

icicprulife.com



Pay Premium for just 5 Years & Get Life Cover till 85 Years.

CHECK PREMIUM

T&C apply W/1/3689/2018-19

MUST READ | J&K: After 200 days, Valley wakes up to bustling classrooms

Home / India / Yogendra Yadav: Doubtful if even an import ban in view of bumper crop will soothe farmers

Yogendra Yadav: Doubtful if even an import ban in view of bumper crop will soothe farmers

The Union Agriculture Ministry estimates that India's chickpea production for 2019-20 will be at 11.22 million tonnes (mt), a sharp increase from last year's 9.94 mt and marginally short of 2017-18's record high of 11.38 mt.



Written by Pratyaksh Srivastava | New Delhi | Updated: February 23, 2020 2:17:31 am.



The Swaraj India leader is not sure if an import ban will actually provide respite to Indian farmers. (File)

Swaraj India leader Yogendra Yadav has said India is in the midst of a "policy-driven crisis in which the farmers are bound to suffer **despite a bumper crop.**" Alleging that the "agri-trade policy in this country is dictated by the traders' lobby", Yadav said it is expected that "the government will suspend the imports for pulses in the face of a bumper harvest".

Chickpea growing states of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka have been under the fear that imports will dampen their bumper crop. The Union Agriculture Ministry estimates that India's chickpea (*chana*) production for 2019-20 will be at 11.22 million tonnes (mt), a sharp increase from last year's 9.94 mt and marginally short of 2017-18's record high of 11.38 mt.

The Swaraj India leader, however, is not sure an import ban will provide respite to Indian farmers. "The Agriculture Ministry in this country does not really have the final say about matters of import. It is the Commerce Ministry which determines the import policy. What is going to happen is that someone in the Commerce Ministry will wink the traders' lobby about the upcoming suspension of pulses import and the traders will place their orders by the time the import ban arrives," Yadav claimed.



Chickpea growing states of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka have been under the fear that imports will dampen their bumper crop.

Meanwhile, the bumper **chickpea crop has farmers in Canada worried.** The North American nation happens to be one of India's top pulses exporter. A Reuters report quoted agriculture minister of Canada's Saskatchewan province, David Marit, as saying that India's trade policy flip-flops have fuelled uncertainty among Canada's farmers. "We would like to see consistency and transparency in market access," Marit was quoted as saying on the sidelines of the Pulses Conclave, an industry conference. Saskatchewan is Canada's biggest pulses producing province.

Yadav said he wished Indian ministers were as empathetic and concerned about the farmers' fortunes as their Canadian counterparts are.



Malini Saba, an entrepreneur with investments in the agro-business in South and Southeast Asia, said the inconsistent agri-trade policies of the government, in a way, also compromise the country's foreign policy as it impacts the bilateral relationship between India and Canada. "India, as such, should prefer its own farmers rather than calling for imports from overseas," she said.

Talking to indianexpress.com, All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) leader Chhagan Lal Choudhary said the market prices of the pulses will fall drastically if the government continues to import. "The situation is such that the Indian farmer will not get his deserved price if the government continues to import. The pulses are rarely procured at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) anyway. Imports will further deteriorate the situation," he said.

The Indian Express is now on Telegram. Click [here](#) to join our channel (@indianexpress) and stay updated with the latest headlines

For all the latest **India News**, download **Indian Express App**.

© IE Online Media Services Pvt Ltd

TAGS: Agrarian Crisis | Pulses | Swaraj India | Yogendra Yadav

ADVERTISEMENT

LIVE BLOG

- ICSI CS Professional, Executive Result December 2019 LIVE Updates: Kalyani Ashwin Pundlik tops in Executive programme; check merit list**
26 mins ago
- iQoo 3, Samsung Galaxy M31 launch Highlights: iQoo 3 5G variant costs Rs 44,990, M31 at Rs 14,999**
27 mins ago
- Delhi violence Live Updates: Police doing their bit, says Kejriwal after meeting Amit Shah; toll reaches 7**
54 mins ago
- Donald Trump India Visit Day 2 Live Updates: India-US increasing cooperation to combat international terrorism, says PM Modi**
1 hour ago

BEST OF EXPRESS

- Cities**
Violence escalates in northeast Delhi as Amit Shah meets Arvind Kejriwal, L-G Bajjal; toll reaches seven
- India visit has been extraordinary and productive: Donald Trump**
- Entertainment**
Up-close and personal with Gautham Vasudev Menon
- Entertainment**
Sheer Qorma trailer: Swara Bhasker, Divya Dutta star in promising LGBTQ love story
- Trending**
62-year-old breaks Guinness World Record after planking for 8 hours and 15 minutes
- Trending**
A 11-year-old attended a legislative hearing in the US carrying a loaded AR-15 assault rifle
- Sports**
Wines, cigars & a limousine: Kiwis celebrate victory in style
- Sports**
From boycotting 2022 CWG to hosting shooting, archery events
- Opinion**
After Balakot: Pakistan's options have been reduced, India has more room for manoeuvre
- Reading American Presidents India visit**
- Lifestyle**
Anil Kapoor's workout video shows what keeps him fit and healthy
- Technology**
Samsung Galaxy M31 review: The 'Paisa vasool' smartphone

ADVERTISEMENT

MUST READ

- Sports**
Wines, cigars & a limousine: Kiwis celebrate victory in style
- Sports**
From boycotting 2022 CWG to hosting shooting, archery events
- Sports**
India's four pillars - Kohli, Pujara, Bumrah, Shami - bring down house