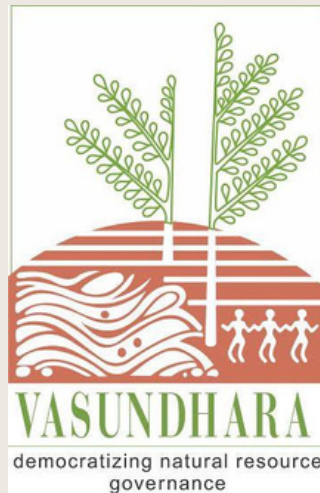
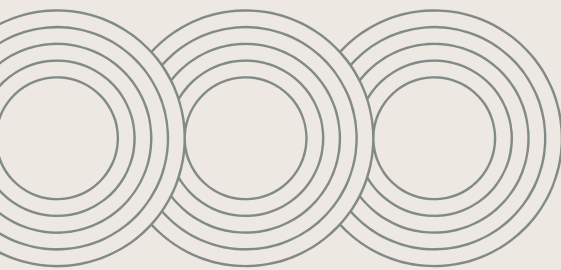


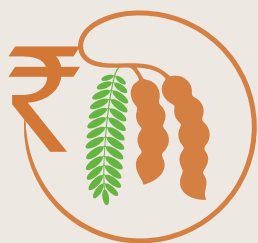
MSP DENIED



Tamarind

A CASE STUDY





WHAT IS MSP ?

MSP is a form of government intervention to ensure the farmers/NTFP gatherers against a steep decline in the prices of their goods and to help them prevent losses.

Under Forest Rights Act, 2006, "minor forest produce" includes all non-timber forest produce of plant origin including bamboo, brush wood, stumps, cane, tussar, cocoons, honey, wax, lac, tendu or kendu leaves, medicinal plants and herbs, roots, tubers and the like.

The Act gives the “right of ownership, access to collect, use and dispose of minor forest produce which has been traditionally collected within or outside village boundaries.”

To ensure fair returns to forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers and as a solution to problems they were facing, such as the perishable nature of the produce, lack of holding capacity, lack of marketing infrastructure, exploitation by middlemen, and low government intervention at the required time, the scheme, “***Mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce(MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP***” was formulated by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs as a measure of social safety for MFP gatherers was implemented in 2013.

The Scheme for MSP for MFP and the development of the value chain was started by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) in the FY 2013-14 to provide a fair price to MFP gatherers, enhancing their income level and ensuring sustainable harvesting of MFPs. The objective of the MSP for the MFP scheme is to establish a framework for ensuring fair prices for the tribal gatherers, primary processing, storage, transportation, etc. while ensuring the sustainability of the resource base.

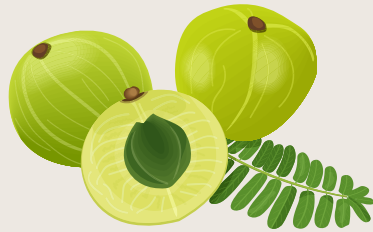
Source: <https://trifed.tribal.gov.in/program/non-timber>



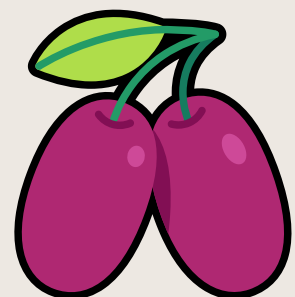
LIST OF MFPS UNDER MSP SCHEME



1. Seeded Tamarind
2. De-seeded Tamarind
3. Wild Honey
4. Gum Karaya
5. Karanja Seed
6. Sal Seed
7. Mahua Seed
8. Sal Leaves
9. Chironji pods with seeds
10. Myrobalan
11. Kusumi Lac
12. Kusum Lac
13. Kusum Seeds
13. Neem Seeds
14. Puwad Seeds
15. Baheda
16. Hill Broom Grass
17. Dry Sikakai Pods
18. Bael Pulp
19. Nagarmatha
20. Shatavari Roots
21. Gudmar/ Madhunashini
22. Kalmegh
23. Guggul
24. Mahua Flower (Dried)
25. Tejpatta
26. Dried Jamun Seeds
27. Dried Amla Pulp (de-seeded)
28. Marking Nut
29. Dried Soap Nut
30. Bhava Seed
31. Arjun Bark
32. Kokum (Dry)



