



Government of Karnataka

***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in  
APMCs through Electronic Weighing System***



***Documentation supported by:***

*Department Of Administrative Reforms And Public Grievances*

*Ministry Of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pension*

*Government Of India*



***Index***

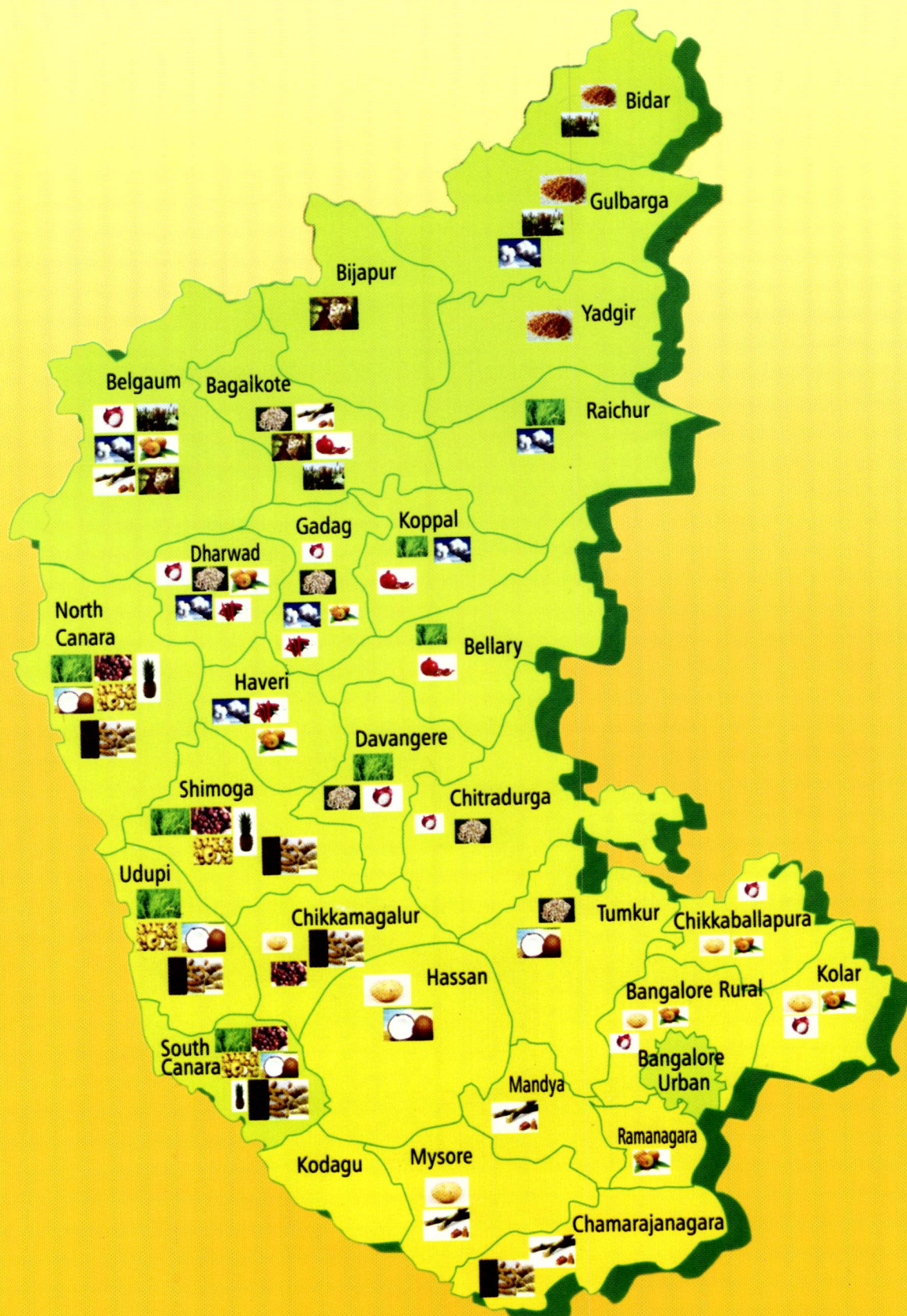
- ❖ **Background**
- ❖ **Introduction**
- ❖ **Objectives of APMCs**
- ❖ **Situation before the Practice**
- ❖ **Encounters and challenges**
- ❖ **Evaluation**
- ❖ **Results achieved/ anticipated**
- ❖ **Benefits of Electronic Weighing Scales**

