

Record paddy yield, dip in oilseeds likely this kharif

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The summer kharif season is likely to produce a record paddy harvest this year, pushing the country's foodgrain production for the season to an all-time high of 15 crore tonnes, according to first advance estimates from the Agriculture Ministry.

However, oilseed production may be marginally lower than last year's, particularly groundnut and soyabean harvests, which could be bad news for soaring edible oil prices. On the other hand, the increase in pulses production, especially the toor dal crop, could come as a relief.

'Result of hard work'

Releasing the estimates, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar attributed the record foodgrain production to the "hard work of farmers, proficiency of scientists and farmer friendly policies of the government".

Going into the winter rabi season, the Centre has taken steps to incentivise the production of both oilseeds and pulses, according to a virtual presentation by Agriculture Commissioner S.K. Malhotra.

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