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SATURDAY

MALAYSIAN PALM OIL POSTS 2ND YEARLY LOSSES

Malaysian palm oil on 29th December 2023 is up by RM 5 or 0.13% to RM 3744 (\$ 815.69) and posts 2nd consequtive yearly losses, last 10% for the year. December 1-15 palm oil exports from Malaysia is estimated to be down by 4% to 16% from November 2023, according to the surveyors data of intertek testing services and Amspec Agro Malaysia. Palm oil prices at Chicago and Dalian were down.

FREE IMPORT POLICY FOR TUR, URID DAL TILL MARCH 2025

Government announced there will be no restrictions on imports of Tur and Urad dal until 2025 March, in order to boost their supply in domestic market and maintain stable prices. The free import policy of urid and tur stands extended upto March 31, 2025, The Directorate General of Foreign Trade(DGFT) stated in notification.

INDIA AIMS TO INCREASE BANANA EXPORTS TO \$1 BILLION IN NEXT 5 YEARS

After successfully exporting a trail shipment of Banans to the Netherlands through sea route, India now aiming to increase exports of Banana to 1 \$ billion next 5 years, according to the sources. At present exports of most of the fruits from India are happening by air are happing by air route because of lower volumes and different ripening periods. To increase volumes, India is developing sea protocols for fresh fruits and vegetables, such as Bananas, Mangoes, Pomogranates and Jackfruit to promote their exports through ocean routes. The protocol includes understanding voyage time, scientifically understanding the ripening of these commodities harvesting at a particular time and training of farmers. These protocols will be different for different fruits and vegetables. The Agricultutal and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority(APEDA) along with other stockholders, has developed these protocols for Bananas. With successful trail shipment, India aims to export bananas worth over USD one billion in the next 5 years. Opening doors to diversified market portfolio through sea route according to the officials. The trail shipment reached Rotterdam, Netherlands on December 5. The consignment was shipped from Baramati, Maharastra. India's Banana export destinations extend beyond the Middle East with potential opportunities in major global players, such as the United States, Russia, Japan, Germany, China, The Netharlands, The United Kingdom and France according to the officials. Despite being the world's largest producer, India's export share in currently just 1% in the global market, eventhough the country accounts for 26.45 percent of the world's Banana production at 35-36 million tons. In 2022-23 India exported Bananas worth \$176 million, equivalent to 0.36 MMT. The main Banana producing states include Andhrapradesh, Maharastra, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Uttarpradesh and Kerala. Assistant Professor and Export on Agri Economics Chirala Shanker Rao said that huge export potential for Bananas is there from Andhrapradesh. APEDA's continous efforts including B2B exhibitions and development of sea protocols of other fruits, highlight a proactive approach to boost India's agricultural exports according to the officials.