

CHAPTER-1

CHAPTER -1

Sangli City: The Turmeric city of India

1.1) Sangli District

1.2) Sangli city: the Turmeric city in India



Turmeric



Turmeric & Raw Turmeric

CHAPTER -1

SANGLI CITY: THE TURMERIC CITY OF INDIA

1) SANGLI DISTRICT

The physical settings of Sangli District shows a contrast of immense dimensions and reveals a variety of landscapes influenced by relief, climate and vegetation. The climate ranges from the rainiest in the Chandoli (Shirala) region, which has an average annual rainfall of over 4000 mm, to the driest in Atpadi and Jath tehsils where the average annual rainfall is about 500 mm. The vegetal cover too varies from the typical monsoon forest in the western parts to scrub and poor grass in the eastern parts. The Sangli district comes under Deccan plateau geographic region.

Sangli district is known as turmeric market in India. Sangli is famous for the main important market of turmeric in India. The name of Sangli city highlighted on world map due to only turmeric business in Sangli. 100 year's tradition of turmeric business in Sangli city is grown by its human being, instrument as well as natural resources. In near by areas of Sangli city turmeric business is developed due to weather, hard working farmer and good land.

In Sangli district Jath, Khanapur, Kavatemahankal and Miraj are main turmeric producing talukas. For the produced turmeric above talukas got government controlled market yard, for sell and purchase of turmeric in large scale.

Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Bihar, Orrisa and Kerala states send their produced turmeric to sell in Sangli city market

2) SANGLI CITY: THE TERMARIC CITY IN INDIA

The city derives its name from "Saha Galli" ("Six Lanes" in Marathi). Sangli city is known as Natyapandhari, the birthplace of Marathi drama. It has a historic Ganpati temple built in the 18th century by ruling Patwardhan dynasty of Sangli, appointed by Peshwas of Pune. The temple attracts thousands of devotees year around. Sangli city is situated on the banks of Krishna River.

Sangli has the largest trading centre for turmeric & Raisin (Kishmish) in Asia. The green city is inside 'Sugar Belt' of Maharashtra. The district has more than thirty sugar factories, which makes it among the highest sugar-producing districts of India.

In Sangli city there is main business of sell and purchase turmeric and making turmeric powder production and sell. In nearby areas of Sangli city geographical and environmental condition are favorable for storage and production of turmeric.

For business growth man made and natural, both facilities are essential in those particular areas. There is need of some facilities like raw material, clean and good weather condition, plenty of water resources, electricity, open space for the factory, transport and travel facility, skilled worker and good businessman to invest money in business.

But in Sangli city geographical and environmental conditions are favorable for storage and production of turmeric so there is growth of turmeric business in Sangli city.

Another reason is that in time of Sangli Sansthan also gave support for turmeric business so that turmeric business made growth. In Sangli there was natural storage system for turmeric. Natural storage system was based at Haripur 3Km.away form Sangli city .Natural storage system help the raw turmeric to enrich the quality of turmeric. So the natural storage system is to also one of the factors for growth of the turmeric business in Sangli city. Due to natural storage system turmeric did not get damaged, it gets extra weight and due to humpty climate gets extra colour.

Sangli is famous for the turmeric business so another business came that is making of turmeric power. The turmeric powder made in Sangli city factory sold all over India and it is also exported to other countries like Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, United Emirate, England, France, America etc.

The country's sole turmeric exchange in Sangli city boasts of secrets gained through a centuries-old practice -- storing turmeric in pits. These underground pits for storing turmeric stretch out in the open fields of the villages of Haripur and Sangalwadi in the Sangli. It is possibly the most unique agri-commodity storing system in the country.

After clearing the loose soil covering the pit, it is left open for about two to three hours. One cannot enter the pit until one finds out if there is any oxygen within. To ascertain this, a lantern is lowered into the pit. If the lantern does not

go off, it is safe to enter the pit. It is this indigenous storing system, devised probably 200 years ago that has turned Sangli into a major trading centre for turmeric. Today, the country's sole turmeric exchange is in Sangli. Measuring 18 to 20 feet deep, the pits are considered the best storing areas for turmeric. Raw turmeric sold by farmers is stored in these underground pits for three to four years. These pits provide the best storage facility for turmeric as the quality of the commodity remains unchanged. This storage system has an added advantage in that the turmeric hardens and matures while in storage.

Today, more than 90% of Turmeric trade in India takes place in Sangli. That's why Turmeric City of Sangli is the undoubted Capital of Turmeric Trade in Asia.

Reference:

Chintamni Shastrbudhe --‘Sanglichaya Paulkhuna’

Publised by – Sakal Press Prakashan,

Publishing Year – 2006