

Kharif Season Rice Production Seen Declining by 6%

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New Delhi: India's rice production for kharif season (July to June) 2022-23 is expected to decline by 6% compared to last year at 104.99 million tonnes, according to the first advance estimate released by the ministry of agriculture. Rainfall deficiency in key rice-producing states had led to a reduced acreage of the cereal.

Rice production stood at 111.76 million tonnes in kharif season 2021-22, according to the fourth advance estimate of the year. A total foodgrain production of 142.92 million tonnes is expected.

However, the ministry said that this is higher by 4.40 million tonnes than the previous five years' (2016-17 to 2020-



21) average kharif rice production of 100.59 million tonnes. These are preliminary estimates as the agriculture ministry releases four advance estimates for every season.

Trade experts said that despite the drop in production supply side of rice in the domestic market will not be impacted due to the government's restrictions on rice exports. "The government's decision to curb exports of rice by imposing 20% export duty will neutralise the drop in kharif rice production," Tarun Satsangi, head of research, Origo Commodities said.

However, prices of rice will remain firm for the domestic market, said Suraj Agarwal, CEO and cofounder of rice marketing and exporting company Rice Villa Food.

Sowing of paddy had declined by 18.9% to 399.03 lakh hectares as on September 16 compared to 417.93 lakh hectares during the corresponding period last year, according to the ministry's

sowing data.

While the total pulses production is estimated at 8.37 million tonnes, the production of tur, whose acreage again declined is expected to be 3.89 million tonnes in kharif season 2022-23, as against 4.34 million tonnes according to last year's fourth advance estimate.

Total kharif production of nine oilseeds during 2022-23 is estimated at 23.57 million tonnes while the last year's production according to the fourth advance estimate stood at 238.88 million tonnes. Record production of sugarcane and maize is expected at 465.05 million tonnes and 23.10 million tonnes, according to the fourth advance estimate. Production of cotton is estimated at 34.19 million bales (of 170 kg each).