33. Giloe
34. Kaunch Seed
35. Chirata
36. Vaybidding/ Vavding
37. Dhavaiphool (Dried)
38. Nux Vomica
39. Ban Tulasi Leaves
40. Kshirni
41. Bakul (Dried Bark)
42. Kutaj (Dried Bark)
43. Noni/ Aal (Dried Fruits)
44. Sonapatha/ Syonak Pods
45. Chanothi Seeds
46. Kalihari (Dried Tubers)
47. Makoi (Dried Fruits)
48. Apang Plant
49. Sugandhamantri Roots
50. Ban Tulasi Seeds
51. Van Jeera
52. Tamarind Seed
53. Bamboo Brooms
54. Dry Anola
55. Kachri Baheda
56. Kachri Harrda
57. Seed Lac
58. Tassar Cocoon
59. Cashew Kernel
60. Malkangni Seed
61. Mahul Leaves (Siali)
62. Nagod
63. Gokhru
64. Pipla (Dried Berry)
65. Shringraj



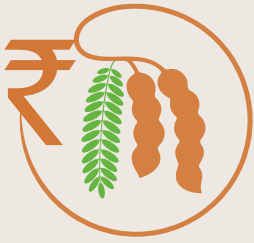
PROCUREMENT OF MFPS UNDER MSP SCHEME BY TDCCOL

Year	Quantity in MT	Value (Rs. In Lakh)	No. of MFPs
2014-15	17.89	3.94	1
2015-16	420.57	95.23	6
2016-17	470.77	163.76	6
2017-18	1072.69	106.92	2
2018-19	3.879	3.61	1
2019-20	122.74	36.21	2
2020-21	14363.58	3033.04	9
2021-22	2508.53	771.67	4
2022-23	5966.69	2163.11	3



MFP	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	
	Qty in MT	Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Qty in MT	Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Qty in MT	Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Qty in MT	Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Qty in MT	Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Qty in MT	Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Qty in MT	Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Qty in MT	Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Qty in MT	Value (Rs. in Lakh)
Seeded Tamarind			303.00	66.66	72.20	15.88					111.22	34.48	915.90	329.72	1661.76	598.23	5907.07	2126.54
Karanja Seeds			16.08	3.38	0.39	0.08							0.00	0.00				
Sal Seeds			23.24	2.32	191.17	19.12	1055.44	105.54					13353.92	2670.78	832.51	166.50		
Mahua Seeds	17.89	3.94	44.43	9.78	2.47	0.54							85.48	24.79				
Chiranjee Seeds			10.53	10.53	118.69	118.69			3.879	3.61			4.11	5.18				
Myrobalan			23.29	2.56	85.84	9.44	17.25	1.38			11.52	1.73	1.49	0.22	4.27	0.64	2.07	0.31
Hill Brooms													1.88	0.94				
Honey													0.70	1.37				
Baheda													0.08	0.01				
De Seeded Tamarind													0.04	0.02	9.99	6.29	57.55	36.26
Total	17.89	3.94	420.57	95.23	470.77	163.76	1072.69	106.92	3.879	3.61	122.7	36.21	14363.58	3033.04	2508.53	771.67	5966.688	2163.11
Grand Total	Qty in MT																	
	24947.34																	
	Value (Rs. in Lakh)																	
	6377.48																	

PROCUREMENT OF MFPS UNDER MSP SCHEME BY TDCCOL SINCE 2014 TO 2023 FOR 10 MFPS IN ODISHA



TAMARIND: A PROFILE

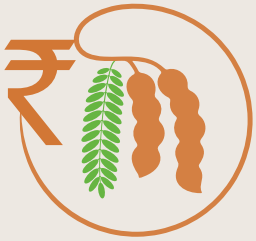


India is the world's largest producer of tamarind, which is collected from trees growing on all types of lands – forest, common, and private. Tamarind has a huge domestic and overseas market and commands a good price from the end consumers.

