

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1304
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 02/08/2024

PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT OF KHARIF CROPS

1304. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state;

- (a) the details of production and procurement of Kharif crops namely paddy, maize, jawar, bajra, ragi, arhar, moong and urad, for the year 2023-24; and
- (b) the measures taken by Government to enhance the procurement of crops other than paddy and wheat?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): The details of production and procurement of Kharif crops namely paddy, maize, jawar, bajra, ragi, arhar, moong and urad for the year 2023-24 is at Annexure-I.

(b): As per Guidelines on procurement, allocation, distribution and disposal of coarse grains, States are allowed to procure coarse grains (Jowar, Bajra, Maize & Ragi), Foxtail Millet (Kangani/Kakun), Proso Millet (Cheena), Kodo Millet (Kodo), Little Millet (Kutki), two Pseudo Millets (Black-wheat) (Kuttu) and Amerathus(Chaulai) from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) under central pool subject to the prior approval of Government of India, in consultation with Food Corporation of India (FCI).The whole quantity shall be distributed under TPDS (Targeted Public Distribution System)/OWS (Other Welfare Schemes) in the State/UT.

For increasing the procurement and consumption of coarse grains/millets, the guidelines has been revised for allocation, distribution and disposal of coarse grains procured by the State Agencies/FCI and enhanced the distribution period to 6-10 months from earlier period of 3 months. Provision of inter-state transportation of surplus millets through FCI had also been incorporated. In order to further widen the scope of procurement of coarse grains/millets, the procurement of following minor/pseudo millets has been allowed for 3 years (from 2023) at cost based on the MSP of Ragi:

Minor Millet - Foxtail Millet (Kangani/Kakun), Proso Millet (Cheena), Kodo Millet (Kodo), little millet (Kutki)

Pseudo Millet - Buck-wheat (kuttu) and Ameranthus (Chaulai).

Further, Government implements Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of notified oil seeds, pulses and copra conforming to the prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) norms directly from pre-registered farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) as and when prices fall below the MSP during the harvesting period. This scheme is implemented at the request of the concerned State Governments / Union Territories that agrees to exempt the procured commodities from levy of mandi tax and assist central nodal agencies in logistic arrangements, including gunny bags, working capital for state agencies, creation of revolving fund for PSS operations, etc. as required under the scheme guidelines.

In order to incentivize the farmers for enhancement of domestic production, the existing procurement ceiling in respect of Tur, Urad and Masur under PSS was lifted for the year 2023-24 and the same has been extended for the year 2024-25 also.

For making effective procurement by government agencies at MSP and providing maximum benefits of MSP to the farmers, procurement centers are opened by respective State Government Agencies and Central Nodal Agencies like National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), National Co-operative Consumer's Federation of India Limited (NCCF) etc. after taking into account the production, marketable surplus, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics / infrastructure such as storage and transportation etc. Large number of the purchase centers in addition to the existing mandis and depots/godowns are also established at key points for the convenience of farmers.

Annexure-I

Production and Procurement details of Kharif crops for the year 2023-24

Kharif Crops	Production (in Lakh MT)	Procurement (in Lakh MT)
Rice	1143.67	463.06
Maize	224.19	0.04
Jowar	14.69	1.24
Bajra	95.64	6.20
Ragi	15.63	2.31
Tur	33.85	-
Urad	15.49	-
Moong	11.44	0.54
