consumer trust.

## About Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*)

### 1. Botanical and Biological Details

- **Botanical name:** *Curcuma longa*
- **Family:** *Zingiberaceae* (Ginger family)
- **Plant Type:** Perennial, rhizomatous, and herbaceous
- **Native to:** Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia

### 2. Medicinal Properties

- Considered a “**wonder drug**” globally
- Possesses **anti-viral, anti-inflammatory, anti-cancer, and antioxidant** qualities
- Widely used in **Ayurveda, home remedies, and modern nutraceuticals**

## Turmeric Production and Exports in India

### 1. Production Leadership

- India is the **largest producer, consumer, and exporter** of turmeric globally.
- Produces **over 30 varieties** of turmeric across the country.

### 2. Area and Volume

- Cultivated in nearly **20 states**.
- **Maharashtra** is the **largest producer** by volume.
- **Telangana** has the **highest acreage** (area under cultivation).
- In 2023–24, India produced **10.74 lakh tonnes**, accounting for **over 70% of global production**.

### 3. Export Performance (2023–24)

- **1.62 lakh tonnes** exported
- Total export value: **\$226.5 million**
- India holds a **62% share in global turmeric trade**

## Geographical Indication (GI) Tagged Turmeric in India

- **Manjal/Turmeric** – *Erode, Tamil Nadu*
- **Lakadong Turmeric** – *Meghalaya* (high curcumin content)
- **Sangli Turmeric** – *Maharashtra*

- **Waigaon Turmeric** – *Maharashtra*

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