

## Tobacco Board fixes production at 136 mln kg

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*Tobacco Board chairman T Venkatesh addressing the board meeting in Hyderabad on Wednesday. MPs and Tobacco Board members Galla Jayadev, Gokaraju Ganga Raju are also seen.*

**Guntur:** Tobacco Board fixed tobacco production at 136 million kg this season as against 130 million kg in the last season. It is 4.41 per cent more than last year. The board, which held a meeting in Hyderabad on Wednesday, fixed a higher yield as farmers got better price due to increase of demand for tobacco in the domestic and international markets.

The tobacco farmers got on an average price of Rs 162 per kg. Taking last year demand into consideration, the board increased crop size to 136 million kg. Addressing a press conference after the board meeting, chairman T Venkatesh said considering the domestic, global demand and requests of tobacco growers we have increased the crop size in AP. “We expect the farmers to better price, this year as well,” he added.

Indian Tobacco Association president Mattupalli Umamaheswara Rao told The Hans India that they urged the Board, to increase production to get export orders, as there was demand in the international market. “While, the board has fixed 130 million kg tobacco, farmers produced 100 million kg last year. We are getting 1 Billion dollars of foreign exchange through tobacco exports,” he informed.

**Source:** <http://www.thehansindia.com/posts/index/Andhra-Pradesh/2017-08-24/Tobacco-Board-fixes-production-at-136-mln-kg/321427>