

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2302**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 06<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2024

**ASSISTANCE FOR NUTRI CEREALS UNDER NFSM**

2302. SHRI KOTA SRINIVASA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps initiated by the Government to generate mass awareness, increase production, productivity and strengthen the value-chain to promoting 'Golden Grain' Millets as the avenue to food and nutritional security;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to include Nutri-Cereals/Millets within the PDS and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether under National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Nutri Cereals (Millets) (NISM), assistance is given through State Governments to farmers for interventions like distribution of seeds of High Yielding Varieties/hybrids, improved farm machineries/resource conservation machineries/tools, efficient water application tools etc.; and
- (d) the allocations made under NFSM-Nutri Cereals during 2020-21 to 2023-24?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): The Government of India has taken a proactive multi-stakeholder engagement approach (engaging various central government Ministries/Departments, States/ Union Territories, farmers, start-ups, exporters, retail businesses, hotels, Indian Embassies etc.) to achieve the objectives of International Year of Millets (IYM) 2023 declared by the United Nations General Assembly on the proposal of India and taking Indian millets globally. The focus during IYM 2023 was to enhance production and productivity, consumption, export, strengthening value chain, branding, creating awareness for health benefits etc.

The Government of India has organized various events to make it peoples' movement so that the Indian millets, recipes, value added products be promoted globally. Millets were promoted during the G20 presidency in India, Millet Culinary carnival, International Trade Events, Chef's Conference, exhibition of Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs), road shows, kisan melas, Chef's training for paramilitary forces, ASEAN India Millet Festival at Indonesia and Delhi etc. Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference was held from 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at IARI, Pusa Campus, New Delhi, which was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. To make India a global hub for 'Shree Anna', the Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad was declared as the Global Centre of Excellence for sharing best practices, research and technologies at the national and international level.

IIMR, Hyderabad provides training to the farmers, women farmers, home makers, students and young entrepreneurs on manufacturing of value-added millet food products, daily recipes etc., and support them to establish self-enterprise. The institute has also developed value-added technologies include "Ready to Eat" and "Ready to Cook" for millet foods, branding of millet foods under "Eatrite" tag, organized awareness programmes, agri-business incubator, technology business incubators etc. Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has approved the Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry for Millet-based products (PLISMBP) for implementation during 2022-23 to 2026-27.

A new Regional Research Centre for Bajra at Gudamalani, near Barmer, Rajasthan was inaugurated on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2023. To strengthen the research collaboration and public awareness of millets globally, a new initiative viz., "Millets And OtHer Ancient GRains International ReSearch Initiative (MAHARISHI)" was adopted during the G20 Presidency.

In order to increase the production & productivity of millets (Shree Anna), the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing a Sub-Mission on Nutri-Cereals (Millets) under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in 28 States & 2 Union Territories viz. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. In addition, Government of India also provides flexibility to the states for state specific needs/priorities under Rashtirya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The states can promote

Millets (Shree Anna) under RKVY with the approval of State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) headed by Chief Secretary of the State.

During 2014 to 2024, a total of 253 Millets varieties comprising 75 of Sorghum, 76 of Pearl millet; 19 of Little millet; 7 of Proso millet; 13 of Kodo millet; 43 of Finger millet; 12 of Foxtail millet, 1 of Brown top millet and 7 of Barnyard millet have been released by Central Variety Release Committee (CVRC) for cultivation in different agro-ecologies of country.

(b): As per the guidelines for procurement, allocation, distribution and disposal of coarse grain, States/Union Territories are allowed to procure Jowar, Bajra, Ragi and six minor millets from farmers at MSP (Minimum Support Price) under central pool subject to the prior approval of Government of India, in consultation with FCI (Food Corporation of India). The whole quantity shall be distributed under TPDS (Targeted Public Distribution System) / OWS (Other Welfare Schemes) in the State/Union Territory.

(c): Under NFSM-Nutri Cereals, assistance is given to farmers, through State/ Union Territories, for interventions like cluster demonstrations on improved package of practices, production & distribution of seeds of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs)/hybrids, improved farm machineries/resource conservation machineries/tools, efficient water application tools, plant protection measures, nutrient management/soil ameliorants, cropping system based trainings to the farmers etc.

(d): The allocations made under NFSM-Nutri Cereals during 2020-21 to 2023-24 is given below:

(Rs. in crore)

<b>Year</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
Allocation (Central Share)	183.90	200.31	314.62	397.23

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