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To
The Editor,

Date: 20-10-2015

Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

Sowing of Coriander will be Remunerative

Coriander is one of the important seed spices which form the base for most Indian curries. According to Third advance estimates of Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, in 2014-15 the production will be 3.4 lakh tonnes which is 10 per cent higher than the previous year. The major producers in India are Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. Coriander is exported to other countries as powder and oil form.

In 2013-14, coriander was cultivated in 7527 hectare with production of 2614 tonnes in Tamil Nadu. Thoothukudi ranked first in area (2237 ha) followed by Krishnagiri, Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar. Nearly 90 per cent of area is grown under rainfed condition in Tamil Nadu.

At present, the price prevailed at Virudhunagar market was Rs.11,500 per quintal. Trade sources reported that the expected arrivals from Rajasthan during February-March, 2016 will influence the coriander price. Even though arrivals from other states influence the price, Tamil Nadu coriander will fetch higher price because of its quality.

DEMIC analysis revealed that farm gate price of coriander during harvest i.e., in February-March, 2016 will be around Rs.9000-9500 per quintal. Harvesting stage of coriander is most important when the seeds turn golden brown in color which will

fetch better price. Based on this price, farmers are advised to take up decision on sowing of coriander.

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