

Chhattisgarh top state in procuring forest produces

03 July 2020

Chhattisgarh has emerged as the top state in India in collecting the largest amount of forest produce in the ongoing season.

"Considering the interests of tribal and rural people, the government is now procuring 31 types of forest produce at support price. From 2015 to 2018, only 7 kinds of forest produce were procured on support price," Forest Minister Mohammad Akbar said on Thursday.

Meanwhile, officials informed that last month about 1.50 lakh quintal forest produce worth Rs 104 crore were collected, which is 73.71 percent of forest produce collected across India.

Crossing the Rs 100 crore worth forest produce in the first half of the ongoing year is an important achievement, an official press release said.

The Managing Director of the Chhattisgarh State Minor Forest Produce (Trading & Development) Co-operative Federation, Sanjay Shukla, said arrangements have been made in 3,500 villages and 866 Haat Bazaars to procure forest produce at support price.

Woman self-help groups are engaged in getting the forest produce.

"In Chhattisgarh, for primary processing of forest produces, 139 'Van Dhan Kendra' have been established.

"In the current season, 3.4 lakh quintal Saal seeds worth Rs 61 crore, 63,000 quintal tamarind (with seeds) worth Rs 20 crore, over 28,000 quintal mahua flower (dry) worth Rs 8 crore, 5,107 quintal baheda worth Rs 87 lakh and 5,000 quintal charota worth Rs 70 lakh have been procured so far," Shukla said.

Source: <https://www.dailypioneer.com/2020/state-editions/chhattisgarh-top-state-in-procuring-forest-produces.html>