***Annexure***

- ❖ **List of Notified Commodities - Annexure - 1**
- ❖ **Major Commodities & Markets of Karnataka Annexure -2**



***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs  
through Electronic Weighing System***





## ***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs through Electronic Weighing System***

### **Background:**

Government policy related to agricultural marketing dates back to the 1930s and was primarily oriented to protect the interest of farmers. Recognizing the problems plaguing the sector, namely, low price realization, high transaction cost and considerable post-harvest losses in agricultural produce in the entire value chain, almost all State Governments introduced legislation, market participation & behavior and related aspects during 1960s.

The Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) Act, 1966

Karnataka has had a long history of regulated markets, even before many other states conceived the idea. Bailhongal market in Belgaum district was the first regulated market to be established in 1936 in the then Bombay presidency, Tiptur in Tumkur district in 1948 in the then Mysore state. May other districts followed the trend.

After reorganization of states, recognizing the importance of a unified legislation, the Karnataka legislature enacted a statute to provide for improved regulation in the marketing of agricultural produce, development of an efficient marketing system, promotion of agri-processing, agricultural export and the establishment and proper administration of markets for agricultural produce. It put in place an effective infrastructure for marketing of agricultural produce and laid down procedures and systems in the state.

Thus, the Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) Act, 1966 was given effect from May 1, 1968 by repealing and replacing the following enactments.

1. The Bombay Agricultural Produce Markets Act 1939 (Bombay Act 22 of 1936) as in force in the Bombay area;
2. The Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act, 1933 (Madras Act 20 of 1933) as in force in the Madras Area and as in force in Bellary District;
3. The Coorg Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1956 (Coorg Act 7 to 1956) as in force in the Coorg District;
4. The Hyderabad Agricultural Market Act, 1339F (Hyderabad Act 2 of 1339F) as in force in the Hyderabad Area;
5. The Mysore Agricultural Produce Markets Act. 1939 (Mysore Act 16 of 1939) as in force in the Mysore Area.

The growth in the agricultural marketing infrastructure can be assessed from the increase in the number of regulated market yards, from a meagre 286 at the time of independence in the whole country to 511 regulated markets in the state of Karnataka alone.

### ***Salient provisions of the Act***

**Constitution of Market Committees:** The Act provides for constitution of market committees, representing agriculturists, traders & commission agents, agricultural co-operative processing societies, co-operative marketing societies and nominees of the state government with appropriate provisions for participation of disadvantage sections. The Committee members elect amongst the agriculturists members the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the market committee, who manage the affairs of the market, under the overall superintendence of the market committee.



## ***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs through Electronic Weighing System***

**Powers and duties of the market committees :** Development of market yards by providing infrastructural facilities for marketing of notified agricultural produce, managing market yards, granting of licenses to market functionaries, supervising the conduct of market functionaries, regulating the trade in the form of enforcement of licensing conditions, ensuring weighment, delivery, payment and all other matters relating to marketing of notified agricultural produce, settlement of disputes between the seller and the buyer, disseminating market information, levy and collection of market fee, setup and promote private and public partnership ventures in the management of market yards and prosecuting persons for violating the Act, Rules and bye-laws and managing the market committee funds are some of the important functions of market committees.

**Marketing Board :** The Act provides for constitution of the State Agricultural Marketing Board to take up promotional activities like, promotion of grading, training, extension, research, printing and publications, welfare etc.

**Private markets :** The Act also provides for establishing private market yards, direct purchase centers, farmer-consumer markets, spot exchanges, contract farming, and special commodity markets.

