



India to Import Wheat After 6 years

Why in News?

India, the **world's second-largest wheat producer**, plans to begin wheat imports after a six-year gap to replenish depleted reserves and control rising prices, driven by three consecutive years of disappointing crops.

Key Points

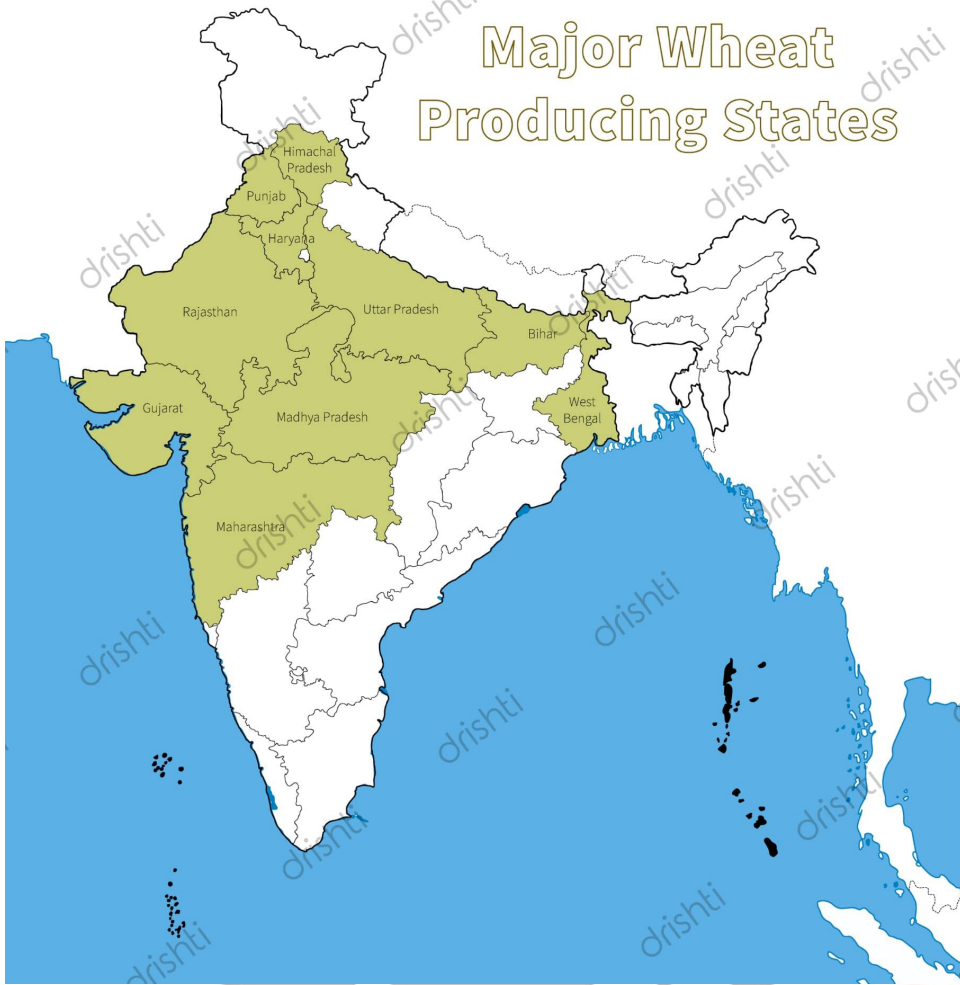
- India's wheat production has **declined in the last 3 years due to unfavourable weather conditions**, leading to a sharp drop in wheat output.
- The government **estimates this year's wheat crop to be 6.25% lower than the previous year's (2023)** record production of 112 million metric tons.
- The government's **target for wheat procurement the year 2024 was 30-32 million metric tons**, but it has managed to buy only 26.2 million tons so far.
- Domestic wheat prices have stayed above the government's [minimum support price \(MSP\)](#) of 2,275 rupees per 100 kg and **have been on the rise recently**.
 - So, the government **decided to remove the 40% import duty on wheat to allow private traders** and flour millers to import wheat, primarily from Russia.

Wheat

- This is the **second most important cereal crop in India after rice** and main food crop, in the north and north-western part of the country.
- **Wheat is a rabi crop** that requires a cool growing season and bright sunshine at the time of ripening.
 - **Success of the Green Revolution contributed to the growth of Rabi crops**, especially wheat.
- **Top 3 Wheat Producers in World (2021)**: China, India and Russia.
- **Top 3 Wheat Producers in India (in 2021-22)**: Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab
- **Government Initiatives**:
 - Macro Management Mode of Agriculture, [National Food Security Mission](#) and [Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana](#) etc.

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Major Wheat Producing States



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