

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 240
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 05TH AUGUST, 2025

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL MILLET BOARD

*240. SHRI GANESH SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to establish a separate National Millet Board to provide institutional support for production, processing, marketing and export of millets (Shree Anna);
- (b) if so, the likely composition of the said board, its scope, funding mechanism and framework for coordination with Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), startups and women self-help groups;
- (c) whether the Government has any official data on the current production, consumption and export of millets; and
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any long term strategy to make India a global leader in millets, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 240 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05TH AUGUST, 2025 REGARDING “ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL MILLET BOARD”.

(a) & (b): The Government of India has taken several initiatives for promotion of millets (Shree Anna). At present, there is no proposal under consideration to establish a separate National Millet Board. The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare intensively promotes and supports millet farmers through its programmes like the National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) for enhancing the production and productivity in the country.

(c): The overall production of millets (Shree Anna) in the country is 180.15 lakh tonnes during 2024-25 (3rd advanced estimates, DES, DAFW). The details of Area, Production and Yield of different Millets cropwise during 2024-25 is at **Annexure I**.

During 2024-25, India has exported 1.21 lakh metric tonnes of millets. The details of cropwise exports under millets during 2024-25 is at **Annexure II**.

(d): To make India a global leader in Millets, Government of India has taken a proactive multi-stakeholder engagement approach creating domestic & global demand of millets, focusing on strategies to enhance climate resilient Nutri-cereals production, its consumption and branding etc. This is implemented involving various central government Ministries/Departments, States/UTs, farmers, start-ups, exporters, retail businesses, hotels, Indian Embassies etc. Following a proposal by India, backed by more than 70 countries, the United Nations General Assembly, at its 75th session in March 2021, declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets. The year-long celebration successfully raised awareness about the nutritional and health benefits of Shree Anna consumption and the suitability of millets for cultivation under adverse and changing climatic conditions thereby benefitting the farmers. Further, 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. To strengthen the research collaboration and public awareness of millets globally, a new initiative viz., “**Millets And otHer Ancient GRains International ReSearchH Initiative (MAHARISHI)**” has been adopted during the G20 Presidency.

The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing a Sub-Mission on Nutri-Cereals (Shree Anna) under the National Food Security & Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) to increase the production and productivity of Shree Anna in the country. Under NFSNM-Nutri Cereals, assistance is being provided to the farmers, through the States/UTs, on Crop production and protection technologies & cropping system-based demonstrations, for production and distribution of certified seeds, for Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management measures, for capacity building of farmers through cropping system-based trainings, for organizing events/workshops, etc; and seed minikits of newly released varieties/hybrids, are also distributed through the states by agencies.

Details of Area, Production and Yield of Millets during 2024-25

S No	Crop	Area (Lakh ha.)	Production (Lakh Tonnes)	Yield (Kg/ha.)
1	Sorghum	39.84	48.80	1225
2	Bajra	72.10	108.63	1507
3	Ragi	12.29	18.34	1492
4	Small Millets	4.42	4.38	992
Total Millets		128.65	180.15	1400

* Source: 3rd Advance Estimates, DES, DAFW

Details of Exports of Millets from India during 2024-25

S No	Crop	Quantity (Lakh MT)	Value (INR Crores)
1	Sorghum	0.38	155.07
2	Bajra	0.56	192.71
3	Ragi	0.19	65.45
4	Small Millets	0.09	89.12
Total Millets		1.21	502.35

* Source: DGCIS
