

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3726  
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007  
RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME  
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

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

- (a) whether the backward Districts in the field of agriculture in the country have been identified;
- (b) if so, the details of the such backward districts, State-wise; and
- (c) the criteria on which such backward districts have been identified?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (c): Under the recently proposed National Food Security Mission (NFSM), 133 districts for NFSM-rice, 138 districts for NFSM-wheat and 168 districts for NFSM- Pulses are identified in the States of the country. The lists of districts State-wise are given in Annexures a, b & c. The criteria for identification of districts in respect of rice are districts having greater than fifty thousand hectare area under rice and productivity less than State average productivity. For wheat, the criteria are districts where irrigation coverage under wheat is more than fifty per cent and productivity is less than State average productivity. For pulses, districts have been selected based on existing larger area under pulses, potential for expansion through inter cropping with widely spaced crops like coarse cereals, cotton, soyabean and replacement of rainfed upland paddy and rice fallow as also the irrigated area under crops.