

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1537
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH DECEMBER, 2023

INCENTIVES FOR MILLETS GROWING FARMERS

1537. DR. PON GAUTHAM SIGAMANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to provide incentives to farmers growing Millets and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true that the country aims to produce 45 million tonnes of Millets by 2030;
- (c) whether it is also true that millets had lost its sheen with the production of more rice and wheat;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that there is a need to make investments in Research and Development for making products based on Jowar and Bajra for which there was a huge market; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a) to (c): The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing a Sub-Mission on Nutri-Cereals (Millets) under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in all districts of 28 States & 2 Union Territories viz. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Under NFSM–Nutri Cereals, 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 Government of India also provides flexibility to the states for state specific needs/priorities under Rashtirya 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. In addition, states such as Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh have initiated Millet Missions in the States to promote millets. During 2022-23, the production of Nutri-Cereals (Shree Anna) was 173.20 lakh tonnes compared to 160 lakh tonnes during 2021-22, which is 8% increase in production over the previous year.

(d) & (e): To make India a global hub for 'Shree Anna', the Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad has been declared as the Global Centre of Excellence for sharing best practices, research and technologies at the national and international level. The ICAR-IIMR has developed value-added technologies which include "Ready to Eat" and "Ready to Cook" for millet foods, branding of millet foods under "Eatrite" tag, organized awareness programmes, agri-business incubator, technology business incubators etc. The new Regional Research Centre for Bajra at Gudamalani, near Barmer, Rajasthan has been inaugurated on 27th September, 2023.

To strengthen the research collaboration and public awareness of millets globally, a new initiative viz., "Millets and OtHer Ancient GRains International ReSearch Initiative (MAHARISHI) has been adopted during the G20 Presidency.
