

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

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.102
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th JULY, 2023

DISTRIBUTION OF MILLETS UNDER PDS

102. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

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

- (a) the types of millets that are available in ration shops for distribution along with wheat/rice etc.;
- (b) whether people are encouraged to consume millets for their nutritional value; and
- (c) the special efforts being made by Government in this direction to popularize millets by using electronic and print media?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC
DISTRIBUTION AND TEXTILES
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. *102 FOR ANSWER ON 28.07.2023 IN THE RAJYA SABHA.

(a) & (b): Jowar, Bajra and Ragi are allocated by this Department for distribution under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). To improve the level of nutrition among the beneficiaries covered under the NFSA, all the States/UTs have been requested to procure millet and distribute for NFSA beneficiaries as per local consumption preferences and as per the guidelines issued by this Department from time to time. This Department has been requesting States almost every year for taking steps for encouraging procurement/consumption of coarse grains/millets in the State through Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/Other Welfare Schemes (OWS).

(c): Government of India has made special efforts for popularizing millets. Department of Food & Public Distribution and field offices i.e. Food Corporation India (FCI) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) have created awareness about the millets through organizing Millets Awareness Programme/Competition/Seminars etc. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, being the Nodal Ministry, on the occasion of International Year of Millets (IYoM), has organized Global Millet Conference in which the following production/activities were done for popularizing millets:

- i) Production of Short video film and Jingles
- ii) Wider Publicity Campaign of the event was carried out from 15-22nd March,2023
- iii) Advertisement was published in newspapers across the country on 18.03.2023.
- iv) In addition to above, 06 Short Video Films have also been produced for popularizing millets.