### **Directorate of Agricultural Marketing and its relationship with market committees**

The Department of Agricultural Marketing was originally a part of the office of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies in the Department of Co-operation in the government secretariat till 1972. Since then, it is functioning as an independent department, under the administrative control of the Co-operation department, headed by the Principal Secretary to Government. The Minister in charge of the department is also the Chairman of the Karnataka State Agricultural Marketing Board.

### **Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMC's)**

Have been established by the state government under the provisions of the Act. The market area of an APMC shall not be less than a taluk and cannot exceed the jurisdiction of a district. Special commodity markets can be established with suitable modifications as regards to the market area, constitution of the committee etc.

The Director of Agricultural Marketing is empowered to declare appropriate markets, market yards, market sub-yards, sub-markets and sub-market yards. The Director is the budget sanctioning authority for the APMCs in the State. He is the approving authority for plans and estimates for works to be taken up by the APMCs in the state. The Director is responsible for the implementation of the Act and the rules made there under.

The Director is the licensing authority for establishing private markets, direct purchase centers, farmer-consumer market, spot exchange, and granting of unified license for trading in the APMCs in the State. He is the appellate authority to hear appeals in respect of the orders of the market committee relating to cancellation and suspension of licenses etc.

Officers and the staff of the market committee are government servants whose pay and allowances are paid by the State Government and the market committees reimburse the same to the government by making contributions to the State Consolidated Fund.



## ***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs through Electronic Weighing System***

One of the duties of the APMCs is to ensure current weighment of produce brought and sold in the market yards.

### **Preface:**

Introduction of Electronic Weighing Scales in the APMCs is the new system to ensure correct weighment of produce being sold by the farmers. This will help the farmer to get the complete payment for his complete produce based on the price discovered in the market. This is an objective method of deciding the quantity of the commodities sold by farmers to the traders.

### **Introduction:**

Efficient Agricultural marketing system is a prerequisite for enhancing and sustenance of agricultural growth. Better price for the commodities encourages farmers to grow more produces. Better infrastructure facilities in the markets attract traders to participate in the bid process. Keeping this in mind the primary agricultural markets in the country have been brought under regulatory practices in order to provide a better organized markets for the farmers.

Agricultural market in India has made notable progress since independence, but many challenges still remain more efforts should be made at all legal, policy matters and practices to strengthen the marketing system which will help augment production and productivity leading to food security and inclusive growth of the country.

Organized marketing of agricultural commodities has been promoted in the country through a network of regulated markets. The basic objectives of setting up of network of physical markets has been to ensure reasonable gain to the farmers by creating environment in market for fair play of supply and demand forces, regulate market practices and attain transparency in transactions. To cope with the need to handle increasing agricultural production the number of regulated markets has been increasing in the country and today the number is about 7,114.

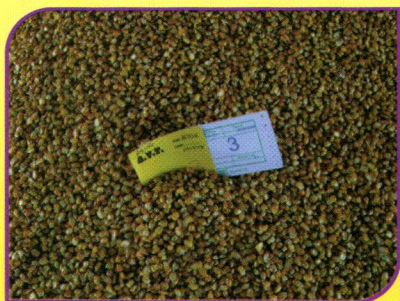
In Karnataka there are 156 main markets and 355 sub-markets. The Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) Act, 1966 and Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) Rules 1968 provide for improved regulation in the marketing of agricultural produce, development of efficient marketing system, promotion of agricultural processing, agricultural exports and the establishment and proper administration of markets for agricultural produce and for this purpose to put in place an effective infrastructure for marketing of agricultural produce in the state of Karnataka.



## ***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs through Electronic Weighing System***

### ***Objectives of APMCs:***

The Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) have been established with the main objective of bringing better agricultural marketing practices in the primary wholesale markets to ensure correct weighment of produce, competitive price, rationalise market charges and ensure timely payment of sale proceeds to farmers. The other main objective is to provide basic infrastructure facilities for trading of agricultural commodities including independent market place or market yard, auction platforms, godowns, shops, roads, sanitary and water supply facility, market information facilities etc.