Tamarind is of immense food value, especially in the southern districts of Odisha and other southern states of India. Apart from being used in preparing pickles, charu, and juice, tamarind has several medicinal uses including maintaining body temperature and digestion. In some places tamarind seed powder is also used as cattle feed.

Collection and Processing

The collection generally starts in the month of February-March and continues till June. Tribals collect raw tamarind and sell it to authorized agents at the rates fixed by the government. They are collected from government forests, privately owned trees as well as community lands. During a high production or bumper year, one person working from 7 in the morning to 4 in the afternoon can collect 30 - 50 kg of tamarind.

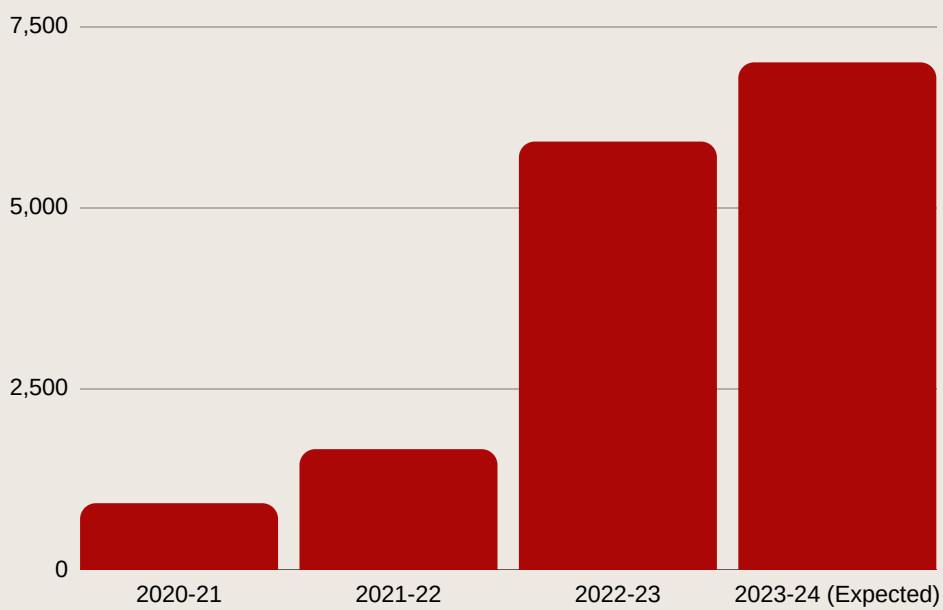


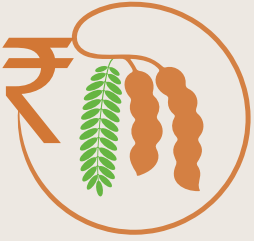
TAMARIND UNDER MSP IN ODISHA



After implementing MSP for MFPs in 2014, de-seeded tamarind was procured from Odisha only in 2020. Odisha contributes to 10 - 15% of India's tamarind production. The MSP value since 2020 is Rs 36/kg.


Odisha's annual production capacity : 20,000 MT






TAMARIND UNDER MSP IN ODISHA

In April 2023, a guideline was issued by TDCCOL explicitly to procure seeded tamarind where distress sale of tamarind is being observed. The letter was addressed to branch managers from southern Odisha districts and their blocks. The collection price was Rs 36 per kg for seeded tamarind and Rs 63 per kg for deseeded tamarind. However, despite the guidelines, there is little change on the ground as most people are unaware and continue to sell the produce to local traders at throw away prices.



