

Centre raises MSP of wheat, five other rabi crops for 2025-26

Cabinet approves 3% DA hike for Union govt. employees

Better support



The Cabinet increased the minimum support prices for rabi crops

Crop	MSP for rabi 2025-26*	MSP for rabi 2024-25*	Increase in MSP
Wheat	₹2,425	₹2,275	₹150
Barley	₹1,980	₹1,850	₹130
Gram	₹5,650	₹5,440	₹210
Lentil (masoor)	₹6,700	₹6,425	₹275
Rapeseed & mustard	₹5,950	₹5,650	₹300
Safflower	₹5,940	₹5,800	₹140

(*per quintal)

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on Wednesday increased the minimum support price for rabi crops for the next marketing season of 2025-26 with the MSP for wheat going up by ₹150 a quintal.

The new MSP for a quintal of wheat is ₹2,425 in comparison to ₹2,275 per quintal, which was in place for the 2024-25 season.

The Centre said the MSP for six rabi crops are higher by 50% to 105% than the production cost.

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the steady increase in the MSP of wheat, barley, gram, lentil, rapeseed and mustard, and safflower shows the commitment of the Narendra Modi government towards farmers' welfare.

"Ensuring remunerative prices for farmers is our priority," Mr. Chouhan said. The highest increase in MSP is for rapeseed and mustard at ₹300 per quintal with the new MSP at

₹5,950. For lentil (*masur*), the MSP is ₹6,700, an increase of ₹275 per quintal. The MSP of gram stands at ₹5,650, safflower ₹5,940 and barley ₹1,980, with an increase of ₹210, ₹140 and ₹130 per quintal respectively, the Centre said in a release after the CCEA meeting.

2018-19 Budget

This comes in line with the Union Budget 2018-19 announcement of fixing the MSP at a level of at least 1.5 times of the all-India weighted average cost of production.

"The expected margin over all-India weighted average cost of production is 105% for wheat, followed by 98% for rapeseed and mustard; 89% for lentil; 60% for gram; 60% for barley; and 50% for safflower. This increased MSP of rabi crops will ensure remunerative prices to the farmers and incentivise crop diversification," the government release added.

DA HIKE APPROVED

» PAGE 5

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved an additional instalment of dearness allowance (DA) to Central government employees, and dearness relief (DR) to pensioners to compensate price rise. The decision comes days before Deepavali.

The increase will be effective from July 1, amounting to an increase of 3% over the existing rate of 50% of the basic pay/pension to adjust the cost of living and to protect erosion of the pay's real value.

"This increase is in accordance with the accepted formula, which is based on the recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission. The combined impact on the exchequer on account of both DA and DR would be ₹9,448.35 crore per annum," a statement from the government said.

This will benefit about 49.18 lakh Central government employees and 64.89 lakh pensioners, it added.

Second time

This the second time the two components have been revised this year, the first time was on January 1.

The increment is based on an increase in a 12-monthly average of All India Consumer Price Rise Index for Industrial Workers published by the Labour Bureau.

Announcing the decision, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, "The enhanced DA and DR will add to the pay cheque of Central government employees and pensioners." The Minister added, "I want to congratulate them as this comes ahead of the festival of Deepavali."