

Crop Production Prospects

8.10 The production of kharif foodgrains during 2006-07 is estimated at 107.2 MT (2nd AE), which is lower than 109.9 MT achieved during 2005-06 (Table 8.6). The production of kharif rice is estimated at 77.4 MT against 78.3 MT in 2005-06. Total foodgrains production in 2006-07 is estimated at 209.2 MT (2nd AE).

8.11 Second advance estimates for commercial crops show an improved performance. Sugarcane production is estimated to go up to 315.5 MT during 2006-07 (2nd AE) compared to 270.0 MT during 2005-06 (Table 8.7). The production of cotton at 209.6 lakh bales is the not only highest so far but also 13.5 per cent higher than 185 lakh bales produced in 2005-06. Production of jute

and mesta is also expected to be higher during 2006-07. Production of nine oilseeds at 23.6 million tonnes in 2006-07 (2nd AE) is estimated to decline by 15.7 per cent compared to their production in 2005-06.

Rabi Prospects (2006-07)

8.12 Area coverage under wheat has been encouraging. It is noteworthy that timely sowing of the crop ensures higher productivity by virtue of adequate time for the reproductive phase and consequent grain formation, which is shortened in delayed sowing. Further, the impact of higher temperature on grain formation during early March is also reduced to a minimum. The area sown under wheat (up to January 5, 2007) at 275.5 lakh hectare (ha) is 6.8 per cent higher than that during the corresponding period in 2005-06.

Table 8.6 : Foodgrains production

(Million tonnes)

| Crop/ Year | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07* |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Rice | 93.3 | 71.8 | 88.5 | 83.1 | 91.8 | 90.0 |
| Wheat | 72.8 | 65.8 | 72.2 | 68.6 | 69.4 | 72.5 |
| Coarse Cereals | 33.4 | 26.1 | 37.6 | 33.5 | 34.1 | 32.0 |
| Pulses | 13.4 | 11.1 | 14.9 | 13.1 | 13.4 | 14.5 |
| Foodgrains | | | | | | |
| (i) Kharif | 112.1 | 87.2 | 117.0 | 103.3 | 109.9 | 107.2 |
| (ii) Rabi | 100.8 | 87.6 | 96.2 | 95.1 | 98.7 | 102.0 |
| Total (i)+(ii) | 212.9 | 174.8 | 213.2 | 198.4 | 208.6 | 209.2 |
| * 2nd advance estimates (2nd AE). Source : Ministry of Agriculture. | | | | | | |

Table 8.7 : Commercial crops production

(Million tonnes)

| Crop | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07* |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Groundnut | 7.0 | 4.1 | 8.1 | 6.8 | 8.0 | 4.4 |
| Rapeseed & Mustard | 5.1 | 3.9 | 6.3 | 7.6 | 8.1 | 7.6 |
| Soyabean | 6.0 | 4.7 | 7.8 | 6.9 | 8.3 | 8.7 |
| Other Oilseeds | 2.6 | 2.1 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 2.9 |
| Total nine Oilseeds | 20.7 | 14.8 | 25.2 | 24.4 | 28.0 | 23.6 |
| Cotton @ | 10 | 8.6 | 13.7 | 16.4 | 18.5 | 21.0 |
| Jute & Mesta @@ | 11.7 | 11.3 | 11.2 | 10.3 | 10.8 | 11.4 |
| Sugarcane | 297.2 | 287.4 | 233.9 | 237.1 | 270.0 | 315.5 |
| @ Million bales of 170 kg each @@ Million bales of 180 kgs. each. * 2nd advance estimates. Source : Ministry of Agriculture. | | | | | | |