

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3026  
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2012  
CULTIVATION OF JOWAR AND BAJRA  
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment in regard to reduction in cultivation area of jowar and bajra as compared to wheat and rice during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken/incentive provided by the Government to encourage cultivation of these coarse cereals?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The State-wise details of area coverage under jowar, bajra, wheat and rice along with decrease/increase in area during 2008-09 to 2011- 12 (2nd Advance Estimates) are given in the Annexure.

(c): In order to promote cultivation of coarse cereals (millets) and consumption of millet based food products in the country, an allocation of Rs.300 crores was made by the Government under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) during 2011-12. Accordingly, a Sub-scheme "Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion (INSIMP)' was launched from Kharif 2011 in 16 States with an aim to demonstrate the improved production and post-harvest technologies in an integrated manner with visible impact to catalyze increase in production of millets in the country. Besides increasing production, the Scheme aims to generate consumer demand for millet based food products through processing and value addition techniques. In addition to popularizing improved varieties/hybrids of millet crops through technology demonstration, technical support to farmers is extended through farmers training. The States have reported increase in yield of millet crops under demonstration. In addition to INSIMP, the States are also provided support for development of millets under Macro-Management of Agriculture. Further, to ensure remunerative price to farmers, the Minimum Support Price of millet crops have also been increased substantially during 2011-12.