

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4501
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23rd MARCH, 2021**

INCLUSION OF MILLETS UNDER PDS

4501. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR:

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 plans to include millets in the Public Distribution System (PDS), to improve nutrition levels;**
- (b) if so, the progress that has been made so far, proposed price and quantum of millet distribution, and estimated date when distribution will begin;**
- (c) whether the Government plans to increase procurement of millets; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD &
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)**

(a)to(d): Government of India enacted National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 on 05.07.2013 to provide subsidized foodgrains to the States/UTs. Schedule-I of the Act envisages distribution of Millets (nutri-cereals / coarsegrain) at highly subsidized rate of Re.1 per kg.

Nutri-cereals (including millets) are already a part of Public Distribution System (PDS). The procurement, storage and distribution of nutri-cereals by States/UTs is done under Decentralized Procurement (DCP) system. Under this, any State/UT intending to distribute millets under PDS is allowed to procure it from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) under central pool subject to prior approval from Govt of India on the detailed procurement plan prepared by State Governments in consultation with Food Corporation of India so as to ensure that the procured quantity is distributed under PDS in that State only. Subsequently, the allocation of approved quantity of millet for distribution under PDS is made by this Department, while ensuring that the overall quantity of rice, wheat and millets has to be within the upper ceiling fixed in respect of each State/UT under NFSA.

Responsibility for distribution of foodgrains/ nutri-cereals within the State/UT rests with the concerned State/UT Govt.