 **TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATIVE CORPORATION OF ORISSA LTD (TDCCOL)**
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Letter No. ⁶⁵⁶/TDCCOL, Date. 28/04/2023

From
Dr. Poma Tudu, IAS
Managing Director

To
The Branch Managers,
Nuapada, Bhawanipatna, Rayagada, Umerkote, Sunabeda, Malkangiri, Sundargarh, Udala,
Keonjhar, Lahunipara, R.Udayagiri, Baliguda & Sambalpur

Sub: Guidelines for procurement of Tamarind 2023 Crop under "MSP" scheme" in Odisha

1. Area of Operation:

It has been decided to procure Seeded Tamarind 2023 Crop in different districts where distress sale of Tamarind will be noticed and will be stored in different cold storages.

2. Collection Price:

Seeded Tamarind of FAQ shall be collected at the MSP price i.e Rs.36.00 per Kg and De-Seeded Tamarind @ Rs.63.00 per Kg. All records relating to the procurement should be maintained and preserved properly in systematic order for verification by MoTA/TRIFED/Other agencies.

3. Mode of Collection:

Procurement of Tamarind should only be made from the Primary Collectors through SHGs / VDVK / Primary Procurement Agencies (PPA) / Mission Shakti SHGs / ORMAS SHGs / VSS.

4. Mode of Payment:

Payment of MSP to the Primary Collectors should be made through direct transfer to their bank A/c. The Branch Manager is to maintain data base of primary collectors/ SHGs / VDVK / Primary Procurement Agencies (PPA) / Mission Shakti SHGs / ORMAS SHGs / VSS. The payment should be released within seven days of procurement. No cash transaction is allowed. Before release of payment to the Primary Collector who has sold more than 10 qtls, the authenticity of the collection should be verified and specified in the purchase register.



GROUND TESTIMONIES



“**This year**, I expected to make a good income from tamarind. That income was to be used in the marriage of my sister-in-law. But there has been no procurement under MSP this year. So, I had to sell it off to the local trader at Rs 21 price,” says Suniti Majhi, a native of Mandam village of Mayurbhanj district’s Jashipur block.

Suniti lives with her husband, three

children, parents-in-law, and sister-in-law. The men in the family are occupied with farming on land less than an acre owned by them, while the women venture into the jungle to collect non-timber forest produce. The family depends on selling these products in the local market.

The men of the family resort to farming, while the women collect and sell small forest products, especially mahua, and tamarind.

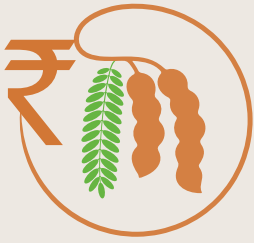
“A major part of my day is spent collecting the forest produce in the forest. If we cannot earn anything from it, how will we sustain?” Suniti asks.

Like Suniti, the story resonates across villages, where the local forest produce is not bought at MSP, forcing the families to sell it off to local traders at throwaway prices.

The government procures tamarind from 13 of the 30 districts in the state, leaving the others in a lurch. The process of collecting tamarind begins towards the end of February and continues till the end of May.

But it was learned that there was no dissemination of information regarding procurement at the village or panchayat level. The notification, too has not been published at the state level. This has led primary collectors to collect tamarind from the forest and sell them to local traders.

When sold to local traders, the price varies from Rs 5 to Rs 25 per kg as against the MSP of Rs 36.



GROUND TESTIMONIES

Kalavati Nayak, a native of Daspalla said, "We know that MSP exists, but we have never benefitted from it. When the forest products are ours, then it is our right to sell it and earn a revenue. No one can deprive us of it." Sitarani Hasda of Rairangpur region says, "I sold two quintal of tamarind a week ago and earned Rs 5,000. Although the government has set a



price of Rs 36 per kilo, but the local traders refuse to pay so much. As a result, I was forced to sell the tamarind in the open market.

Women will be most affected:

Tamarind is one of the major products which provides maximum income to women. But compared to a woman's effort from collection to selling, the revenue earned is trifling.

Plucking from Small trees takes 7 to 8 hours a day and usually 2 to 3 days for big trees. Women and children from all households are involved in gathering the tamarind. After gathering, the tamarind is cleaned and dried for two to three days to make them suitable for sale. The entire process usually takes seven days.

