

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3280
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH AUGUST, 2023**

CHANGES IN PATTERN OF NUTRITIONAL INTAKE

3280. SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:

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

- (a) considering a change in the pattern of nutritional intake among people in both rural and urban areas which indicates a reduced preference for rice and wheat and an increase in preference towards other protein-rich food items, whether the Government plans to incorporate these changes in the commodities distributed under the Public Distribution System (PDS);**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to diversify foodgrains distributed under PDS to include more sustainable crop production; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

A N S W E R

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

(a) to (d): Under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), highly subsidized foodgrains are provided to States/UTs for distribution to around 80 crore beneficiaries through Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Under the Act, 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. In addition to this, the State/UT Governments may continue with or formulate food or nutrition based plans or schemes providing for benefits higher than the benefits provided under this Act. Further, in order to address anaemia and micro-nutrient deficiency in the country, Government of India approved supply of fortified rice throughout the TPDS, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman – PM POSHAN [erstwhile Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM)] and Other Welfare Schemes of Government of India in all States/UTs by 2024 in phased manner.

Coarse grains/Milletts are allocated under PDS in lieu of equal quantity of wheat/rice (as requested by State) while ensuring that the overall quantity of rice, wheat and Coarse grains has to be within the upper ceiling fixed in respect of each State/UT under NFSA. The State-wise details of Coarse grains allocated during last two years as well as current year are at Annexure-I.

Government has also planned to increase procurement and distribution of Coarse grains/Milletts under public distribution scheme as detailed under:

- (i) Advance planning for achieving higher procurement targets of coarse grains with major contribution of Bajra and Ragi.**
- (ii) State to include millet for distribution under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKAY) in lieu of wheat/rice.**
- (iii) Procuring States are advised to convey the surplus quantity well in advance. Similarly, deficit States are advised to convey their requirement of coarse grains/milletts well in advance.**
- (iv) States are requested to encourage the diversification of crops by enhancing the production of more coarse grains/milletts.**

In addition to this, Government has made special efforts for popularizing millets. Department of Food & Public Distribution and field offices i.e. Food Corporation of 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 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 15th - 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.**

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3280 FOR ANSWER ON 09.08.2023 IN THE LOK SABHA

The State-wise details of Coarse grains allocated from 2021-22

(In Thousand Tons)

Year	State	Type of grain	Quantity		Total
2021-22	Karnataka	Ragi	556.10	558.86	560.84
	Uttar Pradesh	Maize	2.76		
	OWS-WBNP	Bajra	1.98	1.98	
2022-23	Karnataka	Ragi/Jowar	470.29	583.82	585.51
	Haryana	Bajra/Maize	67.50		
	Madhya Pradesh	Jowar	0.23		
	U.P.	Bajra	43.44		
	Kerala	Ragi	0.99		
	Tamil-Nadu	Ragi	1.37		
	OWS-WBNP	Bajra	1.69	1.69	
2023-24 (as on 03.08.2023)	Andhra Pradesh	Ragi	27.51	736.24	736.24
	Karnataka	Ragi	700.00		
	Kerala	Ragi	0.51		
	Tamil-Nadu	Ragi	8.22		
