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In order to control the rising domestic prices of wheat, the government has banned the export of wheat. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has stated that the exports issued before the release of this notification will be allowed to continue as follows.

This is not a blanket ban. The exports planned by the government to ensure food security in other countries would not be affected by this action. DGFT, in a similar notification, has announced the ease of export conditions for onion seeds. Export of onion seeds was earlier prohibited.

Retail Inflation has reached an all-time high because of the rising prices of fuel and food items. The ban was imposed as the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine has caused significant disruptions in the supply of wheat globally.

According to the DGFT data, India had exported 963,000 tonnes of wheat this year compared to 130,000 tonnes during the same time the previous year. Last year India sent about 50% of the wheat export to Bangladesh.

India is planning to export 10 million tonnes of wheat in FY 2022-23. The ministry of commerce is preparing to send delegations to Morocco, Tunisia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Turkey, Algeria and Lebanon to seek an opportunity to increase the wheat shipments. India's wheat purchases have also reduced by 50% to 16.2 million tonnes as of May 1 as private traders buy large quantities and subsequent low distribution throughout the country.

The private buyers bought wheat at a higher rate than the MSP amid the increasing export demand. The centre has planned to acquire a record 44.4 million tonnes in the year 22-23 compared to the 43.34 million tonnes in the previous year.

The centre has prohibited the sale of wheat in the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) and directed the consumers to not wait for the restart of the scheme to procure the grains. The agriculture ministry has said that the wheat production is fixed at a record 111.32 million tonnes in the year 2021-22 crop year (July-June).



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