Malti Pingua, a Punei Chand producer group member in Mandam village of Banshanali Panchayat, Jashipur Block, says, "Last year, the government procured nearly two quintals of tamarind at MSP. Even now, we have more than 1 quintal of tamarind."

With the leftover quantity, the villagers have not started plucking the leaves, fearing no sale.



COST VARIATION

At MSP : Rs 3600/Quintal



71 %

Highest Market Price: ₹2500/Quintal
When sold to local traders

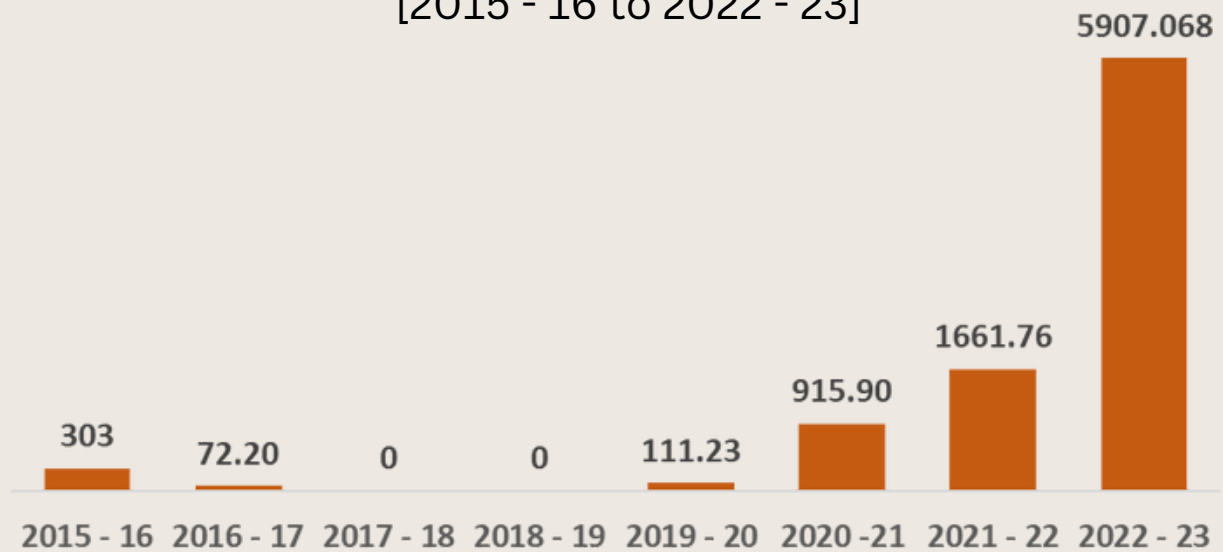


28 %

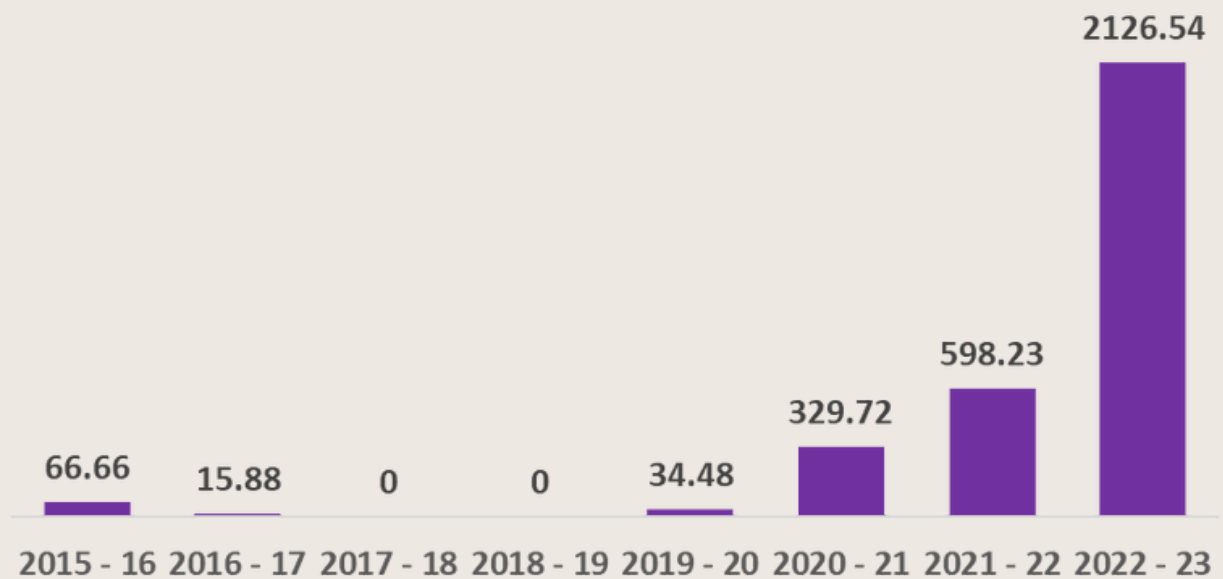
Lowest Market Price: ₹1000.00/Quintal
When sold to local traders