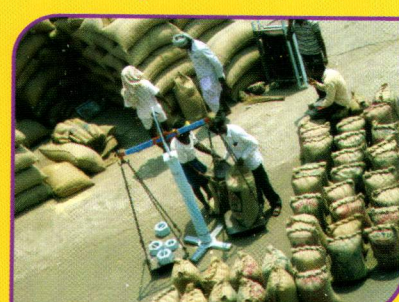
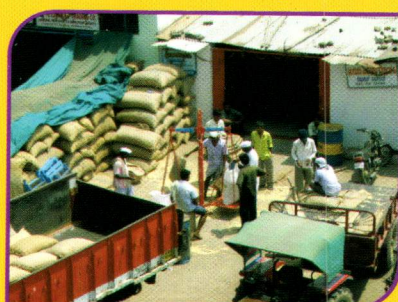


**Display of commodities in market yard with lot number**

### ***Situation before the Practice***

#### ***Traditional system of weighment (Earlier system of weighment):***

The agricultural commodities brought by the farmers to the APMC yards for sale used to be weighed with the help of the traditional weighing scale. In this method the balance with needle in the center and the weighing stones were used for weighment of the commodities. The weighment is being done through the licensed weighmen, who is not a party either to the seller or the buyer. After the weighment, weighment slips are being prepared and given to the farmers and also to the commission for calculation of the sale proceeds after the bid process is over.



**Earlier system of weighment**

### ***The Project:***

The project involves replacement of the earlier used weighing balances with the electronic weighing scales. A decision was taken by the Department of Agricultural Marketing and circulars were issued to all APMCs to compulsorily introduce the electronic weighing system in market yards. All the commission agents in the market yard were given the direction to introduce electronic weighing scales within a stipulated time. Those who did not follow the directions were informed of the legal provisions and were forced to introduce electronic weighing scales without fail. Then every commission agents bought and introduced it. Those who needed finance it is loan were given loan from banks with easy uninteresting and repayment in installment.



## ***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs through Electronic Weighing System***

### **Encounters and challenges faced**

Since the cost of each weighing scale ranges from Rs.35,000/- to Rs.40,000/- and it is user friendly and easily understandable. Since it has been made compulsory for all the licensed traders and commission agents, who are about 22,000 in numbers, the same has been put in to practices. In the initial stages there was a little resistance from traders and commission agents for introduction of Electronic Weighing Scale. However, later they were convinced and sometimes warned about the legal actions if they do not adopt the new method of weighment in their premises.

Further, APMCs themselves have procured and installed electronic weighing scales in some of the market yards for the benefit of the farmers. Those farmers who want to cross check the weighment done by the weighmen in the premises of commission agents/traders can do so with the help of the electronic weighing scales installed by APMCs.

### **Strategy adopted**

In this traditional system of weighment the farmers used to complain that exact weighment was not being recorded. Even though the weighing scales and stones were stamped by the Authorized Department sometimes there used to be changes in the actual weights. There were also complaint that the licensed weighmen were sometimes acting on behalf of the commission agents or traders and the farmer is not getting the correct weighment. This has resulted in loss to the farmers and the confidence of the farmers in the weighing method adopted by APMCs was not to their satisfaction. Therefore, the Department of Agricultural Marketing came out with the project of introduction of Electronic Weighing Scales in the APMCs.

The Commission agents and traders were asked to procure electronic weighing scales on their own and use them. Some of them even borrowed money from banks and purchased the electronic weighing scales and started using them. The licensed weighmen also felt that the scales are easy to operate and agreed for operating the electronic weighing scales.

### **Results achieved/ anticipated**

The Department of Agricultural Marketing has made it mandatory for all the market functionaries in the APMCs to install Electronic Weighing Machines to ensure transparency and correct weighment of produce. Electronic Weighing weighbridges are also installed in some of the market yards.

As a result of the efforts made by the Department all the commission agents and traders in APMCs started using electronic weighing scales. This has helped the farmers to get correct weighment of the produce; they sell in APMCs, and have increased their confidence in working of APMCs.



