

Inauguration of National Turmeric Board in Nizamabad

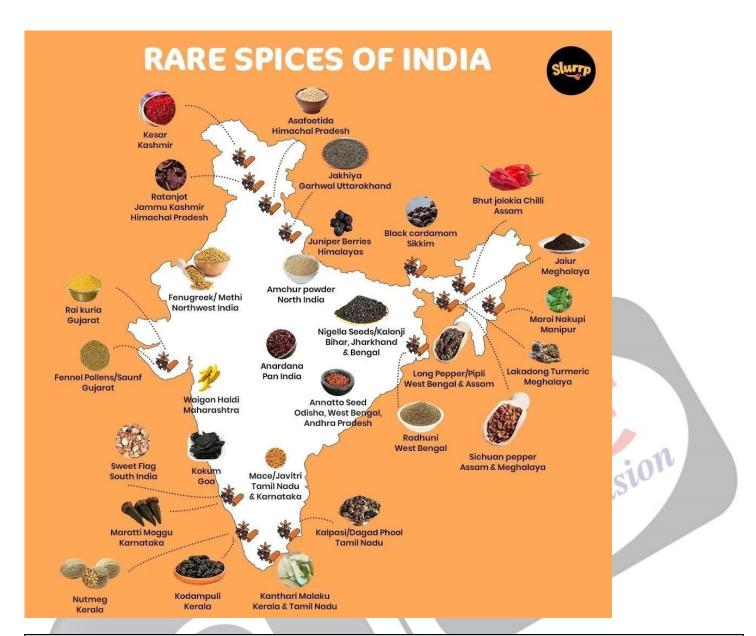
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The Union Home Minister inaugurated the National Turmeric Board in Nizamabad, Telangana, to develop a complete value chain for turmeric, including packaging, branding, marketing, and export.

- Operating under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the board aims to reduce middlemen, promote GI-tagged organic turmeric, and train farmers in best practices.
- Previously, the Spices Board managed turmeric promotion along with over 50 other spices.

Turmeric

- About: <u>Turmeric</u> is an underground stem (rhizome) of the <u>Curcuma longa plant</u>, which is part of the <u>ginger family</u> (<u>Zingiberaceae</u>).
 - <u>Curcumin</u>, the active compound in turmeric, gives it its <u>yellow color</u> and is known for its <u>anti-inflammatory</u>, <u>antioxidant</u>, <u>and antimicrobial benefits</u>.
- Cultivation: India cultivates 30+ turmeric varieties across 20+ states, with major producers being Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.
 - Turmeric requires a tropical climate with 20-30°C temperature, 1500+ mm annual rainfall, and well-drained sandy or clay loam soils for optimal growth.
- Global Standing: India is the world's largest producer, consumer, and exporter of turmeric.
 - In 2022-23, it contributed **over 75%** of global production and held a **62% share** in global exports.
- Export Data: India exported turmeric and related products worth USD 207.45 million in 2022-23, mainly to Bangladesh, UAE, USA, and Malaysia, and aims to reach USD 1 billion in turmeric exports by 2030.
- GI Tags: GI-certified varieties include Lakadong turmeric (Meghalaya), Kandhamal turmeric (Odisha), Erode turmeric (Tamil Nadu).
- Health Benefits: Curcumin helps in reducing inflammation, fighting oxidative stress, and aiding digestion by enhancing bile production, making turmeric significant in traditional and modern medicine.



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