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Wheat and Gram. The development has come a day after the two crucial farming bills were passed in Rajya following they were cleared in Lok Sabha, and finally set to become new laws. The new farm bills will help farmers widen the range and market area to sell their produce and also negotiate for a better price. The government proposed three new farm bills, out of which two have already been passed in both the Houses while the third farm bill will be presented in the Rajya Sabha today.

The government hiked the minimum support price of wheat by Rs 50 per quintal to Rs 1,975 per quintal to encourage farmers to increase cultivation of the crop. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and was announced by Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar in Lok Sabha.

The announcement comes in the backdrop of widespread protests by Opposition parties as also by farmer groups in Punjab, Haryana and some other states after Parliament passed two key farm bills on Sunday, which the government says will give farmers' marketing freedom and better price for their produce.

The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020 and The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020 were passed by Parliament.

Tomar said that the CCEA has approved increasing MSP of six rabi crops. Wheat MSP has been increased by Rs 50 per quintal to Rs 1,975 per quintal.

The minister said the government has always maintained that MSP and APMC mechanisms will continue as against a false propoganda spread by Opposition parties. Some Congress MPs walked out of the House after Tomar made the announcement about MSPs.

Source: <https://www.indiatvnews.com/business/news-msp-hike-rabi-crops-wheat-gram-cabinet-approves-farm-bills-651078>