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After Kharif, India set to reap record rabi crops: NCAER

By PTI | Updated: Mar 09, 2017, 04.53 PM IST

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NEW DELHI: A good [monsoon](#) in 2016 helped in achieving record [Kharif](#) crops output, and India is set to replicate the performance in [Rabi](#) or winter sown crops too, said a study by economic think-tank [NCAER](#).

As per the NCAER's report on the short-term agricultural outlook for the 2017 Rabi season, Gross Value Added (GVA) in agriculture and allied sector registered a significant 3.3 per cent year-on-year growth in the second quarter of 2016-17 as compared to 1.8 per cent growth in the previous quarter.

Overall, a robust growth of 4.1 per cent is estimated for the [agriculture sector](#) in 2016-17 as against the previous year's drought-impacted growth rate of 1.2 per cent.

In comparison, the latest official estimates suggest 4.4 per cent growth for 2016-17 and 0.8 per cent for 2015-16.

"The agriculture sector is projected to grow by 4.1 per cent in 2016-17, which is more than double the drought- impacted growth rate of 1.2 per cent in 2015-16.

"After a record or near-record production of most Kharif crops in 2016-17, India is heading for a record or near-record production of Rabi crops," said NCAER's Senior Research Counsellor, Rajesh Chadha.

The findings of the NCAER report are based on a comprehensive assessment of various factors including farm input prices and availability, monsoon rainfall, national and international market demand conditions and government policies impacting this year's Rabi and Kharif crop production.

The forecast for [wheat](#) production in the Rabi season is 96-98.7 million tonnes compared with the government's estimate of 96.6 million tonnes assuming normal weather conditions through harvest.

The NCAER forecast for Rabi rice production is over 13 million tonnes compared with the government's estimate of 12.8 million tonnes.

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