

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:497  
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009  
CULTIVATION OF MILLETS  
Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether 90 per cent of the farmers in Northern Karnataka are shifting to millet cultivation from wheat and rice cultivation;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) if so, the details and steps taken in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to maintain a balance in productivity of the two crops?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): No, Madam. Area of rice has increased from 5.09 Lakh ha (2002-03) to 6.29 Lakh ha (2006-07) and area under wheat has also increased from 2.45 Lakh ha (2002-03) to 2.68 lakh ha (2006-07) in the districts of Northern Karnataka. Whereas, in case of millets, area has declined from 20.00 Lakh ha (2002-03) to 17.06 Lakh ha (2006-07) during Xth Plan Period. Thus, there is no shifting from wheat and rice to millet cultivation.

To enhance the production and productivity of cereals including rice and wheat, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice/Wheat Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice/Wheat)" under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture is under implementation in Non-NFSM districts of Karnataka State. Besides, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Rice" is also under implementation in some districts of Northern Karnataka. In addition, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Coarse Cereals)" under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture is in operation in the State of Karnataka.