**Weighing of produce on Electronic weighbridges**

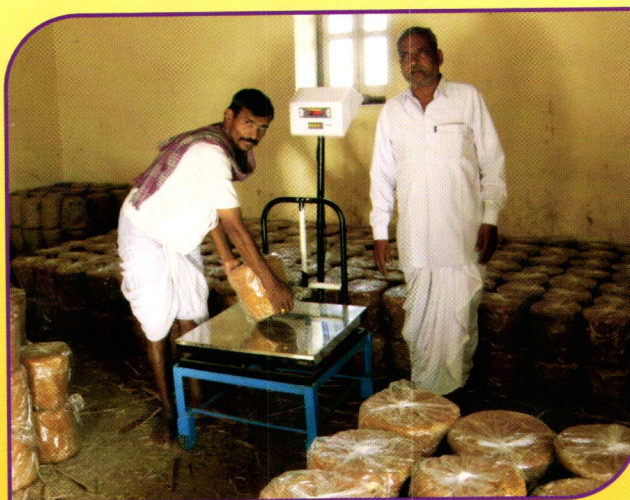


## ***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs through Electronic Weighing System***

### **Evaluation**

The operation of the project is regularly supervised and monitored by the officers of the APMCs and the Department of Agricultural Marketing.

In case the farmers find that the weighment done through the electronic weighing scale are not to their satisfaction or if any commission agent or trader has not installed the electronic weighing scale he can complain to the Chairman or Secretary of the APMCs and his grievances will be redressed through a democratic dispute settlement mechanism.



**Electronic weighing of Jaggery/Gur**

### **Benefits of Electronic weighing**

The introduction of electronic weighing scales has helped the farmers to get correct weighment of their produces and also the record; therefore there is no chance of the commission agents or traders mentioning less quantity than exactly what it is. By this the farmer is able to get payment according to the exact weight and now there are no chances of being deceived in the weighment of the produce. This has further enhanced the confidence of the farmers in the weighing system being followed in the APMCs.



**Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs  
through Electronic Weighing System**

***Annexure – 1***  
***Notified Commodities under KAPMR Act***

Sl.No	I. Animal Husbandry
1	Cattle
2	Goats
3	Sheep
	<b>II.Fibres</b>
4	Cotton (Ginned and Un-ginned)
	<b>III.Flowers</b>
5	All Flowers
	<b>IV Food Crops</b>
6	Bajra
7	Jau
8	Jowar
9	Kambu
10	Maize
11	Navane
12	Paddy
13	Ragi
14	Rice
15	Save
16	Wheat
	<b>V.Forest Produce</b>
17	Antwala
18	Bamboo
19	Canes
20	Hippe seeds
21	Honge seeds
22	Neem seeds
23	Soap nuts
24	Tamarind
25	Tamarind seeds



***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs  
through Electronic Weighing System***

**Annexure - 1 continued**

	<b>VI. Fruits</b>
26	Apple
27	Banana
28	Borehannu
29	Citrus fruits
30	Chakkothahannu
31	Guava
32	Grapes
33	Jack Fruits
34	Jamun
35	Lemon
36	Kharbuja
37	Mango
38	Mosumbi
39	Marasebu
40	Pine apple
41	Pappaya
42	Pomegranate
43	Sapota
44	Siddota
45	Orange
46	Watermelon
	<b>VII.Oil Seeds</b>
47	Groundnut (Shelled and Unshelled)
48	Castor Seeds
49	Cotton Seeds
50	Linseed
51	Mustard
52	Niger seeds
53	safflower
54	Seasamum
55	Sunflower seeds
56	Soyabean



**Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs  
through Electronic Weighing System**

**Annexure - 1 continued**

	<b>VIII. Plantation Crops and Spices</b>
57	Arecanut
58	Cashewnut
59	Chillies (Dry)
60	Coconut
61	Copra
62	Coriander
63	Garlic
64	Ginger
65	Methi
66	Pepper
67	Turmeric
	<b>IX. Pulses</b>
68	Alsande (Cowpea)(Whole & Split)
69	Avare (Whole & Split)
70	Bengalgram (Whole & Split)
71	Blackgram (Whole & Split)
72	Bullar (Whole & Split)
73	Greengram (Whole & Split)
74	Horse Gram
75	Lakh (Whole & Split)
76	Matki (Whole & Split)
77	Masoor (whole & Split)
78	Peas
79	Tur (Whole & Split)
80	Moath (Whole & Split)
	<b>X. Vegetables</b>
81	All Vegetables (except Gherkin (including leafy))
82	Gourds
83	Green Chillies
84	Onion
85	Potato
86	Suvarnagadde
87	Sweet Potato
88	Tomato
	<b>XI. Other Products</b>
89	Betal leaves
90	Jaggery
91	Seegu
92	Dry grapes



