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To  
The Editor,

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Sir,

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

### **Store and Sell Rabi Maize for Better Price**

In India, maize area is reduced in current year (2014-15) to Rs. 12.22 lakhs hectares against Rs. 12.63 lakhs hectares during last year. Bihar is the major producer of maize accounted for 32 per cent of country's total cultivation area followed by Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka. But, these states have reduced their cultivation area due to crop diversification.

Tamil Nadu ranks fourth place in maize cultivation area and it is increased from Rs. 1.25 lakhs ha in 2013-14 to Rs. 1.74 lakhs ha in Rabi, 2014-15. Thoothukudi, Virudhunagar, Dindigul, Tirunelveli, Triuppur and Salem area the major Rabi maize producing districts in Tamil Nadu. Arrivals from Karnataka have ceased market arrivals from Tamil Nadu above to begin. At present, maize prices prevailing at Rs. 1330-1360 per quintal in Udumalpet regulated market. The poor quality maize (high moisture content and damaged grains) get lower price of Rs. 50-100/quintal compared with good quality maize in market.

Under these circumstances, Back office of Agro Marketing Intelligence and Business Promotion Centre (AMI & BPC) in the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has analyzed the wholesale prices of maize that prevailed during the last 14 years in Udumalpet regulated market to provide market intelligence for the major maize growing districts.

The back office of AMI & BPC analysis revealed that the price for the good quality maize grains will prevail around Rs. 1420-1450 per quintal during viz., June-July, 2015. Hence, farmers are requested to store and sell maize grains in June, 2015 for better price.

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