



Vol.7
Issue- 5
May 2021

Agricultural Production and **Market Outlook**

The Rising Agriculture....

Central Government launched the Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (CDP)



The Centre launched the horticulture Cluster Development Programme (CDP) in order to promote the export of horticultural produce, identifying 12 out of a total of 53 clusters for implementation in a

pilot phase. The identified clusters for implementation of CDP in the first phase include Shopian (J&K) and Kinnaur (Himachal Pradesh) for apple; Lucknow (UP), Kutch (Gujarat) and Mahbubnagar (Telangana) for mango; Anantpur (AP) and Theni (TN) for banana; Nasik (Maharashtra) for grapes; Siphahijala (Tripura) for pineapple; Solapur (Maharashtra) and Chitradurga (Karnataka) for pomegranate and West Jaintia Hills (Meghalaya) for turmeric. Based on the learnings from the pilot project, the programme will be scaled up to cover all the 53 clusters in the next 5-7 years. The CDP will be implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB) through Cluster Development Agencies (CDAs) which are appointed on the recommendations of the respective state/UT government. The programme is designed to leverage geographical specialisation and promote integrated and market-led development of horticulture clusters. It will address all major

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issues related to the horticulture sector including pre-production, production, post-harvest management, logistics, marketing and branding. The CDP will not only help in achieving economies of scale but also create cluster-specific brands to entrench them into national and global value chains bringing higher remuneration to the farmers. The CDP is expected to attract an estimated investment of Rs 10,000 crore when implemented in all the 53 clusters. It has a huge potential to transform the entire horticulture ecosystem, improving its global competitiveness by building last-mile connectivity.

Third Advance Estimates of Principal Crops for 2020-21



The Third Advance Estimates of production of major agricultural crops for 2020-21 have been released by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. The total foodgrain production is estimated at 305.44 million tonnes. The assessment of production of different crops is based on the data received from States and validated with information available from other sources. The comparative estimate of production of principal crops since 2005-06 is enclosed.

As per 3rd Advance Estimates, the estimated production of major crops during 2020-21 is as under:

Foodgrains – 305.44 million tonnes. (record)
 Rice – 121.46 million tonnes. (record)
 Wheat – 108.75 million tonnes. (record)
 Nutri / Coarse Cereals – 49.66 million tonnes.
 Maize – 30.24 million tonnes. (record)

Pulses – 25.58 million tonnes.

Tur – 4.14 million tonnes.

Gram – 12.61 million tonnes. (record)

Oilseeds – 36.57 million tonnes.

Groundnut – 10.12 million tonnes (record)

Soyabean – 13.41 million tonnes

Rapeseed and Mustard – 9.99 million tonnes (record)

Sugarcane – 392.80 million tonnes

Cotton – 36.49 million bales (of 170 kg each)

Jute & Mesta – 9.62 million bales (of 180 kg each)

As per Third Advance Estimates for 2020-21, total Foodgrain production in the country is estimated at record 305.44 million tonnes which is higher by 7.94 million tonnes than the production of foodgrain of 297.50 million tonnes achieved during 2019-20. Further, the production during 2020-21 is higher by 26.66 million tonnes than the previous five years' (2015-16 to 2019-20) average production of foodgrain.

- Total production of Rice during 2020-21 is estimated at record 121.46 million tonnes. It is higher by 9.01 million tonnes than the last five years' average production of 112.44 million tonnes.
- Production of Wheat during 2020-21 is estimated at record 108.75 million tonnes. It is higher by 8.32 million tonnes than the average wheat production of 100.42 million tonnes.
- Production of Nutri / Coarse Cereals estimated at 49.66 million tonnes, which is higher by 1.91 million tonnes than the production of 47.75 million tonnes achieved during 2019-20. Further, it is also higher by 5.68 million tonnes than the average production.
- Total Pulses production during 2020-21 is estimated at 25.58 million tonnes which is higher by 3.64 million tonnes than the last five years' average production of 21.93 million tonnes.

- Total Oilseeds production in the country during 2020-21 is estimated at record 36.57 million tonnes which is higher by 3.35 million tonnes than the production of 33.22 million tonnes during 2019-20. Further, the production of oilseeds during 2020-21 is higher by 6.02 million tonnes than the average oilseeds production.
- Total production of Sugarcane in the country during 2020-21 is estimated at 392.80 million tonnes. The production of sugarcane during 2020-21 is higher by 30.73 million tonnes than the average sugarcane production of 362.07 million tonnes.
- Production of Cotton is estimated at 36.49 million bales (of 170 kg each) is higher by 4.59 million bales than the average cotton production. Production of Jute & Mesta is estimated at 9.62 million bales (of 180 kg each).

