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# Agricultural Production and Market Outlook

The Rising Agriculture....

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## Country witnesses record food grains production in 2017-18

The 2nd advance estimates of production of major crops for 2017-18 have been released by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. The assessment of production of different crops is based on the feedback received from States and validated with information available from other sources. The estimated production of various crops as per the Advance Estimates for 2017-18 as below..

### Foodgrains – 277.49 million tonnes (record)

- Rice – 111.01 million tonnes (record)
- Wheat – 97.11 million tonnes
- Coarse Cereals – 45.42 million tonnes (record)

## BUMPER HERVEST

• Total estimated foodgrain production during 2017-18 (July-June)

**277.49** million tonnes (MT)  
crop year  
(Its an all-time record)

* Crop year (Jul-Jun)	Product (in MT)
2012-13	257.13
2013-14	265.04
2014-15	252.02
2015-16	251.57
2016-17	275.11 (previous record)
2017-18	277.49 (estimated)



- Maize – 27.14 million tonnes (record)
- Pulses – 23.95 million tonnes (record)
- Gram – 11.10 million tonnes (record)
- Tur – 4.02 million tonnes
- Urad – 3.23 million tonnes (record)
- Oilseeds – 29.88 million tonnes
- Soyabean – 11.39 million tonnes
- Groundnut – 8.22 million tonnes
- Castorseed – 1.50 million tonnes
- Cotton – 33.92 million bales (of 170 kg each)
- Sugarcane – 353.23 million tonnes

3. Production of rice has increased by 1.31 million tonnes than the production of 109.70 million tonnes during 2016-17. It is also higher by 4.71 million tonnes than the five years' average production of 106.29 million tonnes.

4. Production of Wheat estimated at 97.11 million tonnes is lower by 1.40 million tonnes as compared to record wheat production of 98.51 million tonnes achieved during 2016-17. However, the production of wheat during 2017-18 is higher by 3.77 million tonnes than the average wheat production.

5. Production of Coarse cereals estimated at record 45.42 million tonnes is higher than the average production by 3.72 million tonnes. Further, it is also higher by 1.65 million tonnes as compared to their production of 43.77 million tonnes achieved during 2016-17.

6. Total Pulses production during 2017-18 is estimated at record 23.95 million tonnes which is higher by 0.82 million tonnes than the previous year's production of 23.13 million tonnes. Moreover, the production of pulses during 2017-18 is higher than the Five years' average production by 5.10 million tonnes.

7. Total Oilseeds production in the country during 2017-18 is estimated at 29.88 million tonnes which is lower by 1.39 million tonnes



than the production of 31.28 million tonnes during 2016-17. However, the production of oilseeds during 2017-18 is marginally higher by 0.34 million tonnes than the average oilseeds production.

8. With a significant increase by 47.16 million tonnes over 2016-17, total production of Sugarcane in the country during 2017-18 is estimated at 353.23 million tonnes. The production of sugarcane during 2017-18 is also higher by 11.19 million tonnes than the average sugarcane production of 342.04 million tonnes.

9. Production of Cotton estimated at 33.92 million bales (of 170 kg each) is higher than the previous year's production of 32.58 million bales. Further, it is also higher by 0.41 million bales than its average production of 33.50 million bales.

10..Production of Jute & Mesta estimated at 10.51 million bales (of 180 kg each) is lower than their production during the 2016-17.

### **Milk production up 20% in 2014-2017: Agriculture Ministry**





Milk production in the country increased by 20 per cent from 137.7 million tonnes to 165.4 million tonnes between 2014 and 2017, as stated by Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh. Also, the per capita availability of milk has risen by 15.6 per cent from 307 gms a day to 355 gms per day between 2013-14 and 2016-17. He pointed out that Budget 2018 had laid special emphasis on animal husbandry. With a corpus of Rs 2,450 crore, the government has set up an Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) for financing infrastructure requirement of animal husbandry sector. Also, in order to meet the working capital requirement of dairy farmers, the facility of Kisan Credit Card has been extended by the government to the fisheries and livestock farmers.

