

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3705  
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012  
CULTIVATION OF CEREALS  
Patel Shri Devji

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the farmers are taking more interest in the cultivation of opium instead of cultivation of cereals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the response of the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): No, Madam. Area under cultivation of Cereals has in fact increased from 98,051.2 ha during 2009-10 to 1,00,248.8 ha during the year 2011-12 (As per 4th Advance estimates released by Directorate of Economics and Statistics on 16.07.2012). Effective enforcement measures are taken by the agencies of the Home and Revenue Department to destroy illicit Opium Cultivation, if any.