To achieve self-sufficiency in edible oils Union Government formulates Kharif Strategy 2021



To achieve self-sufficiency in the production of oilseeds, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has adopted a multi-pronged strategy. Under the strategy, the Government of India has approved an ambitious plan for the free distribution of high yielding varieties of seeds to the farmers for the Kharif season 2021 in the form of mini-kits. The special Kharif programme will bring an additional 6.37 lakh hectare area under oilseeds and is likely to produce 120.26 lakh quintals of oilseeds and edible

oil amounting to 24.36 lakh quintals. To become Aatmanirbhar in oilseeds, Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar also put emphasis on enhancing the productivity of oilseeds by increasing the availability of high yielding varieties of seeds for the farmers to use on their fields. Accordingly, the special Kharif plan was discussed in detail with the State Governments in a webinar in April 2021 and also in the Kharif Conference on 30th April 2021. Through these consultations, both area and productivity enhancement has been formulated for soybean and groundnut with a focus on high yielding varieties of seeds to be provided free of cost under the National Food Security Mission (Oil Seeds and Oil Palm) Mission as under;

- Distribution of soybean seeds for intercropping for 41 districts in the 6 states of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka, Telangana and Chhattisgarh costing Rs 76.03 crore and covering 1,47,500 ha.
- Distribution of soybean seeds for high potential districts in 73 districts of the 8 states of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana, Karnataka, UP, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat costing Rs 104 crore and 3,90,000 ha.
- Distribution of mini kits in 90 districts of the 9 states of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, UP and Bihar costing Rs 40 crore. The area to be covered will be 1,006,636 ha and the number of mini-kits will be 8,16,435.
- The soybean seeds to be distributed will be having a yield of not less than 20 qtl/ha. The distribution of seeds for intercropping and high potential districts will be through the state seed agencies and the seeds for the mini-kits will be through the Central seed producing agencies.
- Distribution of 74,000 Groundnut seed mini kits in the 7 states of Gujarat, AP, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and

Tamil Nadu covering costing Rs 13.03 crore for seeds not less than 22 Qtl/ha.

The Government of India through the National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm has the objective to augment the availability of edible oils and reduce the import of edible oils by increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds and oil palm. The efforts of National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm mission, the production of oilseeds has increased from 27.51 million tonnes in 2014-15 to 37.31 million tonnes in 2020-21 (2nd advance estimates), while the area has increased from 25.99 million hectares to 28.82 million hectares and yield from 1075 kg/hectares to 1295 kg/hectares during the same corresponding period.

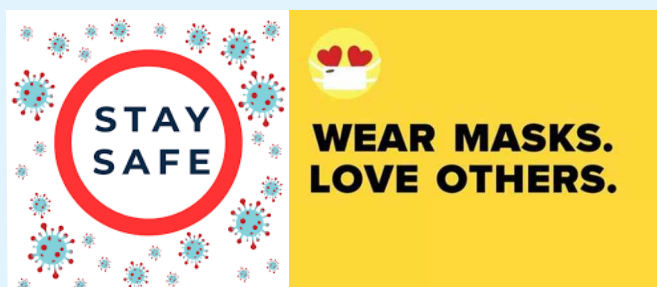
Govt expects edible oil prices to cool off with release of imported stock



The Centre expressed hope that retail prices of edible oils would soften following the release of imported stock that was stuck at ports due to clearance issues. According to the government data, retail prices of edible oils have shot up by 55.55 per

cent in over a year and are adding to the woes of consumers already reeling under the economic distress induced by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The secretary said that the industry mentioned recently there was some holding of some stock at Kandla and Mundra ports because of clearances related to tests done by various agencies as part of the general risk analysis in view of the COVID situation. The Secretary further said that India is dependent on imports to meet the shortages of edible oil. Annually, the country imports edible oils worth Rs 75,000 crore. According to the government data, retail price of vanaspati has increased by 55.55 per cent to Rs 140 a kg on May 8 this year, from Rs 90 per kg in the year-ago period. Similarly, retail price of palm oil has risen by 51.54 per cent to Rs 132.6 per kg from Rs 87.5 per kg, soya oil by over 50 per cent to Rs 158 per kg from Rs 105 per kg, while that of mustard oil by 49 per cent to Rs 163.5 per kg from Rs 110 per kg in the said period. Retail price of soyabean oil has also increased by 37 per cent to Rs 132.6 per kg from Rs 87.5 per kg, while that of groundnut oil by over 38 per cent to Rs 180 per kg from 130 per kg in the said period.



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DOI : 02/06/2021

Acknowledged the information used/taken from the public domain