

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3370
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31/03/2023

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MILLETS

3370. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether UNO has declared 2023 as International Year of Millets (IYOM);
- (b) if so, the details of funds allocated under Budget Estimates 2023-24 for increasing production of millets during the current year and its promotion to ensure maximum benefits to farmers; and
- (c) the details of schemes being run by the Ministry to promote millets and increase its production along with the allocation therefor during 2022-23 and 2023-24, scheme-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): Yes Sir. The United Nation's General Assembly (UNGA) declared 2023 as International Year of Millets. Government of India has decided to celebrate IYOM-2023 to make it peoples' movement so that the Indian millets, recipes, value added products are accepted globally. In view of health benefits of the millets, the objectives are creating domestic & global demand of millets, focusing on strategies to enhance climate resilient Nutri-cereals production, consumption, export, branding etc.

In order to promote and increase the production and productivity of millets (jowar, bajra, ragi and small millets), the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has been implementing a Sub-Mission on Nutri-Cereals (Millets) under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) since 2018-19. Currently, NFSM-Nutri-Cereals (Millets) is being implemented in identified districts of 14 states of the country. North Eastern and Hilly States have been given flexibility to implement the programme as per their need in any district. Under the programme/scheme, the incentives are provided to the farmers, through the states/UTs, on crop production and protection technologies, cropping system based demonstrations, production & distribution of certified seeds of newly released varieties/hybrids, Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management techniques, improved farm implements/tools/ resource conservation machineries, water saving devices, capacity building of farmers through trainings during cropping season, organizing events/workshops, distribution of seed minikits, publicity through print and electronic media etc. The allocation of fund under NFSM-Nutri Cereals (millets) during 2022-23 and 2023-24 is Rs. 308.67 core and 362.50 crore respectively.

In addition, Government of India also provides flexibility to the states for state specific needs/priorities under Rashtriyra Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The states can promote Millets (Shree Anna) under RKVY with approval of State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) headed by Chief Secretary of the State.
