

US agency projects India's wheat output at record 115 MT

India is set for its third consecutive record wheat harvest of 115 million tonnes in 2025-26, driven by record planting and favorable weather, according to the USDA.

Written by Sandip Das | April 6, 2025



Delhi unlikely to remove export ban, reduce import duty Procurement brisk, crosses 2 MT.
(Image Source: Reuters)

India is heading for its third consecutive record wheat harvest in the coming marketing year (2025-26) at 115 million tonne (MT) due to record planting and favorable weather conditions in major growing states, the United States department of agriculture (USDA) has stated in a report.

The projection of record wheat harvest by the US agency comes after the agriculture ministry last month estimated the grain output at 115.3 MT during 2024-25 crop years (July-June), an increase of 2% over the previous year.

The USDA, a major global agency, has also stated that despite improved domestic supplies, India is unlikely to remove the export ban which was imposed (in May 2022) on price inflation concerns, with exports limited to neighboring countries on geo-political concerns.

“Despite relatively weak global wheat prices, high import duties (40%) continue to constraint import prospects for wheat and wheat products in the upcoming season,” the USDA has stated. The agency has stated that India’s record wheat output from 32.6 million hectares (Mha) assuming normal weather through harvest till the end of this month.

“Wheat output is definitely likely to be better than the projected 115 MT, itself a record, given the current crop conditions,” Ratan Tiwari, director, Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal based institute under Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) had told FE recently. The trade has projected an output of 110 MT for the current season against 106 MT in 2023-24 season.

Wheat sowing this season has increased to 32 Mha against 31.56 Mha last year and higher than the average sown area of the last five year.

Wheat procurement crosses 2 MT

The procurement of wheat by agencies including Food Corporation of India and state government agencies from the farmers for the 2025-26 marketing year (April-June) has started on a brisk note.

The agencies have purchased over two million tonne (MT) of wheat under minimum support price (MSP) operations from farmers till Saturday against just 0.45 MT of grain purchased during the same period last year. This is because of early purchase and robust arrivals of wheat in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat starting two weeks back.

Arrivals of wheat in mandis across Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat so far have been 3.8 MT against just 1.53 MT of grain arrival year back.

The procurement operations in Punjab and Haryana, two biggest contributors to the central pool stock, have just commenced which is likely to peak in the next couple of weeks.

The government is aiming to buy 31 MT of wheat purchased from farmers under MSP from mainly Punjab (12.4 MT), Haryana (7.5 MT), Madhya Pradesh (6 MT), Uttar Pradesh (3 MT), Rajasthan (2 MT), and Gujarat (0.1 MT) in the 2025-26 season.

In the 2024-25 marketing year, the agencies had purchased 26.6 MT of wheat while around 18.4 MT of grain was required for allocation under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana or free ration scheme annually.

Source: <https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy/us-agency-projects-indias-wheat-output-at-record-115-mt/3800937/>