

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2795
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH MARCH, 2023

CONSUMPTION OF MILLETS IN THE COUNTRY

2795 SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that only 10 per cent of households in rural and urban in the country areas consume millets;
- (b) if so, the percentage of the population that consumed millets during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the reasons there is no definition of Millets in the National Food Security Act, 2013; and
- (d) efforts being made by the Ministry to distribute millets to all people under PDS?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a)&(b): As per the 2nd Advance Estimates of Production of Foodgrains for 2022-23 of Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, the production of total foodgrains is estimated to be 3235.54 Lakh Tonnes out of which the production of Millets is 159.09 Lakh Tonnes (4.92 per cent of total foodgrains production). State Governments have procured 6.07 Lakh Tonnes of millets during Kharif Marketing Season 2021-22 for distribution under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/Integrated Child Development Services(ICDS)/Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN/Mid-Day Meal Scheme) etc. The data of production of millets during last five years, is attached at **Annexure**.

(c): Under the National Food Security Act, 2013, the term "foodgrains" is defined as rice, wheat or coarse grains or any combination thereof conforming to such quality norms as may be determined, by order, by the Central Government from time to time. There is no specific provision for Millets under the Act. However, to improve the level of nutrition among the beneficiaries covered under the NFSA, all the States/UTs have been requested to procure millets and distribute for NFSA beneficiaries as per local consumption preferences and as per the guidelines issued by Government from time to time.

(d): Recognizing the nutritional value of millets and the fact that consumption of millets can significantly improve key nutrition parameters among children and women in rural and urban areas the Government of India has created a sub-mission under the National Food Security Mission to encourage millet cultivation and its inclusion in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Now, Millets are already a part of the TPDS. The procurement, storage, and distribution of coarse grains by States/UTs is done under Decentralized Procurement (DCP) system.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2795 FOR ANSWER ON 24.03.2023 IN THE RAJYA SABHA.

Production of Millets during last five years

Figures in LMT

S. No.	Year	Production
1	2017-18	164.36
2	2018-19	137.11
3	2019-20	172.6
4	2020-21	180.2
5	2021-22	159.9
