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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2814 TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD AUGUST, 2022

PROCUREMENT OF MINOR MILLETS

2814. DR. TALARI RANGAIAH:

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 has planned to encourage the farmers who are cultivating minor millets by procurement through public distribution scheme in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a)&(b): As per guidelines for procurement, allocation, distribution and disposal of coarse grains, States are allowed to procure coarse grain (Jowar, Bajra, Maize & Ragi etc.) from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) under central pool with the prior approval of Government of India.

To encourage the farmers who are cultivating coarse grains/millets, Government of India has recently revised guidelines wherein the distribution period of these commodities has been increased to 6-10 months from the earlier period of 3 months. This would increase procurement and consumption of millets as the States would have more time for their distribution in Target Public Distribution System/ Other Welfare Scheme.

At present, Major millets (Jowar, Bajra and Ragi) are distributed through Public Distribution System in the country.

(c): Only those millets which are covered under MSP (Jowar, Bajra and Ragi), allowed for procurement under Central Pool.
