

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1016
ANSWERED ON 05TH FEBRUARY, 2026

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MILLETS

1016. DR. PRABHA MALLIKARJUN:

Will the Minister of ***FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES*** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the pioneering initiative of Karnataka, which declared 2017 as the “Year of Millets”, thereby laying the foundation for India’s successful proposal to the United Nations to declare 2023 as the International Year of Millets and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the key steps undertaken by the Ministry to promote millet-based value addition, processing enterprises and branding initiatives during and after the International Year of Millets; and
- (c) whether the Ministry proposes to establish millet-focused processing clusters, incubation centres, or Mega Food Parks in major millet-producing States like Karnataka to sustain momentum and enhance farmer incomes through value addition and export promotion and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
(SHRI RAVNEET SINGH)

(a): As informed by Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, to create domestic and global demand and to provide nutritional food to the people, Government of India had proposed to United Nations for declaring 2023 as International Year of Millets (IYM). The proposal of India was supported by 72 countries and the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared 2023 as International Year of Millets during March 2021.

(b): Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been incentivizing setting up/expansion of Food Processing Industries including processing of millet-based products through its two Central Sector Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) Scheme, Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) and a Centrally sponsored PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme across the country.

The steps taken to promote consumption and demand for millet-based products are as under:

- (i) One component of PLISFPI focuses on Millet-Based Products (MBP), with an outlay of Rs. 800 crores, for implementation during 2022-27. The objectives of the PLI Scheme for Millet-Based Products (PLISMBP) are to increase the use of millets in food products and promote their value addition by incentivizing the manufacturing and sale of selected millet-

based products in both domestic and export markets. As on date, out of total allocation of Rs. 800 crores for PLISMBP, an amount of Rs.793.27 crore has been approved to incentivise 29 applicants, which includes 8 large and 21 Small & Medium entities.

(ii) “Millet Mahotsav” were organised in 30 districts of various States/UTs as a part of International Year of Millet (IYM 2023) to provide support for micro food processing entrepreneurs, particularly those engaged in the processing of millet products. It aimed to foster start-ups, entrepreneurs and boost the micro sector of the food industry.

(iii) Under PMFME Scheme, Millet and its products have been identified as One District One Product (ODOP) in 21 districts of 11 States. 17 Incubation Centers approved in 10 States having Millet processing lines. As on 31.12.2025, 4,612 loans have been sanctioned with approved subsidy of Rs. 91.20 Cr for millet processing units across the country.

(iv) National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management, Thanjavur (NIFTEM-T) organised “National Millet Summit” on the theme “Millets: Science, Technology & Innovation” on 6th & 7th May 2023 at SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai.

(v) National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management, Kundli (NIFTEM-K) organised “International Conference on Millets for Achieving Nutritional and Economic Security” during 24-26 August, 2023 at Kundli, Haryana.

(vi) NIFTEM-T and ICAR – National Rice Research Institute (NRRI), Cuttak organized “National Millet Expo-2023” on 6th October 2023 at MKCG Platinum Jubilee Auditorium, NRRI, Cuttak.

(vii) Ministry also organized six (6) Promotional Events, focused on Millets through Industry Associations. The details of the events is attached at **Annexure**.

(viii) Global Food Event “World Food India 2023” during 3rd - 5th November, 2023 in New Delhi with Millets as one of its key focus areas was organized. The event was intended to provide Indian producers/ processors/ institutions a platform to collaborate and partner with global stakeholders.

(c): MoFPI does not establish food processing units on its own. However, it provides financial assistance to eligible entrepreneurs for establishing related infrastructure including processing of millet-based products. These schemes are not region or state specific but demand driven and being implemented across the country including Karnataka. Mega Food Park and Creation of Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters (APC) components of PMKSY are aimed at development of such Industries in clusters. The Mega Food Park Scheme has been discontinued by the Ministry since 01.04.2021. As on 31.12.2025, MoFPI has approved 2 Mega Food Parks & 3 APC under PMKSY and 14 incubation centres under PMFME Scheme in the state of Karnataka.

These schemes aim towards creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet which includes storage, transportation, value addition etc., thereby help in providing better returns to farmers, enhancing productivity, creating off-farm employment opportunities and enhancing the export of the processed foods

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1016 FOR ANSWER ON 05TH FEBRUARY, 2026 REGARDING “INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MILLETS”

Ministry supported Promotional Events, focused on Millets through Industry Associations

S .No	Organizer	Details of event	Date	Place
1	Knowledge Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI)	Conclave on Emerging opportunities in Food Processing Schemes and Incentives	21.06.2023	Nagpur, Maharashtra
2	PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI)	Ensuring Food Security through Processing and Export	21.08.2023	New Delhi
3	Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)	Conference on Strengthening Food Processing	26.06.2023	Mehsana, Gujarat
4	ASSOCHAM	Conference on Strengthening Food Processing in Saurashtra region	26.05.2023	Rajkot, Gujarat
5	Southern India Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI)	Food Processor's Round Table: Finance, Technology & Market	06.12.2023	Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
6	KCCI	Conclave on Emerging Opportunities in Food Processing-Schemes & Incentives Exports-Food Safety, quality & Certification	25.11.2023	Surat, Gujarat