Quantum of Tamarind Procured

[2015 - 16 to 2022 - 23]

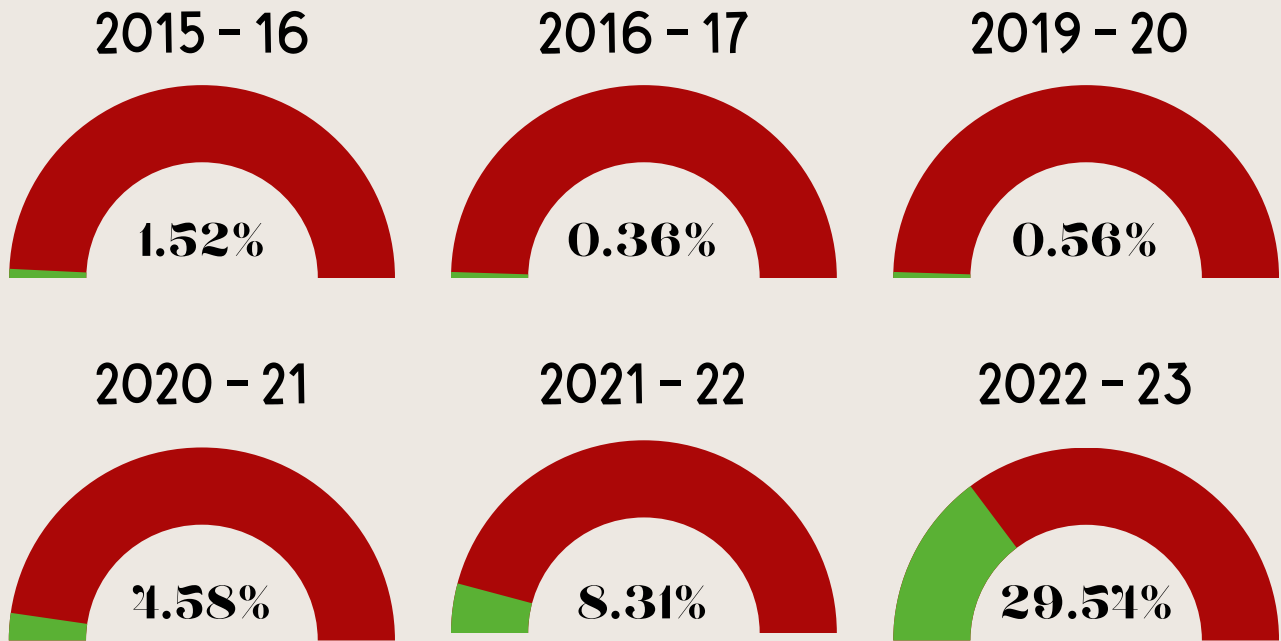


Procurement Value (in lakhs)





Procurement of Tamarind against Minimum Potential



TDCC, the State Nodal Procurement Agency under the MSP scheme, has procured 8971.15 MT of Tamarind since 2015 - 16.

The average procurement per year is around 1121 MT, which is around 5.61% of the minimum potential production of the State.