***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs  
through Electronic Weighing System***

***Annexure - 2***

***Major Commodities and Markets of Karnataka***

1	Paddy	Gangavati, Bhadravati, Davanagere, K.R. Nagar, Raichur, Shimoga, Sindhanur, Siruguppa.
2	Ragi	Piriyapatna, Chintamani, Huliya, Bangalore, Kadur, Mysore, Hassan, Tumkur, Arsikere, Nagamangala.
3	Maize	Bagalkot, Bijapura, Davanagere, Hassan, Honnali, Shikaripura, Shimoga Ranebennur.
4	Jowar	Bijapura, Gadag, Bagalkot, Gulbarga
5	Tur	Gulbarga, Bidar, Raichur, Yadgiri, Talikote
6	Bengal gram	Gadag, Gulbarga, Bagalkot, Yadgiri, Talikote
7	Green gram	Dharwar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hubli, Mysore
8	Groundnut	Bellary, Bijapura, Challakere, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Koppal, Raichur, Ramdurga, Haveri.
9	Sunflower	Bagalkot, Bellary, Gadag, Chitradurga, Challekre, Yadgir, Gulbarga, Renebennur.
10	Soya bean	Bailahongala, Hubli, Kalgatagi, Dharwad, Aurad, Sankeshwar.
11	Ball Copra	Tiptur, Arsikere, Turuvekere, Gubbi, Huliya, Channarayapatna.
12	Areca nut	Shimoga, Sagar, Sirsi, Siddapura, Mangalore, Puttur, Tirthahalli, Chitradurga (Bhimasamudra)
13	Cashew nut	Puttur, Sulya, Mangalore, Udupi, Belthangadi, Karkala.
14	Coconut	Chamarajnagar, Arsikere, Tiptur, Channarayapatna, Chicknayakanahalli, Bangalore, Bhadravathi, Chikaballapur, Hosdurga, Hiriya, Sira, Kunigal, Nagamangala, K.R.Pete, K.R.Nagar, Kadur, Kundapura, Gundlapete, Sulya, Karkala.
15	Drychillies	Byadagi, Hubli, Gadag, Mysore.
16	Turmeric	Chamarajnagar.
17	Jaggery	Chamarajnagar, Mandya, Mahalingapura, Bhadravathi.



***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs  
through Electronic Weighing System***

**Annexure - 2 continued**

18	Cotton	Bellary, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Gadag, Hubli, Raichur, Savadathi, Bailahongal, Santhesargur, Nargund, Dharwar, Ranebennur, Haveri
19	Tamrind	Tumkur, Mysore, Chintamani.
20	Onion	Bangalore, Bijapura, Hubli, Gadag, Raichur, Belgaum, Challakere, Davanagere, Mysore
21	Potato	Bengaluru, Hubli, Hassan, Dharwad, Chikaballapur.
22	Tomato	Kolar, Chamarajnagar, Mysore, Davangere, Bengaluru, Chintamani, Srinivasapura, Mulbagal, Honnali, Nagamangala, Chikkamagaluru.
23	Mango	Shinivasapura, Bengaluru, Ramanagara, Channaptna, Hangal, Dharwad, Belgaum, Mysore, Shimoga, Chikkaballapur, Mulbagal, Shikaripura.
24	Pomegranate	Bangalore, Bijapura, Koppala, Kustagi.
25	Bannana	Hospet, Bangalore, Channapatna, Sirsi, Kanakapura.



***Weighment of Agricultural Commodities in APMCs  
through Electronic Weighing System***