### Pulses traders demand ban on import quota in 2018-19



With prices of most of the pulses ruling below the minimum support price level, processors and traders had demanded the government to stop even the restricted imports by end of March. India has imposed a quota of 5 million tonnes on annual import of pulses, which if not terminated, will add to the already mounting stocks in the country. A delegation of the industry representatives met Union Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Monday requesting him to not allow import of another 5 million tonne pulses beginning April, 2018. Domestic prices of most pulses such as tur, moong and chana, which are being currently harvested, are ruling below the MSP levels, leading to continuing farmer unrest in the growing areas. In August 2017, the government

restricted import of tur, moong and urad. The free import of tur, moong and urad has been restricted by imposing quota of 2 million tonne import on tur and 3 million tonne on moong and urad taken together. Export of pulses, which was not allowed for more than a decade, was also freed up last year. However, both measures did not help much to support domestic prices. According to government estimates, India imported 4.7 million tonnes of pulses between April 2017 and November 2017, which is 71% of what the country had imported during 2016-17 fiscal, and 80.8% of what it had imported in 2015-16 fiscal.

### Agriculture, allied sectors to see moderate growth in FY 2017-18: CSO



The agriculture and allied sector is estimated to grow at a slower pace of 3 per cent in 2017-18, compared to 6.3 per cent during last year. The farm sector growth is estimated to be moderate due to higher growth achieved during last year. In its second advance estimate, the Central Statistics Office (CSO) has pegged the growth rate of Gross Value Added (GVA) of agriculture and allied sectors at 3 per cent for 2017-18, taking into account constant 2011-12 prices. The CSO's approach of growth estimation of GVA in agriculture is predominantly production based. Since 2016-17 marked a record production of food grains and the base year 2015-16 (for calculating growth of GVA 2016-17) was a drought year, the GVA in agriculture recorded a high growth in 2016-17 financial year. The government is estimated food grain production to be a record 277.49 million tonnes in the 2017-18 crop year (July-



June), as against 275.11 million tonnes last year. The government has launched several schemes to increase growth of agriculture sector and for welfare of the farmers through increase in production and productivity of agricultural crops and to improve income levels of farmers

### Government cuts Bt cotton seed price to Rs 740/packet



To bring relief to cotton growers hit by pest attacks, the government has cut maximum sale price of genetically modified (GM) Bt cotton seeds to Rs 740 per packet for the second year in a row from Rs 800 earlier. That apart, the royalty fee or trait value payable by domestic seed firms to technology developer Monsanto Mahyco Biotech (India) Ltd (MMBL) has been slashed to Rs 39 per packet from Rs 49. The new prices will come into effect from the 2018 kharif season starting June. A packet of Bt cotton seeds is of 450 gram. The move will benefit 8 million cotton growers, but will reduce the margin of domestic seed companies and also MMBL. According to an agriculture ministry notification, the maximum sale price of a Bt cotton seeds packet has been fixed at Rs 740 for

bollgard (BG)-II version, including Rs 39 for the trait value. For the BG-I version, the maximum sale price has been kept unchanged at Rs 635 per packet with no trait value, the notification added.

The reduction in price will provide some relief to cotton farmers who have been affected by repeated pest attacks and crop losses. The government started controlling prices of cotton seeds including the GM versions, by fixing a uniform maximum sale price from March 2016. Bt cotton is the only GM crop allowed for commercial cultivation in the country. Over the last decade, Bt cotton technology has been adopted on over 95 per cent of the country's cotton growing area, making India the second largest producer and exporter of the cash crop. Cotton production is estimated at 33.92 million bales (of 170 kg each) in 2018-19 crop year as against 32.58 million bales last year.

*Wish You  
Happy Economic New Year  
2018-19*

Book Post

To,

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From:

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