

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3625

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013

PRODUCTION OF MILLETS

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the production of nutri-cereals/ millets in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, Statewise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to promote nutri-cereals/millet farming in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether nutri-cereals/millets are more nutritious than wheat and rice; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a): State-wise details of production of nutri-cereals/millets (coarse cereals) during the last three years and current year i.e. 2009-10 to 2012-13 (2nd Advance Estimate) are given in the Annexure.

(b) & (c): In order to promote cultivation and consumption of millets based food products, the Government of India announced an allocation of Rs.300.00 crore in 2011-12 under the "Initiatives for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millet Promotion (INSIMP)" as a Sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in 16 major millet growing States of the country.

The programme aims to demonstrate improved production and post-harvest technologies in an integrated manner with visible impact to catalyze increase in production of millets in the country. The scheme is also expected to generate consumer demand for millet based products through value addition techniques.

(d) & (e): Nutri-cereals/millets and other foodgrains i.e. rice, wheat etc. have their own nutritional values. No individual foodgrains can independently meet the nutrient requirements of the people. Balanced diet is a combination of both cereals (wheat/rice) and millets in addition to other food items.