

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1015
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH JULY, 2023**

INCLUSION OF MILLETS IN PDS

1015. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to include millets within the PDS and the MSP programme;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government plans to provide support to millet farmers in the form of subsidies or grants; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

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): Millets, which are commonly known as Nutri- Cereals, are already a part of Public Distribution System (PDS). Nutri-Cereals are allocated in terms of National Food Security Act, 2013. From 1st January, 2023 the aforesaid allocation is being made free of cost for one year under PMGKAY.

(c) & (d) Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) -Nutri Cereals (Millets), assistance is given through State Governments to farmers for interventions like cluster demonstrations on improved package of practices, demonstrations on cropping system, 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, processing & post-harvest equipments, cropping system based trainings to the farmers etc. The mission also provides support to Indian Council of Agricultural research (ICAR) & State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for technology back stopping and transfer of technology to the farmer under supervision of Subject Matter Specialists/Scientists.

In order to make available of quality seeds to farmers, under NFSM, the assistance is given on production of certified seeds of Nutri Cereals (Shree Anna /Millets) and 19 seed hubs of Nutri Cereals have been established. In addition, seeds of recently released high yielding varieties/hybrids Nutri Cereals are distributed to farmers free of cost.

The allocation under NFSM-Nutri Cereals during 2020-21 to 2023-24 is as under;

		(Rs. in crore)			
NFSM-Nutri Cereals		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allocation	(central share)	164.050	196.789	308.669	377.485
