

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1028  
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011  
CULTIVATION OF MILLETS  
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) whether the cultivation of millets have declined in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the production of the millets during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has taken steps to encourage cultivation of millets;and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and success achieved?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI ARUN YADAV)

(a) & (b): The total area coverage under coarse cereals (millets) in the country has declined from 290.25 lakh hectares during 2004-05 to 270.68 lakh hectares during 2010-11 (2nd Advance Estimates). The decline in the area under coarse cereals has been on account of shift of area to more profitable crops such as wheat, rice, cotton etc.

(c): Details of production of coarse cereals during the last three years and the current year i.e. 2007-08 to 2010-11 are given in the Annexure.

(d)&(e): To increase production of coarse cereals in the country, the Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Coarse Cereals)" subsumed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture. Under this scheme, assistance is provided to farmers for demonstration of improved package of practices, support for quality seeds of high yielding varieties and hybrids, resource conservation technologies, integrated nutrient and pest management etc. The scheme also provides flexibility to the States to implement new/innovative activities as per their local needs. Besides, frontline demonstrations are also organized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research/State Agriculture Universities on the farmers' fields to popularize the frontier technologies among farmers. Further, Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM), inter-alia, aims to increase the production and productivity of maize in the country.