

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 355**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 09/12/2022

**PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT**

355 SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI

Will the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare be pleased to state:

- (a) whether production and procurement of wheat is less than the estimated this season;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and details of the estimates vis-a-vis the short falls;
- (c) to what extent the shortfall in production and procurement of wheat would affect Public Distribution System (PDS), open market sale and exports, the details thereof;
- (d) whether early onset of summer impacted accumulation of starch, protein etc., in the grain; and
- (e) if so, how the yields this year would be different in quality than the previous year's wheat?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): For an agriculture year (July-June), the 2<sup>nd</sup> advance estimates covering rabi crops are released in the month of February and the sowing of wheat is still in progress, hence, it is too early to estimate wheat production and procurement of wheat for current agriculture year 2022-23. However, as per the weekly Crop Weather Watch Group (CWWG) reports the area sown under wheat is satisfactory and progressive.

(c): State Government agencies and Food Corporation of India (FCI) purchase wheat & paddy with prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) specifications at MSP for maintaining buffer stocks and making a provision for meeting the requirement of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). In addition, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) sells excess stocks out of Central Pool through Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS (D)] in the open market from time to time. This Policy is reviewed time to time based on the stock position in this central pool.

(d) & (e): The yield of wheat during 2021-22 is estimated at 3507 kg/ha (4<sup>th</sup> Advance Estimate) which is slightly lower than yield of 3521 kg/ha achieved during 2020-21. However, yield of wheat during 2021-22 is higher than the normal yield of 3412 kg/ha (previous five-year average). There was no influence on grain filling and starch content due to early onset of summer during Rabi 2021-22 crop season as no change in hectolitre weight (Kg/hl) and grain protein was observed through the country. Further, it is too early to comment upon the yield of the wheat during current agricultural year as the sowing of wheat is in progress.

\*\*\*\*\*