

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:147
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2003
SHIFTING OF CROPS IN PUNJAB
AJAY CHAKRABORTY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Punjab farmers have shifted from the traditional wheat and rice cultivation to more lucrative crops such as Castorseed at a large scale;
- (b) if so, the incentives being given by the Punjab Government for such shifting of crops; and
- (c) the details of estimated reduction in foodgrain production in the state during the current year as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

- (a): In Punjab state a very small area had been shifted from wheat and rice to the other lucrative crops such as castorseeds, guar, basmati and maize.
- (b): No incentive are being given to the farmers by the Punjab Government for this shifting.
- (c): There will be no reduction in the production of foodgrains due to this shifting, because maize and basmati are foodgrains crops. Castorseed and guar crops are cultivated in a very small area.